Revenue (1897) Department.

PRESS SERIES.

G.O., No. 479

DATED 19th June 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording Board's Proceedings submitted to Government, with remarks, ~~on~~ on the Cuddapah district for the period ending 15th May 1897.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Revenue (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 4930.

the Hon: Mr Emerson
to the Governor

19/6/97

From The Board of Rev.
Rev. Sett.

No. 479 of 19th June 1897.

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Chief Secretary
Revenue
Land Settlement
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Agriculture

Encl to 5/7/97

15/6

SUBJECT.

Fortnightly narrative of the Cuddapah Settlement for the period ending 15th May 1897.

C 15/6/97
L 19/6/97

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

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REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

SECY. GOVT. MADRAS
14 JUN 97
REV. DEPT.

1897.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Recd. } 1897. *Enclosures*

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Printed June th.

Proceedings, 2nd June 1897, No. 413.

JUNE.

Fortnightly Narrative.—Submitting to Government, with remarks, — of the Cuddapah district for the period ending 15th May 1897.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE
(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture).

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the first fortnight of May 1897 :—

State of Country.

Rainfall.—During the fortnight, there were showers in parts of all the taluks of the district, the heaviest fall being 2·23 inches at Vayalpad. The subjoined statement shows the rainfall registered at the several rain-gauge stations :—

	Inches.		Inches.
1. Chitvel	0·10	6. Proddatur	0·28
2. Rajampet	0·08	7. Kadiri	0·43
3. Sidhout	1·44	8. Ráyachóti	0·52
4. Badvel	0·64	9. Pílér	0·40
5. Cuddapah	0·58	10. Vayalpad	2·23
		11. Madanapallo	0·84

In the interior of the taluks of the sub-division, there was rainfall ranging from ½ to 1½ inches. In Mahadavapalli, Pulivendla taluk, there was about ½ an inch, while on the Dhodiyam hills in the Jammalamadugu taluk, there was about an inch of rainfall. There were also slight showers in parts of the Proddatur taluk. In some of the villages in the northern part of Badvel, there was rainfall ranging from ½ to 1¼ inches. There was also about ½ inch of rain in the villages near Pullampet.

Water-supply—Rivers.—There were freshets in the Sagiler, Madduler, Kundu and Vayalpad rivers owing to the rains that fell during the fortnight. The Kundu now flows 1 to 3 feet deep. The Penner is also flowing, as also are the Pullangeru and Gungana.

Channels—Eastern section.—Said to be flowing in Pullampet. *Southern section.*—River channels are flowing moderately in Vayalpad and Madanapalle. In Kadiri, six channels are flowing less than 1½ feet deep, while in Ráyachoti very few river channels are flowing. *Northern section.*—In Pulivendla, the river and spring channels are flowing moderately. The Tahsildar of Jammalamadugu reports that the supply in channels has gone down and is insufficient for irrigation. In Proddatur, the channels are said to be flowing scantily. The Kurnool-Cuddapah canal has been re-opened, and has supplied tanks.

Tanks—Eastern section.—Some tanks in the three taluks received supplies, the largest reported being twenty-five days' supply. *Southern section.*—In Ráyachóti, thirteen tanks received small supplies. Forty tanks in Vayalpad received supplies ranging from five to twenty-five days. A few tanks in Madanapalle are also said to have received small supplies. *Northern section.*—The Mahadevapalle tank in the Pulivendla taluk contains a month's supply. The Tivvapalle tank in the Proddatur taluk received six days' supply, which has already run out. Tanks in Cuddapah are being supplied from the canal.

Wells—Irrigation.—In several places, supplies are said to be decreasing, and to be not sufficient for irrigation purposes. In the portion of Pulivendla that I have myself inspected, I find supplies sufficient.

Drinking water.—In parts of Kadiri taluk difficulty for drinking water is felt. The supply in the villages of the Cuddapah taluk bordering on Ráyachóti and in the village of Animela is said to be insufficient. In some villages of the Jammalamadugu taluk, it is stated that there is no water for drinking purposes, and that it is brought from long distances. This occurs annually, and there is no practical remedy. In Proddatur, there is no water in four villages, and it is scanty in some. The Divisional Officers and Tahsildars merely report that steps will be taken to improve water-supply,

but have not reported the nature of the action taken in the direction and the result, though strict orders * were issued to them on the 7th instant to state in their fortnightly narratives whether the matter of getting over the water difficulty was placed before the taluk boards, whether the boards have funds sufficient to meet the charges, and, if not, to apply for grants from Provincial Funds. The attention of all officers is again drawn to the above order.

* Reference No. 309 of 1897, dated 4th May 1897.

Agricultural operations and condition of standing crops.

(*a*) *Agricultural operations—Southern section.*—In the Kadiri taluk, the agricultural operations in progress are baling water for standing crops, tilling lands for ragi, and harvesting paddy and korra. In Ráyachóti, fields are being irrigated, and ragi, cholam, and paddy are under harvest. The ryots in the Vayalpad taluk are engaged in reaping paddy under wells, in baling water for sugarcane and betel gardens, and ploughing dry lands; while in Madanapalle, the agricultural operations in progress are ploughing dry lands for raising dry crops, baling water from wells for sugarcane, paddy, &c., and harvesting cholam. *Northern section.*—Lands under wells and channels are either being irrigated or ploughed. A great deal of dry land has been ploughed and got ready for next sowing. *Eastern section—Sidhout and Badvel.*—Sowing indigo under wells, irrigating tobacco and onions under wells, harvesting gingelly, and thrashing ragi are being carried on. *Pullampet.*—Indigo is being sown, and lands are being ploughed for sowing cumbu. Gingelly is being harvested.

(*b*) *Condition of standing crops—Southern section.*—The following are the standing crops in each taluk :—*Kadiri.*—Paddy, cholam, sugarcane and betel gardens under wells and channels. These are in good condition. *Rayachoti.*—Cholam, ragi and paddy. Condition good. *Madanapalle.*—Sugarcane, paddy, cholam and korra under wells. These crops are in good condition. *Vayalpad.*—Paddy, cholam, sugarcane and betel gardens. Their condition is fair. In the Píléru division, the Deputy Tahsildar reports that some of the garden crops are drooping for want of water; but Mr. Forbes has reported that the Deputy Tahsildar's reports are not to be trusted. *Eastern Section—Badvel and Sidhout.*—Cholam, gingelly, indigo, cotton and tobacco chiefly under wells are in good condition. *Pullampet.*—Paddy, cholam, ragi, cumbu, korra, onions and gingelly are in good condition. *Northern Section—Proddatur.*—Palapu jonna, korra, paddy, indigo, bariga and gingelly under wells are in good condition. *Jammalamadugu.*—Betel gardens, gingelly, cholam, korra, paddy and bariga under wells are in good condition. *Pulivendla.*—Yellow cholam, gingelly, oil-seeds, tobacco and korra under wells and channels are doing well. Korra seems to be the chief crop now on the ground under wells. I have seen a good deal of very good korra. Its existence has not been reported by the Tahsildar or Deputy Collector. *Cuddapah.*—Paddy, cholam, korra, indigo and gingelly under wells and channels are in good condition. With reference to the report in the last fortnightly narrative that paddy under Pata Cuddapah tank was withering, I am glad to say that the paddy is now reported to have revived. I was astonished last fortnight to receive the report that paddy under this tank was withering. The tank is a fine large one, and is fed by the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal. It was inspected by His Excellency the Governor on 23rd February, on which day it was full—indeed, water stood a few inches above "full tank level" owing to mud banks put on top of the waste weir. I therefore called for a special report, and from it learned, as above said, that the paddy had revived. This revival is ascribed to fresh supplies of water received from the canal. I intend investigating the matter further on return to head-quarters. In paragraph 2 of its Proceedings, dated 3rd May 1897, No. 334, reviewing the fortnightly narrative of this district for the period ending 15th April 1897, the Board observes that it is unable to share my sanguine views as to the effect of scanty showers that have fallen, and that it doubts if I am justified in accepting the high estimate of outturn either for the crops under wells and channels or for purely dry crops. It is also remarked that it is not clear to what taluk the estimated outturn of crop over 40 per cent. of the cultivated area given as As. 4 to 8 applies. In the first place, I may mention that the figures of outturn reported in my narrative are those furnished by the Tahsildars and by the Special Deputy Collector, M.R.Ry. M. V. Narainasawmy

Pillay. I have no reason to believe that the outturn of crops under wells and channels has in any case been over-estimated. I should think, on the other hand, that it has been underrated. I have personally seen a very large area of irrigated crops and found ragi and other crops in excellent condition. As regards the irrigated crops, I regret that the words "in Proddatur" were omitted by mistake after the words "purely dry lands", and hence arose the ambiguity noticed by the Board. I have repeated my instructions about the great care that should be taken in fair-copying these reports. The figures reported refer to Prodattur taluk alone. I do not think that the estimate framed is incorrect. The Tahsildar, Katchepeswara Iyer, is a careful and hardworking man, and to be trusted.

SUPPLY OF FODDER AND PASTURE, AND CONDITION OF CATTLE.

Pasture—Southern section.—Scanty in Madanapalle, and not available elsewhere. The rainfall reported above will no doubt have improved matters. *Eastern section.*—Pasture is still available in parts of Pullampet. *Northern section.*—Very scanty; but available in places in the beds of vankas and channels. I have personally seen pasture near Rayalapuram, Mosuvaripalle, Kasanur and Ulimella.

In paragraph 3 of its Proceedings, dated 3rd May 1897 No. 334, the Board says that it believes pasture to be non-existent and in Proceedings dated 22nd April 1897, No. 309, it has been remarked that I should have used the word "*nil*" instead of "Scanty" I think that the word used by me was justified by the facts disclosed by my personal observation. At Mosuvaripalle, in the Pulivendla taluk, three or four days ago, I saw a stretch of green grass about six inches in height in the bed of the stream. I should say that the length of this stretch of grass was about 150 yards. I saw the bed of the same stream at intervals along a distance of three miles, and it seemed to have some green grazing on it all the way along. A large number of cattle were grazing upon it. The day before yesterday at Kasanur, I counted in front of my tent 41 buffaloes and 9 donkeys cropping the scanty pasture in the bed of the vanka. I saw similar pasture at Rayalapuram and Ulimella. Under these circumstances, I respectfully regret that I am unable to adopt the Board's statement, and say that pasture is "*nil*" or "non-existent". The fact remains that the cattle contrive to exist, and to do that they must have food. They are to be seen, every place I have been, grazing as best they can. As reported in my last narrative, they have fallen off in condition since January, but I have seen no cattle in this district in such bad condition as those I saw between Arkonam and Madras last month. It should not be forgotten that this district is not the same as Bellary, Kurnool or Anantapur, and that although the affected portion is generally described as the "black cotton" portion, yet, it contains very large stretches of country that are not black cotton soil, *e.g.*, in this Pulivendla taluk, one-fourth the area is not black cotton soil. I can also inform the Board from my personal observation that there is surface water in vankas at the following places—Kasanur, Dondlanágu, Mosuvaripalle, Rayalapuram and Tondur, all visited by me during the fortnight under report. At Nidivelagala, the sub-soil water is so near the surface that it has been reached in cutting road-side drains. Any idea of the affected portion of this district as a place entirely parched up is, therefore, erroneous. There are several places where surface water is still available in considerable quantity owing to springs.

Fodder—Eastern section.—Sufficient. *Southern section.*—Procurable, but at dear rates. In Vayalpad, cholam recently harvested has added to the stock of fodder. The Sub-Collector reports that fodder is scanty in Tamballapalle firka of Madanapalle taluk. *Northern section.*—Available, but the prices are high. Getting scarce in Cuddapah taluk.

CONDITION OF CATTLE.

Southern section.—Good in Vayalpad and Madanapalle (except Tamballapalle) and fair in Ráyachóti. Some cattle in the latter taluk are said to be emaciated. In Kadiri, cattle are said to be losing strength owing to want of sufficient pasture and fodder. The absence of fodder is reported to have resulted in the death of 100 cattle in four villages of Patnam firka. Cattle appear to be worse off and in worse condition in Kadiri than in any taluk of the district. *Northern section.—Proddatur.*—Generally good. *Pulivendla.*—Plough and draught cattle are well cared for, and the rest generally have fallen off in condition. *Jammalamadugu.*—The Tahsildar says that the condition of cattle is deteriorating for want of sufficient fodder, and that many cattle are emaciated. *Cuddapah.*—Good generally, but in parts of Kamalapuram and Animala firkas cattle are said to be losing condition. Cattle disease prevails in Proddatur, Jammalamadugu, Káyachóti and Madanapalle. *Eastern section.*—Good. Cattle disease prevails in one village of Sidhout and one of Pullampet taluk.

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 May 1897.

Station.	Rice.		Ragi.		White cholam.		Yellow cholam.		Cumbu.	
	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.
Badvel	7·42	7·42	18·00	18·00	15·80	15·80	..	..	13·05	12·32
Sidhout	9·07	9·07	19·80	19·80	13·20	14·00	14·85	14·85	14·00	13·20
Pullampet	8·71	8·71	18·00	18·00	..	..	..	..	13·05	13·05
Chitvél	8·30	8·30	21·00	21·00	15·80	15·80	..	..	14·50	14·50
Cuddapah	7·12	7·88	17·25	17 25	11 62	12·24	..	..	11·60	11·60
Kamalápuram	..	..	18·15	18·15	..	13·20	..	..	..	..
Proddatur	9·90	9·90	16·12	16·50	13·03	13·43	12·64	12·64	..	..
Jammalamadugu ..	8·71	8 71	15·75	15·75	13·43	* 12·32	12·64	12·64	..	..
Pulivendla	8·30	8·30	15 75	15·75	13·43	13·43	12·64	12·64	..	..
Kadiri	9 13	9·13	18·75	18·75	15·80	15 80	..	..	13·05	13·05
Káyachóti	9·01	9·01	16·50	16·50	15·91	15·01	..	..	13·05	13·05
Vayalpad	9·13	9·13	19 50	19·50	15 80	† 18·96	..	..	13 77	13·05
Madanapalle	9·54	9·13	22 50	22·50	14·22	† 18·96	..	..	13·05	13·05
Average for all stations ..	8·69	8·72	18·23	18·26	14·28	14·95	13·19	13·19	13·23	12·98
Average for the affected tracts	8·50	8·69	16·60	16·68	12·87	13·02	12·64	12·64	11·60	11·60

* Rise is attributed to short supply in the markets. † Owing to recent harvest of cholam.

ACTIVITY OF TRADE.

Southern section.—Kadiri.—Active in dry staple food-grains.

Ráyachóti.—Active; cholam exported to Cuddapah.

Vayalpad.—Not active.

Madanapalle.—Active in rice and dry staple food-grains.

Eastern section.—Active in all the taluks in rice and other staple food-grains.

Northern section—Cuddapah.—Rather dull. The Deputy Collector reports that stock of grain in villages is being used by the ryots, and that very little is offered for sale.

Jammalamadugu, Proddatur and Pulivendla.—Dull generally. The Pulivendla market is well supplied. Here, at Kasanur, I have been noticing for the last few days several cart-loads of cotton passing along the road. Enquiry as regards four bandies showed that they were bound for the Bangalore mills, and that the exporters were men of Chavaripalle, and were going to cart the cotton all the way. I understand that it is customary at this season of the year to cart goods over enormous distances to save rail fare.

Imports by rail or sea.—Rice and ragi are being imported to Madanapalle from Vayalpad and the Mysore Province. Cuddapah gets rice from Nellore and other places, and Rázampéta by rail from the Southern districts. There were no imports in the Jammalamadugu division.

CONDITION OF PEOPLE.

On works.—Good generally. The heat being excessive, hutting accommodation is being extended so as to afford the coolies greater comfort during the hours of rest.

In villages.—Good generally.

SICKNESS AND MORTALITY.

(*a*) *Sickness.*—Some of the relief workers at Rayalapuram, Tondur and Lingala are suffering from fever and small-pox.

(*b*) *Mortality.*—On the Gangireddipalli relief-work, Cuddapah taluk, there were two deaths—one of an old man from fever, and the other of a child which died on the 5th day after birth. A woman, aged 60 years, attending kitchen, attached to the Anantapuram relief-work, has also died. The cause of death is not stated. I have ordered the Tahsildar to enquire and report. Two cases of deaths from small-pox occurred on Tondur work and one from diarrhœa on the Rayalapuram work. The people are so careless that it is difficult to keep small-pox away from the works. A woman and two children recovering from small-pox, and apparently in an infectious state, came to beg from me on the Rayalapuram work. They came right out among the working coolies. I had them sent home at once, and arranged that food should be sent them daily from the kitchen. I also sent the medical subordinate to them. Some time ago I requested the District Medical and Sanitary officer to depute a medical subordinate to each large work. I also wrote to the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras pointing out that it devolved upon him to supply the required number of medical officers for the charge of famine-relief works and stated my requirements, viz., eight more men. But the District Medical and Sanitary officer reports, in his letter received yesterday, that the Surgeon-General has informed him that there are no spare hands available, and that some will be posted to this district as soon as they become available. I am very anxious to obtain more medical assistance, and will write to the Surgeon-General again.

MEASURES OF RELIEF.

Name of work.	Number of relief workers.			Number fed at the kitchen.		
	Last fortnight.	On the 8th May, *i.e.*, the last Saturday for which season report has been received in camp.	On the latest day for which reports are received.	Last fortnight.	On the 8th May, *i.e.*, the last Saturday for which season report has been received in camp.	On the latest day for which reports are received.
1. Yerraguntla-Vempalli road, Kodur ..	4,056	3,624	4,300 (15th)	207	187	192 (15th)
2. Do. Gangireddipalle ..	3,012	3,494	3,639 (Do.)	238	255	253 (Do.)
3. Jammalamadugu-Mudanur road, Vemagunt-palle	1,760	1,873	1,741 (Do.)	64	56	49 (Do.)
4. Jammalamadugu-Proddattur road, Goriganur	1,217	1,297	1,361 (Do.)	60	46	68 (Do.)
5. Jammalamadugu-Nosam road, near Gundlakunta	1,530	1,655	1,752 (Do.)	88	43	35 (Do.)
6. Muddanur tank, Jammalamadugu taluk ..	2,160	2,346	2,337 (Do.)	80	74	116 (Do.)
7. Simhadripuram-Kondapuram road, Anantapuram	1,850	1,809	2,218 (Do.)	59	63	57 (Do.)
8. Jammalamadugu-Owk road, Gollapalle Agraharam	1,729	2,007	2,060 (Do.)	48	48	53 (Do.)
9. Pulivendla-Muddanur road, Rayalapuram.	3,946	4,467	4,598 (14th)	75	129	105 (14th)
10. Simhadripuram-Kondapuram road, Nidvelagala	3,109	3,313	3,588 (15th)	25	84	68 (15th)
11. Lingala tank, Pulivendla taluk ..	1,159	1,268	1,352 (Do.)	25	24	29 (Do.)
12. Muddanur-Pulivendla road, Tondur ..	..	663	1,199 (Do.)	..	28	46 (Do.)
13. Proddatur-Jammalamadugu road, Bollavaram	1,971	2.201	2,320 (Do.)	94	95	91 (Do.)
14. Settivaripalle tank, Proddatur tank ..	1,813	2,537	2,736 (Do.)	25	41	45 (Do.)
15. Reddasettipalli channel near Tondur ..	993	1,193	964 (14th)	45	42	36 (14th)
16. Rajoli project, Gopavaram, Proddatur taluk	703	1,188	1,585 (15th)	78	89	99 (15th)
17. Rajoli project, Rajupoliem taluk ..	..	1,491	1,898 (Do.)	..	27	13 (Do.)
18. Chinnadundlur channel, Proddatur taluk.	246	429	993 (Do.)	15	25	50 (Do.)
19. Peddapasupula project	..	..	803 (Do.)	..	..	74 (Do.)
Total ..	31,254	36,855	41,444	1,167	1,306	1,479

WEAVERS' RELIEF.

Taluks.	Number of villages in which relief was given.	Number of persons relieved		Number of cloths manufactured	
		Up to last fortnight.	Up to this fortnight.	In the period.	Up to the period.
Jammalamadugu	9	9,565	9,633	Panchalu. 2,624 | 19,716 Turbans 7 × 7. 1,370 | 6,472 Turbans 6 × 6. 12,576 | 83,876 Turbans 5 × 5. 5,735 | 30,667	
	..	..	..	22,305	140,731
Proddatur .. .. .. Cuddapah	6 3	627	1,207	Panchalu. 424 | 460 Turbans 7 × 7. .. | .. Turbans 6 × 6. 396 | 396 Turbans 5 × 5. 120 | 150	
	..	..	..	940	1,006

	Number relieved in poor-houses.		In villages.		Number of villages in which relief was given.		Number of relief workers, children and infirm dependants receiving money doles.
	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	
Pulivendla	..	..	47	..	2	..	
			Adults .. 32				
			Children .. 15				
			47				

Private Charity.—The Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund continues to give money doles to the poor. From the remarks of the Special Deputy Collector, Jammalamadugu, in his diary for the week ending the 2nd instant, it would appear that a large number of persons who are not deserving of relief—on the grounds of inability to work and destitution—were admitted to relief and granted doles. I have submitted an extract from the diary to the Board of Revenue. In B.P., dated 6th May 1897, Mis. No. 3182, I was asked to take on Government relief 5,000 persons said to have been fed by the relief fund. From the fortnightly narratives received from the subordinate officers and the telegram received from the Secretaries to the Cuddapah committee, it would appear that the relief fund has not been feeding any people, but has been giving money doles at the rate of one and a half annas per adult and 9 pies per child—a rate higher than B class wages on works at present. All the persons relieved by the fund by these doles cannot, with due regard to the provisions of the Famine Code, be at once put on State relief, considering the facts brought to notice by the Special Deputy Collector. The Proddatur Tahsildar has also cited a number of cases in which able-bodied persons who should go to relief works have been admitted to relief by the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund. This shows that the recipients of relief from that fund cannot be drafted *en masse* to State gratuitous relief

without proper enquiry. People will be admitted to Government relief according to the result of the enquiry into their circumstances conducted by a competent officer of Government. This is being done, and I have been pressing my subordinates by wire and written orders to get the work going without delay. Thirty-five persons were fed in the private kitchen at Jammalamadugu.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Eastern section.—The Deputy Collector reports that there is labour for coolies in all villages in fields, in building houses and in repairing wells, and that they can get on until the end of June. The condition of this section gives no room for anxiety at present.

Southern section—Kadiri taluk.—The Revd. Mr. Goffin of the London Mission Society writes to the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund members that he found many of the labouring classes between Gandlapenta and Kortikota and Balasamudram and Kokkanti were suffering from failure of crops, and that a relief work should be started for them. He, at the same time, suggested that some of his Christians should be employed as maistries and head coolies. The Tahsildar says, however, that cooly classes have yet private employment in their villages, and that there is no need at present to start test works. Further enquiry has been ordered on Mr. Goffin's letter.

Rayachóti taluk.—The Tahsildar reports that the ryots owning lands under wells and river channels are engaged in agricultural operations, and that there is no room for anxiety at present. A minor irrigation work was ordered to be started in the village of Katveni Erragudi of this taluk as a departmental work, subject to the condition that all those applying for work should be admitted. This is the village personally inspected by me as reported in my narrative printed in B.P., dated 3rd March 1897, No. 181. The Sub-Collector reports that only ten coolies came to the work, and that none of them would accept wages less than two annas a day. This indicates that Mr. Forbes' reports, that famine relief works are not called for in the sub-division, are reliable.

Vayalpad taluk.—The Deputy Tahsildar of Pílèru says that people in his division are living from hand to mouth, and that some people are going to Nellore to find employment on the East Coast Railway work, where higher wages are offered. The Sub-Collector has ordered the Deputy Tahsildar to visit such villages and submit a special report. This Deputy Tahsildar was previously found to have exaggerated matters. Much reliance cannot, therefore, be placed on his present report. The Tahsildar says that paddy harvest is still going on, that the outturn of the crop has been from 8 to 12 annas, and that though some of the cooly classes are in need of work, yet no relief measures will be called for for a fortnight more. I think the period fixed by the Tahsildar is too short. This taluk has recently had a good fall of rain, and the Sub-Collector (Mr. Forbes) says that he noticed twenty-two ploughs at work within 300 yards of the railway line between Vayalpad and Chinna Thippasamudram, and eight more within a mile of the latter village on the way to Madanapalle. The people may hold on for some time longer. An extract from Mr. Forbes' letter is enclosed.

Madanapalle.—The Tahsildar has found by personal inspection that the cooly classes will have work for a month more, and that none are now willing to work at famine rates.

My own opinion, based solely on my subordinates' reports, about the sub-division taluks is that they require to be carefully watched at present. I have obtained a list of works that may be started as test works, should necessity arise. Orders have also been issued for a thorough inspection of the division. Mr. Forbes, who was personally acquainted with the state of the division, has left for Bengal as Acting Postmaster-General, and Mr. Vaughan, the new Sub-Collector, has only just joined.

Northern section—Cuddapah taluk.—Two relief works are in progress in this taluk, and I have issued orders for opening three more. The Divisional Officer has recommended the starting of a road work for the relief of the cooly classes in the town of Cuddapah and the adjoining villages. This part of the taluk, with wet cultivation under a large canal-fed tank and spring channels, has not been treated hitherto as an affected area, and I have asked the Board's instructions whether the work should be started. My doubts as to the real necessity for starting work are increased by the report of the Tahsildar of Cuddapah (copy enclosed), which goes to show that a large number of idlers in the town of Cuddapah, who were undeservedly receiving help from the Charitable Fund, have refused to attend Government relief works as soon as the above charity was withdrawn from them.

The weavers in some of the villages to the south of Cuddapah are reported to be in need of relief at their trade. The Divisional Officer has addressed the Special Deputy Collector in charge of the Weavers' Relief Operations, Deccan Districts, and the report of the latter is awaited.

Proddatur, Jammalamadugu and Pulivendla.—There are 17 works in progress in this division, and five more have been ordered to be started. With reference to my remarks last fortnight, I have selected, on personal inspection, Gollalagudur as the best place to start a work in the tract between Pulivendla-Muddanur road and Vempalle. On 7th instant, I asked the Engineer to start the work of breaking metal and collecting gravel at that place for forming a road to Pendlur. There is a good water-supply and shady topes, and the village is centrally situated for those needing work.

I much regret to record the death of Mr. H. C. R. Harley, the Local Fund Engineer, who died on duty at the Gollapalli work on 9th instant. Mr. Ingram Cotton, Ceylon Government's Commissioner, also died during the fortnight at Muddanur, where he had come to recruit coolies. Both deaths were due to heat apoplexy. The heat during the fortnight has been most oppressive.

The steps taken to start gratuitous relief in villages have been explained to the Board in this office letter, No. 216-F., dated 7th May 1897. Orders were issued on 22nd March 1897 for the submission of proposals to open central kitchens for the dependants of relief workers who could not attend works, and on 22nd April 1897 subordinate officers were authorized to start gratuitous relief in villages at once. After sending reminders and telegrams, I obtained reports, which show that the following progress was made in the matter. In Proddatur, a kitchen was opened near the kasba, in which 14 adults and 9 children are being fed. Arrangements have also been made to open kitchens at Arakatavemala, Duvvur, Chintakunta, Nandyalampet and Kalamalla. Grain doles were also given at Proddatur on the 14th May. In Jammalamadugu, the Tahsildar reports that nobody came to the kitchen. Except in the case of Rangarazu caste people, there are no caste objections on the part of the people to partake of cooked food in kitchens; and the Special Deputy Collector thinks that people are now unwilling to be fed in kitchens, and are holding out to enforce the giving of money doles which are being given under the Indian Charitable Relief Fund scheme. Grain doles have been ordered to be given where necessary. In Pulivendla, a kitchen was opened on the 13th instant. The number fed has not been reported. Finding that the Tahsildar was tardy in carrying out the orders, I made personal enquiries in two villages (Kasamur and Agraharam) of this taluk, and distributed grain doles on the 14th May to 32 adults and 15 children, and have issued instructions to the village officers to continue the doles twice a week, and placed them in funds. The taluks of Proddatur and Jammalamadugu have been divided into circles, and in addition to the existing staff of Revenue Inspectors, three Circle Inspectors have been appointed—two for Jammalamadugu and one for Proddatur. The proposals for Pulivendla have just been received from the Tahsildar, and orders will be passed on receipt of the Special Deputy Collector's remarks thereon. I regret very much that the Head-quarter Deputy Collector, who has only one taluk to manage, has not done anything up to date. In his fortnightly narrative, he says that "the distribution of village relief will, it is hoped, commence soon, and people who are unable to go to works will be benefited at their homes." This Deputy Collector is under orders of transfer to Kistna district. I learn that on the 15th instant, the Tahsildar and Deputy Tahsildar of Cuddapah were starting a kitchen at Cuddapah. The Indian Famine Charitable Relief Committee issued 2,488 tickets

for the relief of 4,000 persons including children. From these, able-bodied and undeserving persons were excluded, and the number of tickets reduced to 800, the number of persons to be relieved being about 1,200. The reduction, it appears, was effected by a committee of the fund, which examined the ticket-holders and excluded undeserving persons. This shows that the work of drafting the recipients of charitable relief to State relief cannot be done without proper scrutiny, which involves necessarily some amount of delay. If there has been any delay in starting this relief, it is due partly to defective postal and telegraphic communications in the affected parts of the district, and to the fact that the Special Famine Deputy Collector and Head-quarter Deputy Collector have been, instead of acting promptly on my express order "*to commence the distribution of relief*," only "taking steps" to do so. M.R.Ry. Narayanasawmy Pillai is still asking for instructions, and whenever he made inquiries, he left the list of destitutes with the village Reddies for future use. I have drawn his attention to the necessity for prompt *action* in the matter.

During the fortnight under report, I visited two large relief camps and rectified several defects in their working. Additional kitchens were opened where the existing ones were found to be too far for the children to walk to and from the place where their parents and guardians are working. Finding that the numbers on the kitchen rolls bore a very small percentage to the numbers on relief works, I prevailed upon several workers to send their children to the kitchens. I was able to get nearly 200 children on the rolls at Royalapuram. The total number fed in the kitchens is, however, far below the percentage prescribed by the Board.

The relief of weavers is working in two taluks—Jammalamadugu and Proddatur. The scheme was originally started fixing the task as one of an 8-hour day. I inspected the weavers' relief office at Jammalamadugu in March last, and found that under the system in force the weavers were getting A class wages, while they were under the rule entitled only to C class wages. I pointed out this to the Board, but it has referred the matter to the Special Deputy Collector for report. That officer's report has not yet been received. In the meantime, the Board has further reduced the number of working hours to 6½ to make the task here correspond with that enforced at Adóni (*vide* Proceedings, dated 6th May 1897, Mis. No. 3185). This will give the weavers even more than they were getting before. In Proceedings, dated 3rd May 1897, No. 334, received on 13th May 1897, however permission has been given to follow the old tables, but in the more recent Proceedings, dated the 6th idem, the day has been ordered to be reckoned as one of 6½ hours. I shall address the Board separately in the matter, and in the meantime, I have ordered the 6½ hours day task to be given effect to at once in deference to the orders of the Board.

The Special Deputy Collector in charge of weavers' relief operations brings to notice that delays take place in the weavers' relief office in receiving cloths tendered, &c., and has submitted certain proposals calculated to minimise such delays. This report is at variance with Mr. Runga Row's report, and with what I was personally informed by the Deputy Tahsildar in charge of the office. These officers represented that there were no delays in payment at all after the third appraiser was entertained. The proposals submitted by the Special Deputy Collector are under consideration.

Places visited—By Collector.—

1. Mullela.
2. Thondur.
3. Rayalapuram.
4. Gollalagudur.
5. Lingala.
6. Mosuvaripalli.
7. Venkatampalli.
8. Agraharam.
9. Kasanur.
10. Simhadripalli.
11. Dondlavagu.
12. Nidivelagala.
13. Tummalapalli.
14. Chinna Rangapuram.
15. Ulimella.
16. Chintalajutur.
17. Chinna Kudala.
18. Deguva Lingala.
19. Himakuntla.
20. Cheruvikindepalli.
21. Gurizala.
22. Sunhadupuram.

By Sub-Collector—Madanapalle Taluk.—Ghattu, Gorlapelli, Brahmanepalli, Kormi Vandlapalli, Angallu, Ghouse, Varipelli, Mrukottapalli, Kottaivanpalli, Nuttapalli, Kasi Raopet, Chinna Tippasamudram.

Vayalpad Taluk—Vayalpad.

By Head-Quarter Deputy Collector.—

1. Chinnachowk.
2. Gudur.
3. Chennur.
4. Bayanapelli.
5. Pata Cuddapah.
6. Devuni Cuddapah.
7. Modanudepalli.
8. Upparapalli.
9. Pushpagiri.
10. Nuttapalli
11. Vellur.
12. Kotapalli.
13. Teppalur.
14. Chinna Lebaka.
15. Gangayapalli.

By Special Deputy Collector, Jammalamadugu.—Forty-nine villages as per list enclosed. The touring of the Head-Quarter Deputy Collector is bad, five of the villages inspected by him are the suburbs of Cuddapah town. The Deputy Collector did not inspect either of the relief works in progress in the taluk.

By the Deputy Collector, Sidhout Division, Pullampet Taluk.—Utukur, Pullampet, Puttanavaripalli, Gopanambupuram, Udumavaripalli, Chulapalli, Sattuvaripalli, Devasamudram, Vathalur, Tippayapalli and Anantasamudram.

List of villages visited by the Special Deputy Collector, Jammalamadugu division—

1. Proddatur.
2. Bollavaram.
3. Gopavaram.
4. Chinnadandlur.
5. Peddesettipalli.
6. Chowdur.
7. Chinnasettepalli.
8. Razupalem.
9. Tangatur.
10. Gadgudur.
11. Ayyavaripalli.
12. Vengalayapalli.
13. Arukatavemula.
14. Parlapad.
15. Eruvapalem.
16. Velavali.
17. Irudaledinne.
18. Chinnajonnavaram.
19. Duvur.
20. Gudepaud.
21. Chinnasangampalli.
22. Sallabasavayapalli.
23. Gollapalli.
24. Bayyampalli.
25. Pitchapaud.
26. Somapuram.
27. Bhadrampalli.
28. Nerravada.
29. Chepaud.
30. Morrayapalli.
31. Chentacunta.
32. Lingaladinne.
33. Gagararam.
34. Gaddamayapalli.
35. Vripenta.
36. Settevanpalli.
37. Bhumayapalli.
38. Mydukur.
39. Sevapuram.
40. Annalúr.
41. Sumayazalapalli.
42. Nadeinpalli.
43. Dayankanipalli.
44. Gollavandlapalli.
45. Mutrayapalli.
46. Gaddamvaripalli.
47. Randyalampet.
48. Noyappaganpalli.
49. Ellampalli.

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

Taluks.	Other purposes.								Repair and construction of wells.								Total.								Number of wells	
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		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.	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	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41
		Rs.		Rs.				Rs.		Rs.				Rs.		Rs.				Rs.		Rs.				Rs.				Rs.				Rs.				Rs.		
Badvel							2	350					2	350			2	175	1	300																	2	1
Sidhout							1	250					2	350			2	350																			1	
Pullampet													1	150			1	75	1	100																	1	16
Cuddapah							1	150					1	150			2	225	1	100																	2	4
Proddatur							1	410					8	2,705			9	3,115	2	410																	1	5
Jammalamadugu							17	2,935					7	860			24	3,795	2	410																	1	10
Puliveudla													8	2,300			8	2,300																				12
Kadiri							4	935					10	1,380			14	2,315	2	300																	1	
Rayachóti													1	100			1	100																				
Vayalpad													13	2,020			13	2,020																				
Madanapalle													4	700			4	700																				
Total							66	10,915					66	10,915			88	13,830	6	1,220																	52	1

Taluks.	Cattle and seed-grain.								Purchase of fodder.								Total.									
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		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.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.		
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47
		Rs.		Rs.				Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		
Badvel											1	150					1	150					1	150		
Sidhout											4	420					4	420					4	420		
Pullampet											3	330					3	330					3	330		
Cuddapah																										
Proddatur																										
Jammalamadugu																										
Puliveudla																										
Kadiri																										
Rayachóti																										
Vayalpad																										
Madanapalle																										
Total											8	900					8	900					8	900		

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

EXTRACT from the Sub-Collector's letter, Reference on Cur. No. 2463, Revenue, dated 8th May 1897.

As a matter of fact, however, people do not represent to me when in camp that they want works, nor are the people that I have met so hard up for employment as to be ready to go to relief works. My four Tahsildars report the same condition of things to me. An ordinary minor irrigation repair was started at Katireniyerragudi in Rayachóti taluk bordering on Kadiri and Pulivendla taluks on 18th April, ten coolies came the first day and refused to work the second day, unless the males were paid 2 annas per diem. I cannot hear of adult labour being anywhere got for less than 2 annas, nor is it easily procurable for that sum. The Deputy Tahsildar of Piler is the only one who has sent in a gloomy report, and the Tahsildar being sent by me to verify it, found it greatly exaggerated. Even the Deputy Tahsildar has not suggested starting relief works, but merely minor irrigation works, for which no estimates have been forwarded. The recent rainfall on the 1st May has considerably relieved the situation in Vayalpad, and a further fall of one inch would see ploughing on dry lands general. As it is, I counted 28 ploughs working on the 2nd May as I went by train from Vayalpad to Chinna Tippasamudrum, and seven more within half a mile of Chinna Tippasamudram station.

(Signed) A. T. FORBES,
Acting Sub-Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

Private Charity.

The Indian Famine Charitable Fund is daily distributing about Rs. 150 in the Cuddapah town. It was resolved at a meeting of the members of this fund, when I also happened to be present, that the number relieved should be reduced, and accordingly 800 able-bodied men, women and children were sent away and refused relief. I asked all these people that were so turned out whether they are willing to come on to a relief work if one was opened, and receive famine wages, whereby they would get the same amount that was being allowed them by the charitable fund. They all as a body refused to come to the works. This shows that they are not deserving of relief, and are not yet pinched. These are all mostly people belonging to Cuddapah, and a very few to closely adjoining villages. But some of the Malas and Madigas said that they would go to a relief work if opened, but these were not even 50 in number. It was the opinion of several, that sat at a committee in selecting persons to be turned out, that private charity and labour was yet available in and about Cuddapah, though not to the same extent as in the ordinary good seasons. I may add that not a single soul is being fed by the Indian Charitable Famine Relief Committee in the Cuddapah taluk nor in the Cuddapah town. Except the money dole referred to above, nothing else is done by the committee in the taluk up to the present moment.

RESOLUTION—dated 2nd June 1897, No. 413.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the fortnight was fair, but was of but little service to the affected taluks. Supplies for irrigation have been slightly improved in parts, but difficulty in obtaining water for drinking purposes is still experienced in several villages. The Collector should see that, when he writes his next narrative, he has materials for reporting what has been done to improve the sources of supply.

3. Much detailed information as to the condition of the various crops in each taluk is given, but in the absence of statistics as to the area covered, they are practically worthless; an ordinary reader, who did not know the true conditions, would suppose that the Collector was describing a season of exceptional plenty. This method of reporting gives a very good demonstration of the way in which the Collector arrives at his idea of the condition of his district. He sees half a dozen acres thriving under a well or two, and promptly stores them up in his memory as typical of the whole tract, overlooking the hundreds of acres on which no crop is to be seen at all. The same criticism applies to his remarks as to the existence of pasture. The

Collector has no sense of proportion. Fodder is said to be procurable, but at high prices. Since the report was written, imported fodder has been laid down at Yerraguntla at a favourable price, though in but a small quantity as yet, through the efforts of the Chairman of the Local Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund. Cattle are deteriorating, and 100 are said to have died of starvation in four villages alone.

4. Prices are slightly easier throughout the district and also in the affected taluks, except at Jammalamadugu, where there has been an appreciable rise in the price of white cholam, due, it is said, to short supply in the markets. The position of prices in the affected taluks is shown in the subjoined table:—

Rates.	Number of seers per rupee.			
	Rice.	Ragi.	Cholam (mixed).	Cumbu.
Standard	13·2	32·0	30·0	28·0
Warning	10·6	24·0	22·5	21·0
Scarcity	7·9	16 0	15·0	14·0
Current	8·7	16·7	12·8	11·6
May 1892	8·3	15·6	13·6	12 4
May 1877	8·4	9·9	9·3	8·4

Trade is said to be active except in the affected portion of the district.

5. The condition of the people, both on works and in villages, is reported to be generally good. As was to be expected, however, the numbers on relief have increased rapidly, the numbers for the latest day for which figures were available showing an increase of 33 per cent. over those of the preceding fortnight. Little or nothing was done by the District Officers during the fortnight to carry out the orders of Government for the extension of village relief. The matter has been separately dealt with in B.P's., Nos. 3318 and 3373 of 1897. The Collector passes some strictures on the action of the Indian Charitable Relief Fund Committee. He is Chairman of the District Committee, and his remarks would be addressed with more propriety to his colleagues on the committee. The Collector must issue strict orders that persons suffering from small-pox should be rigidly excluded from works, and relieved by grain or money doles so long as they are sick. The establishment of the disease among the relief-workers will quadruple the difficulties of administering relief and probably result in the practical exclusion from relief of a large percentage of those who are really in need of it. The attention of Government is once more drawn to the imperious necessity of providing a stronger establishment of medical subordinates.

From the report of the Sub-Collector, it appears that, though the sub-division requires careful watching, test-works are not likely to succeed at present.

6. The question of opening a work in the vicinity of Cuddapah has been disposed of in B.P., dated 19th May 1897, No. 3537.

7. The revision of the weavers' task-tables will be considered as soon as the Special Deputy Collector furnishes the report called for in B.P., No. 281 of 1897. It should be expedited. The Collector did not report to the Board that the weavers were getting A-class wages; what he did report was that in some instances (by long and continuous working) they did so. The Board had these cases examined, with the result that, even after the A wage had been earned, there was a considerable profit left for Government. Pending the report of the Special Deputy Collector, no further order can be issued than that no weaver should be allowed to earn more than the A wage. They should be warned accordingly, and supplies of yarn issued in such cases accordingly.

The fortnightly report is not the proper place for discussing the details of weavers' relief, but the Board takes this opportunity to correct a mistake into which the Collector has fallen, probably, owing to the omission, in B.P., dated 6th May 1897, No. 3135, to refer to B.P., dated 22nd January 1897, No. 46. It was there stated that a full ten-hour day had been allowed for the Adóni task so as to allow for various disturbing factors; but that it was admitted that, at Adóni, a single *able-bodied* man

could weave a carpet, slightly larger than the Kurnool carpet, in about 6½ hours, and it was laid down that the task should be such a one as would be within the capacity of *an average weaver* working ten hours a day. The Board's remark, which was intended to refer to the time occupied by an *able-bodied weaver*, was referred to its right place by the Special Deputy Collector for weaving operations, who, in his letter, No. 85, dated 18th May 1897, points out that subsequent experience at Adóni shows that it takes an average weaver 8 hours to weave a carpet, and that he had been misunderstood to say that it could be done in 6½ hours. The Special Deputy Collector, apparently, has lost sight of the distinction between *average* and *able-bodied*. The Deputy Collector's letter will be disposed of separately, and, meanwhile, pending the final report of the Special Deputy Collector, the old task of eight hours will be resumed.

8. The Famine Commissioner notes with disapproval the slackness of the Headquarters Deputy Collector in touring.

9. There is practically no progress in the disbursement of loans. The following figures show what has been done in this direction during the past five weeks:—

Amount advanced.	Up to end of week ending.
RS.	
5,440	April 17th.
5,715	„ 24th
5,760	May 1st
5,810	„ 8th
6,510	„ 15th

Applications for over Rs. 31,000 are pending as it is, and this amount would probably be far larger, were applications disposed of with more promptitude. More attention must be paid to this work. The Famine Commissioner notes that there is not a single application pending for loans for the purchase of fodder. As pointed out in B.P., No. 379, dated 18th May 1897, it is to be feared that the extreme severity of the Collector, in making Government officers responsible pecuniarily for loans not recovered, has resulted in a general discouragement of applications in the district. Loans for the purchase of fodder should be given freely, under the rules, at this juncture.

10. The Famine Commissioner regrets to have to report the death from heat apoplexy of Mr. Hurley, the Local Fund Engineer, an old and much respected officer, who died on duty at Gollapalle on 9th May. Four other Europeans have also succumbed to the intense heat of the Ceded Districts—two recruiters of labour from Ceylon and North Travancore, Mr. Bird, a Railway employé, and a most active and able officer, and a passenger by rail.

(True Copy and Extract.)

Famine Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Copy to the Collector of Cuddapah.
„ „ Chairman, Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund.
„ „ Sanitary Commissioner.

Exd. A. F. Eccleston.

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd.	} 1897.	*Enclosures*
Regd.		*Spare copies*

G.O., No. 479, 19th June 1897.

JUNE.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording Board's Proceedings submitting to Government, with remarks, — of the Cuddapah district for the period ending 15th May 1897.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 2nd June 1897, No. 413 :—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the first fortnight of May 1897 :—

State of Country.

Rainfall.—During the fortnight, there were showers in parts of all the taluks of the district, the heaviest fall being 2·23 inches at Vayalpad. The subjoined statement shows the rainfall registered at the several rain-gauge stations :—

	Inches.		Inches.
1. Chitvel	0·10	6. Proddatur	0·28
2. Rajampet	0·08	7. Kadiri	0·43
3. Sidhout	1·44	8. Ráyachóti	0·52
4. Badvel	0·64	9. Pilér	0·40
5. Cuddapah	0·58	10. Vayalpad	2·23
		11. Madanapallo	0·84

In the interior of the taluks of the sub-division, there was rainfall ranging from ½ to 1½ inches. In Mahadavapalli, Pulivendla taluk, there was about ½ an inch, while on the Dhodiyam hills in the Jammalamadugu taluk, there was about an inch of rainfall. There were also slight showers in parts of the Proddatur taluk. In some of the villages in the northern part of Badvel, there was rainfall ranging from ½ to 1¼ inches. There was also about ½ inch of rain in the villages near Pullampet.

Water-supply—Rivers.—There were freshets in the Sagiler, Madduler, Kundu and Vayalpad rivers owing to the rains that fell during the fortnight. The Kundu now flows 1 to 3 feet deep. The Penner is also flowing, as also are the Pullangeru and Gungana.

Channels—Eastern section.—Said to be flowing in Pullampet. *Southern section.*—River channels are flowing moderately in Vayalpad and Madanapallo. In Kadiri, six channels are flowing less than 1½ feet deep, while in Ráyachoti very few river channels are flowing. *Northern section.*—In Pulivendla, the river and spring channels are flowing moderately. The Tahsildar of Jammalamadugu reports that the supply in channels has gone down and is insufficient for irrigation. In Proddatur, the channels are said to be flowing scantily. The Kurnool-Cuddapah canal has been re-opened, and has supplied tanks.

Tanks—Eastern section.—Some tanks in the three taluks received supplies, the largest reported being twenty-five days' supply. *Southern section.*—In Ráyachóti, thirteen tanks received small supplies. Forty tanks in Voyalpad received supplies ranging from five to twenty-five days. A few tanks in Madanapallo are also said to have received small supplies. *Northern section.*—The Mahadevapallo tank in the Pulivendla taluk contains a month's supply. The Tivvapallo tank in the Proddatur taluk received six days' supply, which has already run out. Tanks in Cuddapah are being supplied from the canal.

Wells—Irrigation.—In several places, supplies are said to be decreasing, and to be not sufficient for irrigation purposes. In the portion of Pulivendla that I have myself inspected, I find supplies sufficient.

Drinking water.—In parts of Kadiri taluk difficulty for drinking water is felt. The supply in the villages of the Cuddapah taluk bordering on Ráyachóti and in the village of Animela is said to be insufficient. In some villages of the Jammalamadugu taluk, it is stated that there is no water for drinking purposes, and that it is brought from long distances. This occurs annually, and there is no practical remedy. In Proddatur, there is no water in four villages, and it is scanty in some. The Divisional Officers and Tahsildars merely report that steps will be taken to improve water-supply,

but have not reported the nature of the action taken in the direction and the result, though strict orders * were issued to them on the 7th instant to state in their fortnightly narratives whether the matter of getting over the water difficulty was placed before the taluk boards, whether the boards have funds sufficient to meet the charges, and, if not, to apply for grants from Provincial Funds. The attention of all officers is again drawn to the above order.

* Reference No. 309 of 1897, dated 4th May 1897.

Agricultural operations and condition of standing crops.

(*a*) *Agricultural operations—Southern section.*—In the Kadiri taluk, the agricultural operations in progress are baling water for standing crops, tilling lands for ragi, and harvesting paddy and korra. In Ráyachóti, fields are being irrigated, and ragi, cholam, and paddy are under harvest. The ryots in the Vayalpad taluk are engaged in reaping paddy under wells, in baling water for sugarcane and betel gardens, and ploughing dry lands; while in Madanapalle, the agricultural operations in progress are ploughing dry lands for raising dry crops, baling water from wells for sugarcane, paddy, &c., and harvesting cholam. *Northern section.*—Lands under wells and channels are either being irrigated or ploughed. A great deal of dry land has been ploughed and got ready for next sowing. *Eastern section—Sidhout and Badvel.*—Sowing indigo under wells, irrigating tobacco and onions under wells, harvesting gingelly, and thrashing ragi are being carried on. *Pullampet.*—Indigo is being sown, and lands are being ploughed for sowing cumbu. Gingelly is being harvested.

(*b*) *Condition of standing crops—Southern section.*—The following are the standing crops in each taluk :—*Kadiri.*—Paddy, cholam, sugarcane and betel gardens under wells and channels. These are in good condition. *Rayachoti.*—Cholam, ragi and paddy. Condition good. *Madanapalle.*—Sugarcane, paddy, cholam and korra under wells. These crops are in good condition. *Vayalpad.*—Paddy, cholam, sugarcane and betel gardens. Their condition is fair. In the Pilèru division, the Deputy Tahsildar reports that some of the garden crops are drooping for want of water; but Mr. Forbes has reported that the Deputy Tahsildar's reports are not to be trusted. *Eastern Section—Badvel and Sidhout.*—Cholam, gingelly, indigo, cotton and tobacco chiefly under wells are in good condition. *Pullampet.*—Paddy, cholam, ragi, cumbu, korra, onions and gingelly are in good condition. *Northern Section—Proddatur.*—Palapu jonna, korra, paddy, indigo, bariga and gingelly under wells are in good condition. *Jammalamadugu.*—Betel gardens, gingelly, cholam, korra, paddy and bariga under wells are in good condition. *Pulivendla.*—Yellow cholam, gingelly, oil-seeds, tobacco and korra under wells and channels are doing well. Korra seems to be the chief crop now on the ground under wells. I have seen a good deal of very good korra. Its existence has not been reported by the Tahsildar or Deputy Collector. *Cuddapah.*—Paddy, cholam, korra, indigo and gingelly under wells and channels are in good condition. With reference to the report in the last fortnightly narrative that paddy under Pata Cuddapah tank was withering, I am glad to say that the paddy is now reported to have revived. I was astonished last fortnight to receive the report that paddy under this tank was withering. The tank is a fine large one, and is fed by the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal. It was inspected by His Excellency the Governor on 23rd February, on which day it was full—indeed, water stood a few inches above "full tank level" owing to mud banks put on top of the waste weir. I therefore called for a special report, and from it learned, as above said, that the paddy had revived. This revival is ascribed to fresh supplies of water received from the canal. I intend investigating the matter further on return to head-quarters. In paragraph 2 of its Proceedings, dated 3rd May 1897, No. 334, reviewing the fortnightly narrative of this district for the period ending 15th April 1897, the Board observes that it is unable to share my sanguine views as to the effect of scanty showers that have fallen, and that it doubts if I am justified in accepting the high estimate of outturn either for the crops under wells and channels or for purely dry crops. It is also remarked that it is not clear to what taluk the estimated outturn of crop over 40 per cent. of the cultivated area given as As. 4 to 8 applies. In the first place, I may mention that the figures of outturn reported in my narrative are those furnished by the Tahsildars and by the Special Deputy Collector, M.R.Ry. M. V. Narainasawmy

Pillay. I have no reason to believe that the outturn of crops under wells and channels has in any case been over-estimated. I should think, on the other hand, that it has been underrated. I have personally seen a very large area of irrigated crops and found ragi and other crops in excellent condition. As regards the irrigated crops, I regret that the words "in Proddatur" were omitted by mistake after the words "purely dry lands", and hence arose the ambiguity noticed by the Board. I have repeated my instructions about the great care that should be taken in fair-copying these reports. The figures reported refer to Prodattur taluk alone. I do not think that the estimate framed is incorrect. The Tahsildar, Katchepeswara Iyer, is a careful and hardworking man, and to be trusted.

Supply of fodder and pasture, and condition of Cattle.

Pasture—Southern section.—Scanty in Madanapalle, and not available elsewhere. The rainfall reported above will no doubt have improved matters. *Eastern section.*—Pasture is still available in parts of Pullampet. *Northern section.*—Very scanty; but available in places in the beds of vankas and channels. I have personally seen pasture near Rayalapuram, Mosuvaripalle, Kasanur and Ulimella.

In paragraph 3 of its Proceedings, dated 3rd May 1897 No. 334, the Board says that it believes pasture to be non-existent, and in Proceedings dated 22nd April 1897, No. 309, it has been remarked that I should have used the word "*nil*" instead of "Scanty" I think that the word used by me was justified by the facts disclosed by my personal observation. At Mosuvaripalle, in the Pulivendla taluk, three or four days ago, I saw a stretch of green grass about six inches in height in the bed of the stream. I should say that the length of this stretch of grass was about 150 yards. I saw the bed of the same stream at intervals along a distance of three miles, and it seemed to have some green grazing on it all the way along. A large number of cattle were grazing upon it. The day before yesterday at Kasanur, I counted in front of my tent 41 buffaloes and 9 donkeys cropping the scanty pasture in the bed of the vanka. I saw similar pasture at Rayalapuram and Ulimella. Under these circumstances, I respectfully regret that I am unable to adopt the Board's statement, and say that pasture is "*nil*" or "non-existent". The fact remains that the cattle contrive to exist, and to do that they must have food. They are to be seen, every place I have been, grazing as best they can. As reported in my last narrative, they have fallen off in condition since January, but I have seen no cattle in this district in such bad condition as those I saw between Arkonam and Madras last month. It should not be forgotten that this district is not the same as Bellary, Kurnool or Anantapur, and that although the affected portion is generally described as the "black cotton" portion, yet, it contains very large stretches of country that are not black cotton soil, *e.g.*, in this Pulivendla taluk, one-fourth the area is not black cotton soil. I can also inform the Board from my personal observation that there is surface water in vankas at the following places—Kasanur, Dondlanágu, Mosuvaripalle, Rayalapuram and Tondur, all visited by me during the fortnight under report. At Nidivelagala, the sub-soil water is so near the surface that it has been reached in cutting road-side drains. Any idea of the affected portion of this district as a place entirely parched up is, therefore, erroneous. There are several places where surface water is still available in considerable quantity owing to springs.

Fodder—Eastern section.—Sufficient. *Southern section.*—Procurable, but at dear rates. In Vayalpad, cholam recently harvested has added to the stock of fodder. The Sub-Collector reports that fodder is scanty in Tamballapalle firka of Madanapalle taluk. *Northern section.*—Available, but the prices are high. Getting scarce in Cuddapah taluk.

Condition of cattle.

Southern section.—Good in Vayalpad and Madanapalle (except Tamballapalle) and fair in Ráyachóti. Some cattle in the latter taluk are said to be emaciated. In Kadiri, cattle are said to be losing strength owing to want of sufficient pasture and fodder. The absence of fodder is reported to have resulted in the death of 100 cattle in four villages of Patnam firka. Cattle appear to be worse off and in worse condition in Kadiri than in any taluk of the district. *Northern section.*—*Proddatur.*—Generally good. *Pulivendla.*—Plough and draught cattle are well cared for, and the rest generally have fallen off in condition. *Jammalamadugu.*—The Tahsildar says that the condition of cattle is deteriorating for want of sufficient fodder, and that many cattle are emaciated. *Cuddapah.*—Good generally, but in parts of Kamalapuram and Animala firkas cattle are said to be losing condition. Cattle disease prevails in Proddatur, Jammalamadugu, Káyachóti and Madanapalle. *Eastern section.*—Good. Cattle disease prevails in one village of Sidhout and one of Pullampet taluk.

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 May 1897.

Station.	Rice.		Ragi.		White cholam.		Yellow cholam.		Cumbu.	
	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.
Badvel	7·42	7·42	18·00	18·00	15·80	15·80	..	..	13·05	12·32
Sidhout	9·07	9·07	19·80	19·80	13·20	14·00	14·85	14·85	14·00	13·20
Pullampet	8·71	8·71	18·00	18·00	..	..	..	..	13·05	13·05
Chitvél	8·30	8·30	21·00	21·00	15·80	15·80	..	..	14·50	14·50
Cuddapah	7·12	7·88	17·25	17 25	11 62	12·24	..	..	11·60	11·60
Kamalápuram	..	..	18·15	18·15	..	13·20	..	..	..	..
Proddatur	9·90	9·90	16·12	16·50	13·03	13·43	12·64	12·64	..	..
Jammalamadugu ..	8·71	8·71	15·75	15·75	13·43	* 12·32	12·64	12·64	..	..
Pulivendla	8·30	8·30	15·75	15·75	13·43	13·43	12·64	12·64	..	..
Kadiri	9·13	9·13	18·75	18·75	15 80	15·80	..	..	13·05	13 05
Káyachóti	9·01	9·01	16 50	16·50	15·01	15·01	..	..	13·05	13·05
Vayalpad	9·13	9·13	19·50	19·5u	15·80	† 18·96	..	..	13 77	13·05
Madanapalle	9·54	9·13	22·50	22·50	14·22	† 18·96	..	..	13·05	13·05
Average for all stations ..	8·69	8·72	18·23	18·26	14·28	14·95	13·19	13·19	13·23	12·98
Average for the affected tracts	8·50	8·69	16·60	16·68	12·87	13·02	12 64	12·64	11·60	11·60

* Rise is attributed to short supply in the markets. † Owing to recent harvest of cholam.

Activity of Trade.

Southern section.—Kadiri.—Active in dry staple food-grains.

Ráyachóti.—Active; cholam exported to Cuddapah.

Vayalpad.—Not active.

Madanapalle.—Active in rice and dry staple food-grains.

Eastern section.—Active in all the taluks in rice and other staple food-grains.

Northern section—Cuddapah.—Rather dull. The Deputy Collector reports that stock of grain in villages is being used by the ryots, and that very little is offered for sale.

Jammalamadugu, Proddatur and Pulivendla.—Dull generally. The Pulivendla market is well supplied. Here, at Kasanur, I have been noticing for the last few days several cart-loads of cotton passing along the road. Enquiry as regards four bandies showed that they were bound for the Bangalore mills, and that the exporters were men of Chavaripalle, and were going to cart the cotton all the way. I understand that it is customary at this season of the year to cart goods over enormous distances to save rail fare.

Imports by rail or sea.—Rice and ragi are being imported to Madanapalle from Vayalpad and the Mysore Province. Cuddapah gets rice from Nellore and other places, and Rázampéta by rail from the Southern districts. There were no imports in the Jammalamadugu division.

Condition of people.

On works.—Good generally. The heat being excessive, hutting accommodation is being extended so as to afford the coolies greater comfort during the hours of rest.

In villages.—Good generally.

Sickness and Mortality.

(*a*) *Sickness.*—Some of the relief workers at Rayalapuram, Tondur and Lingala are suffering from fever and small-pox.

(*b*) *Mortality.*—On the Gangireddipalli relief-work, Cuddapah taluk, there were two deaths—one of an old man from fever, and the other of a child which died on the 5th day after birth. A woman, aged 60 years, attending kitchen, attached to the Anantapuram relief-work, has also died. The cause of death is not stated. I have ordered the Tahsildar to enquire and report. Two cases of deaths from small-pox occurred on Tondur work and one from diarrhœa on the Rayalapuram work. The people are so careless that it is difficult to keep small-pox away from the works. A woman and two children recovering from small-pox, and apparently in an infectious state, came to beg from me on the Rayalapuram work. They came right out among the working coolies. I had them sent home at once, and arranged that food should be sent them daily from the kitchen. I also sent the medical subordinate to them. Some time ago I requested the District Medical and Sanitary officer to depute a medical subordinate to each large work. I also wrote to the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras pointing out that it devolved upon him to supply the required number of medical officers for the charge of famine-relief works and stated my requirements, viz., eight more men. But the District Medical and Sanitary officer reports, in his letter received yesterday, that the Surgeon-General has informed him that there are no spare hands available, and that some will be posted to this district as soon as they become available. I am very anxious to obtain more medical assistance, and will write to the Surgeon-General again.

Measures of Relief.

Name of work.	Number of relief workers.			Number fed at the kitchen.		
	Last fortnight.	On the 8th May, *i.e.*, the last Saturday for which season report has been received in camp.	On the latest day for which reports are received.	Last fortnight.	On the 8th May, *i.e.*, the last Saturday for which season report has been received in camp.	On the latest day for which reports are received.
1. Yerraguntla-Vempalli road, Kodur ..	4,056	3,624	4,300 (15th)	207	187	192 (15th)
2. Do. Gangireddipalle	3,012	3,494	3,639 (Do.)	238	255	253 (Do.)
3. Jammalamadugu-Mudanur road, Vemaguntapalle	1,760	1,873	1,741 (Do.)	64	56	49 (Do.)
4. Jammalamadugu-Proddattur road, Goriganur	1,217	1,297	1,361 (Do.)	60	46	68 (Do.)
5. Jammalamadugu-Nosam road, near Gundlakunta	1,530	1,655	1,752 (Do.)	38	43	35 (Do.)
6. Muddanur tank, Jammalamadugu taluk ..	2,160	2,346	2,337 (Do.)	80	74	116 (Do.)
7. Simhadripuram-Kondapuram road, Anantapuram	1,850	1,809	2,218 (Do.)	59	63	57 (Do.)
8. Jammalamadugu-Owk road, Gollapalle Agraharam	1,729	2,007	2,060 (Do.)	48	48	53 (Do.)
9. Pulivendla-Muddanur road, Rayalapuram.	3,946	4,467	4,598 (14th)	75	129	105 (14th)
10. Simhadripuram-Kondapuram road, Nidvelegala	3,109	3,313	3,588 (15th)	25	34	68 (15th)
11. Lingala tank, Pulivendla taluk ..	1,159	1,268	1,352 (Do.)	25	24	29 (Do.)
12. Muddanur-Pulivendla road, Tondur ..	..	663	1,199 (Do.)	..	28	46 (Do.)
13. Proddatur-Jammalamadugu road, Bollavaram	1,971	2,201	2,320 (Do.)	94	95	91 (Do.)
14. Settivaripalle tank, Proddatur tank ..	1,813	2,537	2,736 (Do.)	26	41	45 (Do.)
15. Reddasettipalli channel near Tsondur ..	993	1,193	964 (14th)	45	42	36 (14th)
16. Rajoli project, Gopavaram, Proddatur taluk	703	1,188	1,585 (15th)	78	89	99 (15th)
17. Rajoli project, Rajupoliem taluk	..	1,491	1,898 (Do.)	..	27	13 (Do.)
18. Chinnadandlur channel, Proddatur taluk.	246	429	993 (Do.)	15	25	50 (Do.)
19. Peddapasupula project	..	..	803 (Do.)	..	..	74 (Do.)
Total ..	31,254	36,855	41,444	1,167	1,306	1,479

Weavers' Relief.

Taluks.	Number of villages in which relief was given.	Number of persons relieved		Number of cloths manufactured	
		Up to last fortnight.	Up to this fortnight.	In the period.	Up to the period.
Jammalamadugu	9	9,565	9,633	Panchalu. 2,624 | 19,716 Turbans 7 × 7. 1,370 | 6,472 Turbans 6 × 6. 12,576 | 83,876 Turbans 5 × 5. 5,735 | 30,667	
	..	..	..	22,305	140,731
Proddatur	6	627	1,207	Panchalu. 424 | 460 Turbans 7 × 7. .. | .. Turbans 6 × 6. 396 | 396 Turbans 5 × 5. 120 | 150	
Cuddapah	3				
	..	..	..	940	1,006

	Number relieved in poor-houses.		In villages.		Number of villages in which relief was given.		Number of relief workers, children and infirm dependants receiving money doles.
	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	
Pulivendla	..	..	47	..	2	..	
		Adults ..	32				
		Children ..	15				
			47				

Private Charity.—The Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund continues to give money doles to the poor. From the remarks of the Special Deputy Collector, Jammalamadugu, in his diary for the week ending the 2nd instant, it would appear that a large number of persons who are not deserving of relief—on the grounds of inability to work and destitution—were admitted to relief and granted doles. I have submitted an extract from the diary to the Board of Revenue. In B.P., dated 6th May 1897, Mis. No. 3182, I was asked to take on Government relief 5,000 persons said to have been fed by the relief fund. From the fortnightly narratives received from the subordinate officers and the telegram received from the Secretaries to the Cuddapah committee, it would appear that the relief fund has not been feeding any people, but has been giving money doles at the rate of one and a half annas per adult and 9 piés per child—a rate higher than B class wages on works at present. All the persons relieved by the fund by these doles cannot, with due regard to the provisions of the Famine Code, be at once put on State relief, considering the facts brought to notice by the Special Deputy Collector. The Proddatur Tahsildar has also cited a number of cases in which able-bodied persons who should go to relief works have been admitted to relief by the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund. This shows that the recipients of relief from that fund cannot be drafted *en masse* to State gratuitous relief

without proper enquiry. People will be admitted to Government relief according to the result of the enquiry into their circumstances conducted by a competent officer of Government. This is being done, and I have been pressing my subordinates by wire and written orders to get the work going without delay. Thirty-five persons were fed in the private kitchen at Jammalamadugu.

General remarks.

Eastern section.—The Deputy Collector reports that there is labour for coolies in all villages in fields, in building houses and in repairing wells, and that they can get on until the end of June. The condition of this section gives no room for anxiety at present.

Southern section—Kadiri taluk.—The Revd. Mr. Goffin of the London Mission Society writes to the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund members that he found many of the labouring classes between Gandlapenta and Kortikota and Balasamudram and Kokkanti were suffering from failure of crops, and that a relief work should be started for them. He, at the same time, suggested that some of his Christians should be employed as maistries and head coolies. The Tahsildar says, however, that cooly classes have yet private employment in their villages, and that there is no need at present to start test works. Further enquiry has been ordered on Mr. Goffin's letter.

Rayachóti taluk.—The Tahsildar reports that the ryots owning lands under wells and river channels are engaged in agricultural operations, and that there is no room for anxiety at present. A minor irrigation work was ordered to be started in the village of Katveni Erragudi of this taluk as a departmental work, subject to the condition that all those applying for work should be admitted. This is the village personally inspected by me as reported in my narrative printed in B.P., dated 3rd March 1897, No. 184. The Sub-Collector reports that only ten coolies came to the work, and that none of them would accept wages less than two annas a day. This indicates that Mr. Forbes' reports, that famine relief works are not called for in the sub-division, are reliable.

Vayalpad taluk.—The Deputy Tahsildar of Pílĕru says that people in his division are living from hand to mouth, and that some people are going to Nellore to find employment on the East Coast Railway work, where higher wages are offered. The Sub-Collector has ordered the Deputy Tahsildar to visit such villages and submit a special report. This Deputy Tahsildar was previously found to have exaggerated matters. Much reliance cannot, therefore, be placed on his present report. The Tahsildar says that paddy harvest is still going on, that the outturn of the crop has been from 8 to 12 annas, and that though some of the cooly classes are in need of work, yet no relief measures will be called for for a fortnight more. I think the period fixed by the Tahsildar is too short. This taluk has recently had a good fall of rain, and the Sub-Collector (Mr. Forbes) says that he noticed twenty-two ploughs at work within 300 yards of the railway line between Vayalpad and Chinna Thippasamudram, and eight more within a mile of the latter village on the way to Madanapalle. The people may hold on for some time longer. An extract from Mr. Forbes' letter is enclosed.

Madanapalle.—The Tahsildar has found by personal inspection that the cooly classes will have work for a month more, and that none are now willing to work at famine rates.

My own opinion, based solely on my subordinates' reports, about the sub-division taluks is that they require to be carefully watched at present. I have obtained a list of works that may be started as test works, should necessity arise. Orders have also been issued for a thorough inspection of the division. Mr. Forbes, who was personally acquainted with the state of the division, has left for Bengal as Acting Postmaster-General, and Mr. Vaughan, the new Sub-Collector, has only just joined.

Northern section—Cuddapah taluk.—Two relief works are in progress in this taluk, and I have issued orders for opening three more. The Divisional Officer has recommended the starting of a road work for the relief of the cooly classes in the town

of Cuddapah and the adjoining villages. This part of the taluk, with wet cultivation under a large canal-fed tank and spring channels, has not been treated hitherto as an affected area, and I have asked the Board's instructions whether the work should be started. My doubts as to the real necessity for starting work are increased by the report of the Tahsildar of Cuddapah (copy enclosed), which goes to show that a large number of idlers in the town of Cuddapah, who were undeservedly receiving help from the Charitable Fund, have refused to attend Government relief works as soon as the above charity was withdrawn from them.

The weavers in some of the villages to the south of Cuddapah are reported to be in need of relief at their trade. The Divisional Officer has addressed the Special Deputy Collector in charge of the Weavers' Relief Operations, Deccan Districts, and the report of the latter is awaited.

Proddatur, Jammalamadugu and Pulivendla.—There are 17 works in progress in this division, and five more have been ordered to be started. With reference to my remarks last fortnight, I have selected, on personal inspection, Gollalagudur as the best place to start a work in the tract between Pulivendla-Muddanur road and Vempalle. On 7th instant, I asked the Engineer to start the work of breaking metal and collecting gravel at that place for forming a road to Pendlur. There is a good water-supply and shady topes, and the village is centrally situated for those needing work.

I much regret to record the death of Mr. H. C. R. Harley, the Local Fund Engineer, who died on duty at the Gollapalli work on 9th instant. Mr. Ingram Cotton, Ceylon Government's Commissioner, also died during the fortnight at Muddanur, where he had come to recruit coolies. Both deaths were due to heat apoplexy. The heat during the fortnight has been most oppressive.

The steps taken to start gratuitous relief in villages have been explained to the Board in this office letter, No. 216-F., dated 7th May 1897. Orders were issued on 22nd March 1897 for the submission of proposals to open central kitchens for the dependants of relief workers who could not attend works, and on 22nd April 1897 subordinate officers were authorized to start gratuitous relief in villages at once. After sending reminders and telegrams, I obtained reports, which show that the following progress was made in the matter. In Proddatur, a kitchen was opened near the kasba, in which 14 adults and 9 children are being fed. Arrangements have also been made to open kitchens at Arakatavemala, Duvvur, Chintakunta, Nandyalampet and Kalamalla. Grain doles were also given at Proddatur on the 14th May. In Jammalamadugu, the Tahsildar reports that nobody came to the kitchen. Except in the case of Rangarazu caste people, there are no caste objections on the part of the people to partake of cooked food in kitchens; and the Special Deputy Collector thinks that people are now unwilling to be fed in kitchens, and are holding out to enforce the giving of money doles which are being given under the Indian Charitable Relief Fund scheme. Grain doles have been ordered to be given where necessary. In Pulivendla, a kitchen was opened on the 13th instant. The number fed has not been reported. Finding that the Tahsildar was tardy in carrying out the orders, I made personal enquiries in two villages (Kasamur and Agraharam) of this taluk, and distributed grain doles on the 14th May to 32 adults and 15 children, and have issued instructions to the village officers to continue the doles twice a week, and placed them in funds. The taluks of Proddatur and Jammalamadugu have been divided into circles, and in addition to the existing staff of Revenue Inspectors, three Circle Inspectors have been appointed—two for Jammalamadugu and one for Proddatur. The proposals for Pulivendla have just been received from the Tahsildar, and orders will be passed on receipt of the Special Deputy Collector's remarks thereon. I regret very much that the Head-quarter Deputy Collector, who has only one taluk to manage, has not done anything up to date. In his fortnightly narrative, he says that "the distribution of village relief will, it is hoped, commence soon, and people who are unable to go to works will be benefited at their homes." This Deputy Collector is under orders of transfer to Kistna district. I learn that on the 15th instant, the Tahsildar and Deputy Tahsildar of Cuddapah were starting a kitchen at Cuddapah. The Indian Famine Charitable Relief Committee issued 2,138 tickets

for the relief of 4,000 persons including children. From these, able-bodied and undeserving persons were excluded, and the number of tickets reduced to 800, the number of persons to be relieved being about 1,200. The reduction, it appears, was effected by a committee of the fund, which examined the ticket-holders and excluded undeserving persons. This shows that the work of drafting the recipients of charitable relief to State relief cannot be done without proper scrutiny, which involves necessarily some amount of delay. If there has been any delay in starting this relief, it is due partly to defective postal and telegraphic communications in the affected parts of the district, and to the fact that the Special Famine Deputy Collector and Head-quarter Deputy Collector have been, instead of acting promptly on my express order "*to commence the distribution of relief*," only "taking steps" to do so. M.R.Ry. Narayanasawmy Pillai is still asking for instructions, and whenever he made inquiries, he left the list of destitutes with the village Reddies for future use. I have drawn his attention to the necessity for prompt *action* in the matter.

During the fortnight under report, I visited two large relief camps and rectified several defects in their working. Additional kitchens were opened where the existing ones were found to be too far for the children to walk to and from the place where their parents and guardians are working. Finding that the numbers on the kitchen rolls bore a very small percentage to the numbers on relief works, I prevailed upon several workers to send their children to the kitchens. I was able to get nearly 200 children on the rolls at Royalapuram. The total number fed in the kitchens is, however, far below the percentage prescribed by the Board.

The relief of weavers is working in two taluks—Jammalamadugu and Proddatur. The scheme was originally started fixing the task as one of an 8-hour day. I inspected the weavers' relief office at Jammalamadugu in March last, and found that under the system in force the weavers were getting A class wages, while they were under the rule entitled only to C class wages. I pointed out this to the Board, but it has referred the matter to the Special Deputy Collector for report. That officer's report has not yet been received. In the meantime, the Board has further reduced the number of working hours to 6½ to make the task here correspond with that enforced at Adóni (*vide* Proceedings, dated 6th May 1897, Mis. No. 3185). This will give the weavers even more than they were getting before. In Proceedings, dated 3rd May 1897, No. 334, received on 13th May 1897, however permission has been given to follow the old tables, but in the more recent Proceedings, dated the 6th idem, the day has been ordered to be reckoned as one of 6½ hours. I shall address the Board separately in the matter, and in the meantime, I have ordered the 6½ hours day task to be given effect to at once in deference to the orders of the Board.

The Special Deputy Collector in charge of weavers' relief operations brings to notice that delays take place in the weavers' relief office in receiving cloths tendered, &c., and has submitted certain proposals calculated to minimise such delays. This report is at variance with Mr. Runga Row's report, and with what I was personally informed by the Deputy Tahsildar in charge of the office. These officers represented that there were no delays in payment at all after the third appraiser was entertained. The proposals submitted by the Special Deputy Collector are under consideration.

Places visited—By Collector.—

1. Mullela.
2. Thondur.
3. Rayalapuram.
4. Gollalagudur.
5. Lingala.
6. Mosuvaripalli.
7. Venkatampalli.
8. Agraharam.
9. Kasanur.
10. Simhadripalli.
11. Dondlavagu.
12. Nidivelagala.
13. Tummalapalli.
14. Chinna Rangapuram.
15. Ulimella.
16. Chintalajutur.
17. Chinna Kudala.
18. Deguva Lingala.
19. Himakuntla.
20. Cheruvikindepalli.
21. Gurizala.
22. Sunhadupuram.

By Sub-Collector—Madanapalle Taluk.—Ghattu, Gorlapelli, Brahmanepalli, Kormi Vandlapalli, Angallu, Ghouse, Varipelli, Mrukottapalli, Kottaivanpalli, Nuttapalli, Kasi Raopet, Chinna Tippasamudram.

Vayalpad Taluk—Vayalpad.

By Head-Quarter Deputy Collector.—

1. Chinnachowk.
2. Gudur.
3. Chennur.
4. Bayanapelli.
5. Pata Cuddapah.
6. Devuni Cuddapah.
7. Modanudepalli.
8. Upparapalli.
9. Pushpagiri.
10. Nuttapalli
11. Vellur.
12. Kotapalli.
13. Teppalur.
14. Chinna Lebaka.
15. Gangayapalli.

By Special Deputy Collector, Jammalamadugu.—Forty-nine villages as per list enclosed. The touring of the Head-Quarter Deputy Collector is bad, five of the villages inspected by him are the suburbs of Cuddapah town. The Deputy Collector did not inspect either of the relief works in progress in the taluk.

By the Deputy Collector, Sidhout Division, Pullampet Taluk.—Utukur, Pullampet, Puttanavaripalli, Gopanambupuram, Udumavaripalli, Chulapalli, Sattuvaripalli, Devasamudram, Vathalur, Tippayapalli and Anantasamudram.

List of villages visited by the Special Deputy Collector, Jammalamadugu division—

1. Proddatur.
2. Bollavaram.
3. Gopavaram.
4. Chinnadandlur.
5. Peddesettipalli.
6. Chowdur.
7. Chinnasettepalli.
8. Razupalem.
9. Tangatur.
10. Gadgudur.
11. Ayyavaripalli.
12. Vengalayapalli.
13. Arukatavemula.
14. Parlapad.
15. Eruvapalem.
16. Velavali.
17. Irudaledinne.
18. Chinnajonnavaram.
19. Duvur.
20. Gudepaud.
21. Chinnasangampalli.
22. Sallabasavayapalli.
23. Gollapalli.
24. Bayyampalli.
25. Pitchapaud.
26. Somapuram.
27. Bhadrampalli.
28. Nerravada.
29. Chepaud.
30. Morrayapalli.
31. Chentacunta.
32. Lingaladinne.
33. Gagararam.
34. Gaddamayapalli.
35. Vripenta.
36. Settevanpalli.
37. Bhumayapalli.
38. Mydukur.
39. Sevapuram.
40. Annalúr.
41. Sumayazalapalli.
42. Nadeinpalli.
43. Dayankanipalli.
44. Gollavandlapalli.
45. Mutrayapalli.
46. Gaddamvaripalli.
47. Randyalampet.
48. Noyappaganpalli.
49. Ellampalli.

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

Taluks.	Other purposes.								Repair and construction of wells.								Number of wells	
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Total.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Total.		Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.
	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
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		
Badvel									2	350	2	175	1	300	5	825				2
Sidhout									1	250	1	250			2	500				1
Pullampet									1	150	1	75	10	1,610	12	1,835	1	16		1
Cuddapah									17	2,645	16	2,125	19	3,180	52	7,950	1	4		16
Proddatur									7	860	6	405	15	4,420	28	5,685	2	60		4
Jammalamadugu									6	2,000	4	500	39	14,250	49	16,750	2	300		5
Pulivendla									10	1,380	10	1,060	2	450	22	2,890				10
Kadiri									1	100	1	100	6	980	8	1,180				1
Rayachóti									13	2,020	13	1,110	4	700	30	3,830			1	12
Vayalpad									4	700					4	700				
Madanapalle																				
Total									62	10,455	53	5,800	96	25,890	211	42,145	4	460	1	52

Taluks.	Cattle and seed-grain.								Purchase of fodder.								Total.	
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Total.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Total.		Applications pending.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
1	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Badvel																		
Sidhout																		
Pullampet																	1	150
Cuddapah																	4	420
Proddatur																	3	330
Jammalamadugu																		
Pulivendla																		
Kadiri																		
Rayachóti													1	60	1	50		
Vayalpad													6	600	6	600		
Madanapalle																		
Total													7	660	7	650	8	900

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

EXTRACT from the Sub-Collector's letter, Reference on Cur. No. 2463, Revenue, dated 8th May 1897.

* * * * *

As a matter of fact, however, people do not represent to me when in camp that they want works, nor are the people that I have met so hard up for employment as to be ready to go to relief works. My four Tahsildars report the same condition of things to me. An ordinary minor irrigation repair was started at Katireniyerragudi in Ráyachóti taluk bordering on Kadiri and Pulivendla taluks on 18th April, ten coolies came the first day and refused to work the second day, unless the males were paid 2 annas per diem. I cannot hear of adult labour being anywhere got for less than 2 annas, nor is it easily procurable for that sum. The Deputy Tahsildar of Piler is the only one who has sent in a gloomy report, and the Tahsildar being sent by to verify it, found it greatly exaggerated. Even the Deputy Tahsildar has not suggested starting relief works, but merely minor irrigation works, for which no estimates have been forwarded. The recent rainfall on the 1st May has considerably relieved the situation in Vayalpad, and a further fall of one inch would see ploughing on dry lands general. As it is, I counted 28 ploughs working on the 2nd May as I went by train from Vayalpad to Chinna Tippasamudrum, and seven more within half a mile of Chinna Tippasamudram station.

* * * * *

(Signed) A. T. FORBES,
Acting Sub-Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

Private Charity.

The Indian Famine Charitable Fund is daily distributing about Rs. 150 in the Cuddapah town. It was resolved at a meeting of the members of this fund, when I also happened to be present, that the number relieved should be reduced, and accordingly 800 able-bodied men, women and children were sent away and refused relief. I asked all these people that were so turned out whether they are willing to come on to a relief work if one was opened, and receive famine wages, whereby they would get the same amount that was being allowed them by the charitable fund. They all as a body refused to come to the works. This shows that they are not deserving of relief, and are not yet pinched. These are all mostly people belonging to Cuddapah, and a very few to closely adjoining villages. But some of the Malas and Madigas said that they would go to a relief work if opened, but these were not even 50 in number. It was the opinion of several, that sat at a committee in selecting persons to be turned out, that private charity and labour was yet available in and about Cuddapah, though not to the same extent as in the ordinary good seasons. I may add that not a single soul is being fed by the Indian Charitable Famine Relief Committee in the Cuddapah taluk nor in the Cuddapah town. Except the money dole referred to above, nothing else is done by the committee in the taluk up to the present moment.

Resolution—dated 2nd June 1897, No. 413.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the fortnight was fair, but was of but little service to the affected taluks. Supplies for irrigation have been slightly improved in parts, but difficulty in obtaining water for drinking purposes is still experienced in several villages. The Collector should see that, when he writes his next narrative, he has materials for reporting what has been done to improve the sources of supply.

3. Much detailed information as to the condition of the various crops in each taluk is given, but in the absence of statistics as to the area covered, they are practically worthless; an ordinary reader, who did not know the true conditions, would suppose that the Collector was describing a season of exceptional plenty. This method of reporting gives a very good demonstration of the way in which the Collector arrives at his idea of the condition of his district. He sees half a dozen acres thriving under a well or two, and promptly stores them up in his memory as typical of the whole tract, overlooking the hundreds of acres on which no crop is to be seen at all. The same criticism applies to his remarks as to the existence of pasture. The Collector has no sense of proportion. Fodder is said to be procurable, but at high prices. Since the report was written, imported fodder has been laid down at Yerraguntla at a favourable price, though in but a small quantity as yet, through the efforts of the

Chairman of the Local Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund. Cattle are deteriorating, and 100 are said to have died of starvation in four villages alone.

4. Prices are slightly easier throughout the district and also in the affected taluks, except at Jammalamadugu, where there has been an appreciable rise in the price of white cholam, due, it is said, to short supply in the markets. The position of prices in the affected taluks is shown in the subjoined table:—

Rates.	Number of seers per rupee.			
	Rice.	Ragi.	Cholam (mixed).	Cumbu.
Standard	13·2	32·0	30·0	28·0
Warning	10·6	24·0	22·5	21·0
Scarcity	7·9	16·0	15·0	14·0
Current	8·7	16·7	12·8	11·6
May 1892	8·3	15·6	13·6	12·4
May 1877	8·4	9·9	9·3	8·4

Trade is said to be active except in the affected portion of the district.

5. The condition of the people, both on works and in villages, is reported to be generally good. As was to be expected, however, the numbers on relief have increased rapidly, the numbers for the latest day for which figures were available showing an increase of 33 per cent. over those of the preceding fortnight. Little or nothing was done by the District Officers during the fortnight to carry out the orders of Government for the extension of village relief. The matter has been separately dealt with in B.P's., Nos. 3318 and 3873 of 1897. The Collector passes some strictures on the action of the Indian Charitable Relief Fund Committee. He is Chairman of the District Committee, and his remarks would be addressed with more propriety to his colleagues on the committee. The Collector must issue strict orders that persons suffering from small-pox should be rigidly excluded from works, and relieved by grain or money doles so long as they are sick. The establishment of the disease among the relief-workers will quadruple the difficulties of administering relief and probably result in the practical exclusion from relief of a large percentage of those who are really in need of it. The attention of Government is once more drawn to the imperious necessity of providing a stronger establishment of medical subordinates.

From the report of the Sub-Collector, it appears that, though the sub-division requires careful watching, test-works are not likely to succeed at present.

6. The question of opening a work in the vicinity of Cuddapah has been disposed of in B.P., dated 19th May 1897, No. 3537.

7. The revision of the weavers' task-tables will be considered as soon as the Special Deputy Collector furnishes the report called for in B.P., No. 281 of 1897. It should be expedited. The Collector did not report to the Board that the weavers were getting A-class wages; what he did report was that in some instances (by long and continuous working) they did so. The Board had these cases examined, with the result that, even after the A wage had been earned, there was a considerable profit left for Government. Pending the report of the Special Deputy Collector, no further order can be issued than that no weaver should be allowed to earn more than the A wage. They should be warned accordingly, and supplies of yarn issued in such cases accordingly.

The fortnightly report is not the proper place for discussing the details of weavers' relief, but the Board takes this opportunity to correct a mistake into which the Collector has fallen, probably, owing to the omission, in B.P., dated 6th May 1897, No. 3135, to refer to B.P., dated 22nd January 1897, No. 46. It was there stated that a full ten-hour day had been allowed for the Adóni task so as to allow for various disturbing factors; but that it was admitted that, at Adóni, a single *able-bodied* man could weave a carpet, slightly larger than the Kurnool carpet, in about $6\frac{1}{2}$ hours, and it was laid down that the task should be such a one as would be within the capacity of *an average weaver* working ten hours a day. The Board's remark, which was intended to refer to the time occupied by an *able-bodied weaver*, was referred to its

right place by the Special Deputy Collector for weaving operations, who, in his letter, No. 85, dated 18th May 1897, points out that subsequent experience at Adóni shows that it takes an average weaver 8 hours to weave a carpet, and that he had been misunderstood to say that it could be done in $6\frac{1}{2}$ hours. The Special Deputy Collector, apparently, has lost sight of the distinction between *average* and *able-bodied*. The Deputy Collector's letter will be disposed of separately, and, meanwhile, pending the final report of the Special Deputy Collector, the old task of eight hours will be resumed.

8. The Famine Commissioner notes with disapproval the slackness of the Headquarters Deputy Collector in touring.

9. There is practically no progress in the disbursement of loans. The following figures show what has been done in this direction during the past five weeks:—

Amount advanced.	Up to end of week ending.
Rs.	
5,440	April 17th.
5,715	„ 24th
5,760	May 1st
5,810	„ 8th
6,510	„ 15th

Applications for over Rs. 31,000 are pending as it is, and this amount would probably be far larger, were applications disposed of with more promptitude. More attention must be paid to this work. The Famine Commissioner notes that there is not a single application pending for loans for the purchase of fodder. As pointed out in B.P., No. 379, dated 18th May 1897, it is to be feared that the extreme severity of the Collector, in making Government officers responsible pecuniarily for loans not recovered, has resulted in a general discouragement of applications in the district. Loans for the purchase of fodder should be given freely, under the rules, at this juncture.

10. The Famine Commissioner regrets to have to report the death from heat apoplexy of Mr. Hurley, the Local Fund Engineer, an old and much respected officer, who died on duty at Gollapalle on 9th May. Four other Europeans have also succumbed to the intense heat of the Ceded Districts—two recruiters of labour from Ceylon and North Travancore, Mr. Bird, a Railway employé, and a most active and able officer, and a passenger by rail.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Copy to the Collector of Cuddapah.
„ „ Chairman, Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund.
„ „ Sanitary Commissioner.

Order—No. 479, Revenue, dated 19th June 1897.

Miscellaneous. Recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Famine Commissioner.
„ the Public Works Department.
„ the Local and Municipal Department.
„ the Financial Department.
„ the Accountant-General.

Exd. Shaik Karim.
70 Copies.