

PRESS SERIES.

G.O., No. 533.

Dated 3rd July 1897.

[Despatch Attached.]

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording, with remarks, Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue submg. to Govt. — of the
Amantapur D^t. for the period ending 31st
May 1897.

[illegible][illegible]

CURRENT No.

Sheldon: In Civil CR
for the Governor

Printed and
1894

The Bd: of Rev.,
Sept

No. 439

miss.
Order (Press)
Recorded

No. 5338 / 3rd July, 1897.
28
30/6/97

2. The Govt concurs in the Board's remarks in para 8. Orders on the question referred do are under review

Dated 16th June 1897

Received

Registered

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Submg: with remarks
Fortnightly narrative
of the ^{Journal of the} Anantapur of
for the period ending
31st May 1897

The Laramie Canon,

P.W.D

17-2

42

London

A-9

rs

25-6-97

27/11/15

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	236		1-4-87
	272		27-4-87
400	3383/87		
400	3985/87		
400	4366/87		
	482		
	21697		

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1897.



Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Recd.

Enclosures

Regd.

1897.

Spare copies

Printed June th.

Proceedings, 16th June 1897, No. 439.

JUNE.

Fortnightly Narrative—Submitting to Government, with remarks, — of the Anantapur district for the period ending 31st May 1897.

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

READ—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Anantapur district during the period ending 31st of May 1897:—

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Rainfall and water-supply.—During the fortnight, there has been rain in every station except Gooty. The largest rainfall (1·60) was registered at Madakasira and the fall of 0·52, the aggregate up to the end of the fortnight being 1·67 as against 2·37 based on the statistics of the preceding five years. The fall was very deficient in Tadpatri and Uravakonda and also in the three central taluks of Anantapur, Dharmavaram and Kalyandrug, where there were a few light showers locally. A few tanks in Penukonda and Hindupur received very partial supplies of 8 to 15 days.

Drinking-water is obtainable with difficulty in parts of Gooty and Tadpatri taluks and is also insufficient in several places elsewhere. In the Anantapur division the difficulty is mostly felt by the Panchamas, for whom, in some villages, wells are being separately sunk. With the aid of the Provincial grants, wells are being deepened in all taluks where the supply is failing. The supply for irrigation purposes is everywhere inadequate, and nil in several parts. A few wells and spring channels retain a sufficient quantity for the standing crop raised under them.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops.—Ploughing of dry lands continues in most taluks. Ragi is being transplanted under wells and nalas in parts of Gooty and the central taluks and also in the two southern taluks. Sowings of korra and cholam in a few fields in Gooty, Dharmavaram and Kalyandrug taluks. In Hindupur, sugarcane is being planted in parts. There are no standing crops except a little paddy and ragi and occasionally korra under wells and nalas, which are in a fairly thriving condition. In the southern taluks, druvapair betel and sugarcane are also doing well. Slight harvests of paddy are going on in Hindupur, and outturn 8 to 12 annas. In Penukonda and Anantapur taluks, korra and cholam have been harvested, the yield ranging from 4 to 8 annas.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—There is no pasture worth mentioning anywhere in the district. The rainfall has not been sufficiently heavy to improve it. Fodder is scarce. The recent harvests have made but a small addition to the ryots' stocks, and will only help the stall-fed cattle a little. My remarks about the cattle in my last fortnightly might be repeated in this, with the addition that the position is growing worse daily. There has been a lively trade in Hindupur in milch and other cattle chiefly for slaughtering. These cattle mostly come from the eastern portion of the taluk, and the sale of them at nominal prices is very significant. I hear that many are being sold for butcher's meat in Bangalore. I am writing to the Commissariat Department about this, as it is likely to affect the health of the troops.

The fodder depôt at Tadpatri has given great relief to the suffering cattle in that part of the district. The first consignment received from Madras in bales of 500 lb. was sold off rapidly, as no weighment was necessary. Subsequent consignments having been received in twists, sales are said to be rather slower.

All the forest reserves in the district have been thrown open for free grazing, but I am afraid the relief is not great.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—The water famine is becoming more acute. Springs are fast going down, and the deepening of wells is in places fruitless. Cattle owners cry aloud that they have done all they can to save their cattle, and

can do no more. But in many parts it is very noteworthy that they are absolutely ignorant of many devices to which ryots in other districts resort. For instance, they do not use babul-pods for fodder, nor the leaves of more than one tree, which are eaten by cattle in the Circars and Kurnool. They say of course that it is not mamul, and that the cattle would die if they ate of it. I pointed out that it is certain they will die if they do not eat of it, and I am issuing instructions to Divisional Officers to use their influence to induce the ryots to try new fodders. If funds admit, it would be a great boon to ryots in Dharmavaram, Penukonda and Anantapur if a depôt could be established at Dharmavaram. I do not know if a sufficiently large quantity can be obtained from the southern districts, or whether the freight would be prohibitive; but we might sell it dearer at Dharmavaram than at Tadpatri, for the price of cholam is less round there than further north.

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 31st of May 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		Ragi.		Yellow cholam.		White cholam.		Remarks.
	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.	
Tadpatri	8·64	8·64	15·52	14·55	13·39	11·33	12·36	11·33	The price of ragi is rising in all stations except Dharmavaram; that of yellow cholam rising in three stations—Tadpatri, Yadiki and Gooty; the price of white cholam rising in all except Kalyandrug, Dharmavaram and Penukonda where it is stationary.
Yadiki	8·10	7·56	15·51	14·55	12·36	10·80	11·84	11·33	
Gooty	8·64	8·64	16·76	15·52	12·64	12·36	12·60	10·50	
Uravakonda ..	9·45	9·45	17·86	16·80	..	..	13·90	13·39	
Anantapur ..	8·64	8·64	16·49	15·52	16·48	16·48	13·39	13·39	
Kalyandrug ..	10·80	10·80	17·46	15·52	15·45	15·45	14·42	14·42	
Dharmavaram ..	8·64	8·64	14·55	14·55	..	..	14·42	14·42	
Penukonda ..	9·72	8·64	18·43	17·46	..	..	15·06	13·97	
Hindupur ..	10·75	9·67	23·65	21·50	..	..	..	..	
Madakasira ..	10·80	10·80	21·31	19·40	..	..	..	..	
Average ..	9·41	9·14	17·62	16·53	14·00	13·28	13·75	12·84	

Activity of trade.—Private trade is active in Hindupur and Tadpatri. In the former, large exports of cholam to the Bombay Presidency are reported. In the latter, rice and cholam have been imported from Guntur, Salem, Coimbatore, &c. Ragi is being imported from the Mysore frontier into the two southern taluks. Elsewhere, trade is dull, not to say lethargic.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

On works.—Generally fair in the northern taluks and good elsewhere. There are several cases of guinea worm on the Senegala Gudur work in the Tadpatri taluk. Children here and there were found in poor condition but they were probably constitutionally delicate. I have allowed $\frac{2}{3}$ ths of a man's wage for children coming on new works, so as to enable them to recover their lost condition. For other remarks on this, vide infra.

In villages.—The condition of people in villages is generally good. With the introduction of village relief and a considerable expansion in the programme of works, I hope that it will not deteriorate. Odd jobs are available in the central and southern taluks. Mr. MacMichael reports that the houses of chucklers in Srikantapuram village in Hindupur taluk were burnt down. Loss of grain worth five or six hundred rupees is reported. If this is not exaggerated, it indicates that village food stocks in many cases are still ample.

Sickness and mortality.—Fever and small-pox in Penukonda and the latter also in Dharmavaram. No deaths from starvation.

Remarks.—In Gooty, the scheme sanctioned for the relief of weavers has not yet attracted any recipients. It is said that the C class wage is too low for them. But it would give them a sustenance, and if they refuse it, I think we may take it that they still have other means of subsistence. Their case is obviously very different from other workers. But I am going down there when I have finished my tour here and will enquire about this. Some weavers from Kódúr in Jammalamadugu taluk came to Tadpatri and requested advances. The Special Deputy Collector who was on the spot has given them materials, &c., on the basis of the Jammalamadugu task table, as they seemed to be in urgent need of relief.

MEASURES OF RELIEF.

Works.—In what taluks open and comparison of numbers :—

Taluku.	Number employed		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Tadpatri	9,643	14,912	
Gooty	5,299	12,288	
Anantapur	2,820	6,443	
Dharmavaram	4,981	7,193	
Kalyandrug	..	639	Test work.
Penukonda	..	765	Do.
Hindupur	..	177	Do.
Total ..	22,743	42,417	

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

Taluku.	Number relieved							
	At Kitchens.				In Poor-houses.		In Villages.	
	Dependents.		Others.					
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Tadpatri	346	762	207	284	..	..	..	3,556
Gooty	212	369	106	90	..	..	..	1,124
Anantapur	80	164	16	83	..	..	134	1,216
Dharmavaram	414	510	63	122	..	..	..	Not reported.
Kalyandrug	..	18	..	1	..	..	..	..
Penukonda	..	..	73	133	..	..	..	..
Hindupur	..	..	..	52	..	..	..	..
Total ..	1,052	1,823	454	765	..	..	134	5,896

Taluku.	Number of villages in which relief was given.	Weavers' relief.			
		Number of persons relieved		Number of cloths manufactured	
		Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	In the period.	Up to date.
Tadpatri	14	17	700	916	1,371
Gooty	..	..	..	..	..
Anantapur	..	..	..	..	..
Dharmavaram	..	..	..	..	..
Not reported.					

Private charity.—The local branches of the Indian Charitable Relief Fund Committee have been distributing money and grain doles to gosha and other needy families—not always very judiciously, I fear. I have heard tales of increased toddy shop receipts since the funds were distributed in Anantapur. They require corroboration, and may be untrue.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The numbers on relief works have very nearly doubled. Sixteen new works were started in the fortnight—two in Tadpatri, three in Gooty, two in Anantapur, one in Kalyandrug (on the very borders of Anantapur), four in Dharmavaram, three in Penukonda and one in Hindupur. Two at least of these works, viz., Guttur in Penukonda, and Demakathépalle in Hindupur may probably be closed. The former has attracted very few men, and the women on it are the sturdiest, cheerfulest, crowd I have seen yet. They have obviously not been stinting themselves. From the enquiries I made among them, it is probable that their husbands are getting work sufficient to feed the family, and that the extra wages earned by the women on the relief work is looked upon as a welcome, not necessary, addition to the pot. It did not seem to me that here, at all events, they considered it a hardship to come on the work. That the relief work is looked upon by some as a legitimate and not distasteful or dishonourable means of livelihood, and of adding to the husband's earnings is, I think, undeniable. The Deputy Collector, Gooty, mentions the case of a village sowcar's wife who came to work although there was absolutely no necessity for it. She seems to have been chaffed about it by some who knew her, and she said. "Well, what about it? I am accustomed to work, why should I not earn my *piece* here as well as you?"

Under these circumstances I am of opinion that very careful enquiries must be made before pronouncing test works to be relief works, where the number of men on the work is very small. The Demakathépalle work is certainly one of these. I am going there in a day or two, and if half I hear about the condition of the people round there is true, I shall close the work.

The difficulty of getting overseers and paymasters does not diminish. But some relief has been afforded me by the Collectors of Coimbatore and Salem and more by the Commissioner himself, and now I think we can open some of the works in the tracts where they are most needed in Tadpatri and Gooty.

The complaints about delays in payment continue. This is a most serious blot on our Famine Administration, but considering the very inferior and inexperienced men we have as overseers and paymasters, it is not surprising. I have again called the Executive Engineer's attention to this matter.

The Burmese spoons recommended by the Sanitary Commissioner and rashly bought by myself, appear to me useless and expensive toys. They will bend, break, and rust in a very short time. The usual method of pouring the water into the workers' hands from a chatty with a small hole in it is much preferable. But if the Sanitary Commissioner thinks a ladle necessary, half a cocoanut would answer the purpose admirably.

Village relief is in full swing, as will be seen from the figures. I have toured round villages in Anantapur and started it there myself, and in other taluks, it is progressing well. Tadpatri and Gooty supply the largest number of recipients. It is necessary to take care that dependants hitherto fed at the kitchens do not abandon them and come on to village relief. I think that as long as we have kitchens, it is better that they should be used, and I am certainly not in favour of persons, after attendance at them, pleading caste or other scruples, in order to obtain village relief. It seems to me that the objection to attendance in kitchens is irrational. The objection is certainly very strong on the part of many. But as it is not a reasonable one, it would be much better if non-official members of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund would devote some time to combating and overcoming it. Instead of which they encourage it, and (metaphorically of course) pat the recusants on the back.

I see that Mr. Stuart has adopted the nursing mother's gang idea. It had its genesis on the Guntakal work. I am curious to know whether the experiment there has led to the same results as in this district. Here, on several of the works, they refuse

to do more than an absurdly small task. They say "we are nursing mothers, we can't work." The overseers say that when they worked in gangs with others they did more work. This may be true, but I doubt whether the overseers took any particular notice of the work of individuals. It is, of course, too late to put them back into the other gangs. But they might be urged to average (nursing mother) effort by a threat to remove their sheds.

A *propos* of Mr. Stuart's reference as to the province of Revenue and Public Works Department officers, respectively, I may mention that a week ago I received a circular issued from the Bellary Executive Engineer's office saying that paymasters may pay children between 7 and 12 at the rate of half their sex's adult wages. This was issued without reference to me, and in the face of a previous order from this office, communicated to Bellary Executive Engineer, that children between 7 and 12 irrespective of sex were to be paid half a man's wage. It is, I take it, certain that a growing girl of that age needs as much food as a growing boy, if not more. The Bellary circular further clashed with one I had issued about the same time directing that on new works children were to be paid three-fourths man's wages. The Executive Engineer's reason for issuing the circular is that it facilitates audit if the rate of children's wages be uniform. I do not find in the Code that audit is an element regulating wages, nor do I see why children should "starve that audit clerks may dine".

I find that in Anantapur taluk (west) although there are splendid groves of palmyras, the people hardly put them to any use. They do not tap them for toddy; they do not use the leaves for any purpose whatever. What we want up here is a few enterprising Tamils or Kistna Telugus.

TALUKS AND PLACES VISITED.

Head Assistant Collector.

Madakasira taluk	...	...	...	...	Madakasira. Phaluram. Penukonda. Cherukur. Pedda Manathur. Bukkapatnam. Locherla.
Penukonda taluk	...	...	...	...	Kothacheru. Putapurthy. Marakuntapally. Munimadugu. Guttur. Chennakottapalli. Demjipalli. Nagasamudram. Polepalli. Kuntimaddi.
Dharmavaram taluk	...	...	...	...	Cherlopalli. Ramgiri. Kothapally. Nasanakota. Dubbarapalli. Perur.

Gooty Famine Deputy Collector.

Gooty taluk	...	...	...	...	Gooty. Karadikonda. Ubicherla. Anantapuram. Peddaddi. Anigandoddi. Abbidoddi. Gurrabadu. Nagasamudram. Rajapuram. Guntakal. Thimmancherla.
-------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Gooty Famine Deputy Collector—cont.

Tadpatri taluk	...	...	...	...	Tadpatri. Nandalapad. Chinnapolamada. Peddapolamada. Puli Produtur. Chukkalar. Igadur. Gangadevipalli. Narasapuram. Kummetha.
----------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	--

Anantapur Famine Deputy Collector.

Anantapur taluk	...	...	...	...	Kandakur. Kudair. Brahmanapalli. Antarganga. Ipperu. Anantapur. Garladinna. Mortad. Kothapalli. Odiempeta. Somandoddi.
-----------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	--

Collector.

Anantapur taluk	...	...	...	...	Anantapur. Antarganga. Kudair. Ipperu. Sajjalakalwapalli. Mortad. Kothapalli. Brahmanapalli. Vadiampotu. Pamroy. Garladinna.
Penukonda taluk	...	...	...	...	Penukonda. Thimmapuram. Rampuram. Locherla. Birapuram. Bukkapatnam. Putaparty. Guttur.
Hindupur taluk	...	...	...	...	Hindupur.

Two of the cases accepted since rejected.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall from 1st April up to the end of May is below the average, but during the fortnight under report was slightly in excess. Unfortunately in the northern part of the district, which needs it most, the fall was trifling. Difficulties continued to be experienced in obtaining drinking-water in parts, but efforts were being made to improve the supplies, wherever they were short.

Agricultural operations were progressing to a limited extent.

3. Pasture was virtually *nil*, and fodder was scarce. The poorer classes of cattle were deteriorating and many were sold for the slaughter-house. During the fortnight 103,500 lb. of fodder were sold at the Tadpatri Dépôt. The opening of a new dépôt at Dharmavaram, to be fed from Guntúr, has been sanctioned in B.P., dated 11th June 1897, Mis. No. 4240.

The Famine Commissioner notes with interest the efforts of the Collector to introduce new forms of fodder to the notice of the ryots of the Deccan. It should be reported whether babuls are yielding pods at this season.

4. There was a marked rise in prices during the fortnight, most noticeable in the cases of ragi and white cholam. The local variations show the absence of local trade. In Dharmavaram $14\frac{1}{2}$ measures of ragi were procurable for a rupee, yet at Hindúpúr, only 50 miles away by rail, $21\frac{1}{2}$ measures were to be obtained for the same money. The following figures show the relative position of prices :—

5. The condition of the people is reported to have been generally good. The Collector reports the appearance of guinea-worm. Mr. Stuart has already reported it in Bellary, and the Famine Commissioner finds that it is making its appearance in Jammalamadugu. Sixteen new works were started during the fortnight, and the number of relief-workers increased by 87 per cent., reaching 42,417. Five of the works are test works, and the Collector contemplates closing some, as he considers that the undue proportion of women shows that they are not really required. It is to be noted, however, that in all districts the proportion of women to men on works is about 2 to 1, and this proportion is greater in the earlier stages of distress. The fact that people are willing to work under uncongenial conditions, under a scorching sun, for a pittance, is fair proof of their necessity. No doubt Hindúpur taluk is, except perhaps in the Amarapuram firka, scarcely affected, and, if the Collector thinks right he can close his test work, but the condition of the people in the said firka should be watched.

firka should be watched.

The numbers on gratuitous relief are five times what they were on May 15th, which shows that this form of relief has received considerable attention. The Collector should confine as many as he possibly can, without hurting real caste prejudice, to relief in kitchens, and he will do well if he can persuade the local members of the Relief Fund Committee to change their attitude and help to combat the feeling against receiving cooked food in kitchens. While caste prejudice does operate strongly against kitchen relief in Ganjam, the great objection in the Deccan is that in the great famine the inmates of kitchens died, which is true. The people must begin to see that they are not dying this year.

Government { 1897 } of Madras. REVENUE.

10 BOARD OF REVENUE (REV. SETT., L. RDS. AND AGRI.), 16TH JUNE 1897, No. 439.

6. The Settlement party now working in Malabar has been deputed *en bloc* for famine duty. About 24 men who can be employed as kitchen superintendents and paymasters will be distributed between Kurnool, Anantapur and Cuddapah.

7. The task to be required of nursing mothers is but nominal.

8. The orders of Government as to the relative position of Revenue and Public Works Department Officers have been solicited in B.Ps., No. 327, dated 1st May 1897, Mis. No. 3649, dated 22nd May 1897, Mis. No. 3880, dated 30th May 1897, and Mis. No. 4186, dated 10th June 1897. Meanwhile, Mr. Shipley can enforce his own orders as to children's wages. The Executive Engineer has no *locus standi* whatever in the matter. It is somewhat anomalous that the Public Works Department, which has been raising so much difficulty about its officers receiving orders from the Revenue officers in non-professional matters, should interfere in a matter which most distinctly does not concern it.

9. The following figures show the progress in granting loans :—

Amount disbursed.									In week ending—
RS.									May 8th
928	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
46,876	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.. 15th
12,750	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.. 22nd
6,435	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.. 29th

The work should be pushed forward with more energy. Applications are pending for over 4 lakhs of rupees.

(True Copy and Extract.)

[Signature]
Famine Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Collector of Anantapur.
Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner.

Exd A F. Eccleston.

Recd.

Regd.

1897.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 533, 3rd July 1897.

JULY.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording, with remark, Proceedings of the Board of Revenue submitting to Government
— of the Anantapur district for the period ending 31st May 1897.

Sickness and mortality.—Fever and small-pox in Pennukonda and the latter also in Dharmavaram. No deaths from starvation.

Remarks.—In Gooty, the scheme sanctioned for the relief of weavers has not yet attracted any recipients. It is said that the C class wage is too low for them. But it would give them a sustenance, and if they refuse it, I think we may take it that they still have other means of subsistence. Their case is obviously very different from other workers. But I am going down there when I have finished my tour here and will enquire about this. Some weavers from Kódúr in Jammalamadugu taluk came to Tadpatri and requested advances. The Special Deputy Collector who was on the spot has given them materials, &c., on the basis of the Jammalamadugu task table, as they seemed to be in urgent need of relief.

MEASURES OF RELIEF.

Works.—In what taluks open and comparison of numbers:—

Taluks.	Number employed		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Tadpatri	9,643	14,912	Test work. Do. Do.
Gooty	5,299	12,288	
Anantapur	2,820	6,443	
Dharmavaram	4,981	7,193	
Kalyandrug	..	639	
Penukonda	..	765	
Hindupur	..	177	
Total ..	22,743	42,417	

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

Taluks.	Number relieved							
	At Kitchens.				In Poor-houses.		In Villages.	
	Dependents.		- Others.					
	Last fort- night.	This fort- night.	Last fort- night.	This fort- night.	Last fort- night.	This fort- night.	Last fort- night.	This fort- night.
Tadpatri	346	762	207	284	..	..	..	3,556
Gooty	212	369	106	90	..	..	134	1,124
Anantapur	80	164	16	83	..	..	..	1,216
Dharmavaram	414	510	63	122	..	..	Not reported.	..
Kalyandrug	..	18	..	1	..	..	..	..
Penukonda	..	..	73	133	..	..	..	..
Hindupur	..	..	..	52	..	..	..	..
Total ..	1,052	1,823	454	765	..	..	134	5,896

Taluka.	Number of villages in which relief was given.		Weavers' relief.			
			Number of persons relieved		Number of cloths manufactured	
	Last fortnight.	This. fortnight.	Last. fortnight.	This fortnight.	In the period.	Up to date.
Tadpatri	14	17	700	916	1,371	2,273
Gooty	}	}	}	}	}	}
Anantapur						
Dharmavaram						
Not reported.						

Private charity.—The local branches of the Indian Charitable Relief Fund Committee have been distributing money and grain doles to gosha and other needy families—not always very judiciously, I fear. I have heard tales of increased toddy shop receipts since the funds were distributed in Anantapur. They require corroboration, and may be untrue.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The numbers on relief works have very nearly doubled. Sixteen new works were started in the fortnight—two in Tadpatri, three in Gooty, two in Anantapur, one in Kalyandrug (on the very borders of Anantapur), four in Dharmavaram, three in Penukonda and one in Hindupur. Two at least of these works, viz., Guttur in Penukonda, and Demakathépalle in Hindupur may probably be closed. The former has attracted very few men, and the women on it are the sturdiest, cheerfulest, crowd I have seen yet. They have obviously not been stinting themselves. From the enquiries I made among them, it is probable that their husbands are getting work sufficient to feed the family, and that the extra wages earned by the women on the relief work is looked upon as a welcome, not necessary, addition to the pot. It did not seem to me that here, at all events, they considered it a hardship to come on the work. That the relief work is looked upon by some as a legitimate and not distasteful or dishonourable means of livelihood, and of adding to the husband's earnings is, I think, undeniable. The Deputy Collector, Gooty, mentions the case of a village sowcar's wife who came to work although there was absolutely no necessity for it. She seems to have been chaffed about it by some who knew her, and she said. "Well, what about it? I am accustomed to work, why should I not earn my *pice* here as well as you?"

Under these circumstances I am of opinion that very careful enquiries must be made before pronouncing test works to be relief works, where the number of men on the work is very small. The Demakathépalle work is certainly one of these. I am going there in a day or two, and if half I hear about the condition of the people round there is true, I shall close the work.

The difficulty of getting overseers and paymasters does not diminish. But some relief has been afforded me by the Collectors of Coimbatore and Salem and more by the Commissioner himself, and now I think we can open some of the works in the tracts where they are most needed in Tadpatri and Gooty.

The complaints about delays in payment continue. This is a most serious blot on our Famine Administration, but considering the very inferior and inexperienced men we have as overseers and paymasters, it is not surprising. I have again called the Executive Engineer's attention to this matter.

The Burmese spoons recommended by the Sanitary Commissioner and rashly bought by myself, appear to me useless and expensive toys. They will bend, break, and rust in a very short time. The usual method of pouring the water into the workers' hands from a chatty with a small hole in it is much preferable. But if the Sanitary Commissioner thinks a ladle necessary, half a coconut would answer the purpose admirably.

Village relief is in full swing, as will be seen from the figures. I have toured round villages in Anantapur and started it there myself, and in other taluks, it is progressing well. Tadpatri and Gooty supply the largest number of recipients. It is necessary to take care that dependants hitherto fed at the kitchens do not abandon them and come on to village relief. I think that as long as we have kitchens, it is better that they should be used, and I am certainly not in favour of persons, after attendance at them, pleading caste or other scruples, in order to obtain village relief. It seems to me that the objection to attendance in kitchens is irrational. The objection is certainly very strong on the part of many. But as it is not a reasonable one, it would be much better if non-official members of the Indian Famine charitable Relief Fund would devote some time to combating and overcoming it. Instead of which they encourage it, and (metaphorically of course) pat the recusants on the back.

I see that Mr. Stuart has adopted the nursing mother's gang idea. It had its genesis on the Guntakal work. I am curious to know whether the experiment there has led to the same results as in this district. Here, on several of the works, they refuse

to do more than an absurdly small task. They say "we are nursing mothers, we can't work." The overseers say that when they worked in gangs with others they did more work. This may be true, but I doubt whether the overseers took any particular notice of the work of individuals. It is, of course, too late to put them back into the other gangs. But they might be urged to average (nursing mother) effort by a threat to remove their sheds.

A propos of Mr. Stuart's reference as to the province of Revenue and Public Works Department officers, respectively, I may mention that a week ago I received a circular issued from the Bellary Executive Engineer's office saying that paymasters may pay children between 7 and 12 at the rate of half their sex's adult wages. This was issued without reference to me, and in the face of a previous order from this office, communicated to Bellary Executive Engineer, that children between 7 and 12 irrespective of sex were to be paid half a man's wage. It is, I take it, certain that a growing girl of that age needs as much food as a growing boy, if not more. The Bellary circular further clashed with one I had issued about the same time directing that on new works children were to be paid three-fourths man's wages. The Executive Engineer's reason for issuing the circular is that it facilitates audit if the rate of children's wages be uniform. I do not find in the Code that audit is an element regulating wages, nor do I see why children should "starve that audit clerks may dine".

I find that in Anantapur taluk (west) although there are splendid groves of palmyras, the people hardly put them to any use. They do not tap them for toddy; they do not use the leaves for any purpose whatever. What we want up here is a few enterprising Tamils or Kistna Telugus.

TALUKS AND PLACES VISITED.

Head Assistant Collector.

Madakasira taluk	...	...	...	...	Madakasira. Phaloram. Penukonda. Cherukur. Pedda Manathur. Bukkapatnam. Locherla.
Penukonda taluk	...	...	...	...	Kothacheru. Putaparthi. Marakuntapally. Munimadugu. Guttur. Chennakottapalli. Demjipalli. Nagasamudram. Polepalli. Kuntimaddi.
Dharmavaram taluk	...	...	...	...	Cherlopalli. Ramgiri. Kothapally. Nasanakota. Dubbarapalli. Perur.

Gooty Famine Deputy Collector.

Gooty taluk	...	...	...	...	Gooty. Karadikonda. Ubicherla. Anantapuram. Peddaddi. Anigandoddi. Abbidoddi. Gurrabadu. Nagasamudram. Rajapuram. Guntakal. Thimmancherla.
-------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Gooty Famine Deputy Collector—cont.

Tadpatri taluk	...	...	...	...	Tadpatri. Nandalapad. Chinnapolamada. Peddapolamada. Puli Produtur. Chukkalar. Igadur. Gangadevipalli. Narasapuram. Kummetha.
----------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	--

Anantapur Famine Deputy Collector.

Anantapur taluk	...	...	...	...	Kandakur. Kudair. Brahmanapalli. Antarganga. Ipperu. Anantapur. Garladinna. Mortad. Kothapalli. Odiempeta. Somandoddi.
-----------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	--

Collector.

Anantapur taluk	...	...	...	...	Anantapur. Antarganga. Kudair. Ipperu. Sajjalakalwapalli. Mortad. Kothapalli. Brahmanapalli. Vadiampetu. Pamroy. Garladinna. Penukonda. Thimmapuram. Rampuram. Locherla.
Penukonda taluk	...	...	...	...	Birapuram. Bukkapatnam. Putaparty. Guttur.
Hindupur taluk	...	...	...	...	Hindupur.

No. 533, REVENUE, 3RD JULY 1897.

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

Loans and TRANSACTIONS.—Statement showing particulars of loan transactions under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Act, 1900.																				
Taluka.	Other purposes.												Total.		Number of wells.					
	Repair and construction of wells.				Applications accepted.				Loans disbursed.				Applications pending.				Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.		
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.							
	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
Tadpatri ..	24	4,050	24	2,700	65	20,040	22	1,880	21	1,855	107	24,395	46	5,930	45	4,555	172	44,435	1	21
Goody ..	36	7,500	25	2,460	172	42,545	490	62,901	468	56,843	690	1,34,260	526	70,891	493	60,303	862	1,76,805	..	25
Anantapur ..	296	27,500	297	27,387	328	38,210	8	955	8	835	16	3,000	304	28,832	336	28,192	344	41,210	4	200
Kalyandurg ..	167	23,555	155	16,165	186	16,165	18	2,370	18	2,020	27	4,450	185	25,925	173	14,837	118	20,615	4	164
Dharmavaram ..	180	20,130	167	13,318	68	7,600	3	500	3	500	5	500	70	8,850	43	4,405	92	21,305	6	170
Penukonda ..	68	8,730	10	2,700	91	20,805	2	250	1	1,075	1	500	195	33,850	23	4,035	30	7,040	1	23
Hindupur ..	132	32,700	30	7,040	30	7,040	..	..	..	..	..	..	58	9,600	23	4,035	30	7,040	33	802
Madakasira ..	58	9,600	30	7,040	30	7,040	..	..	..	..	..	..	58	9,600	23	4,035	30	7,040	33	802
Total ..	1,021	1,34,532	898	90,577	838	1,55,005	546	70,006	522	63,248	853	1,68,125	1,567	2,04,538	1,420	1,53,825	1,691	3,23,120	33	802

Taluka.	Cattle and seed-grain.												Total.		Number of wells.					
	Applications accepted.				Loans disbursed.				Applications pending.				Applications accepted.				Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.		
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.							
	Number	Amount.	Number	Amount.	Number	Amount.	Number	Amount.	Number	Amount.	Number	Amount.	Number	Amount.						
Tadpatri ..	141	8,310	114	7,364	316	22,940	26	2,364	13	967	141	8,310	60	5,310	114	7,364	329	23,907	..	..
Goody ..	60	3,465	60	3,465	781	43,835	25	3,465	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	781	43,835	..	..
Anantapur ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kalyandurg ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dharmavaram ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Penukonda ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hindupur ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Madakasira ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	201	11,775	174	10,829	1,098	68,855	66	4,870	149	3,830	267	16,645	230	14,659	230	14,659	1,217	80,213	..	..

• Two of the cases accepted since rejected.

• Two of the cases accepted since rejected.

Resolution—dated 16th June 1897, No. 439.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall from 1st April up to the end of May is below the average, but during the fortnight under report was slightly in excess. Unfortunately in the northern part of the district, which needs it most, the fall was trifling. Difficulties continued to be experienced in obtaining drinking-water in parts, but efforts were being made to improve the supplies, wherever they were short.

Agricultural operations were progressing to a limited extent.

3. Pasture was virtually *nil*, and fodder was scarce. The poorer classes of cattle were deteriorating and many were sold for the slaughter-house. During the fortnight 103,500 lb. of fodder were sold at the Tadpatri Depot. The opening of a new depot at Dharmavaram, to be fed from Guntur, has been sanctioned in B.P., dated 11th June 1897, Mis. No. 4240.

The Famine Commissioner notes with interest the efforts of the Collector to introduce new forms of fodder to the notice of the ryots of the Deccan. It should be reported whether babuls are yielding pods at this season.

4. There was a marked rise in prices during the fortnight, most noticeable in the cases of ragi and white cholam. The local variations show the absence of local trade. In Dharmavaram 14½ measures of ragi were procurable for a rupee, yet at Hindupur, only 50 miles away by rail, 21½ measures were to be obtained for the same money. The following figures show the relative position of prices:—

Standard.	Measures per rupee.		
	Rice.	Ragi.	Cholam.
Normal	13.2	32.0	30.0
Warning	10.6	24.0	22.5
Scarcity	7.9	16.0	15.0
Current	9.1	16.5	13.1
May 1892	8.9	16.4	16.1
" 1877	7.2	8.0	7.9

5. The condition of the people is reported to have been generally good. The Collector reports the appearance of guinea-worm. Mr. Stuart has already reported it in Bellary, and the Famine Commissioner finds that it is making its appearance in Jammalamadugu. Sixteen new works were started during the fortnight, and the number of relief-workers increased by 87 per cent., reaching 42,417. Five of the works are test works, and the Collector contemplates closing some, as he considers that the undue proportion of women shows that they are not really required. It is to be noted, however, that in all districts the proportion of women to men on works is about 2 to 1, and this proportion is greater in the earlier stages of distress. The fact that people are willing to work under uncongenial conditions, under a scorching sun, for a pittance, is fair proof of their necessity. No doubt Hindupur taluk is, except perhaps in the Amarapuram firka, scarcely affected, and, if the Collector thinks right he can close his test work, but the condition of the people in the said firka should be watched.

The numbers on gratuitous relief are five times what they were on May 15th, which shows that this form of relief has received considerable attention. The Collector should confine as many as he possibly can, without hurting real caste prejudice, to relief in kitchens, and he will do well if he can persuade the local members of the Relief Fund Committee to change their attitude and help to combat the feeling against receiving cooked food in kitchens. While caste prejudice does operate strongly against kitchen relief in Ganjam, the great objection in the Deccan is that in the great famine the inmates of kitchens died, which is true. The people must begin to see that they are not dying this year.

6. The Settlement party now working in Malabar has been deputed *en bloc* for famine duty. About 24 men who can be employed as kitchen superintendents and paymasters will be distributed between Kurnool, Anantapur and Cuddapah.

7. The task to be required of nursing mothers is but nominal.

8. The orders of Government as to the relative position of Revenue and Public Works Department Officers have been solicited in B.Ps., No. 327, dated 1st May 1897, Mis. No. 3649, dated 22nd May 1897, Mis. No. 3880, dated 30th May 1897, and Mis. No. 4186, dated 10th June 1897. Meanwhile, Mr. Shipley can enforce his own orders as to children's wages. The Executive Engineer has no *locus standi* whatever in the matter. It is somewhat anomalous that the Public Works Department, which has been raising so much difficulty about its officers receiving orders from the Revenue officers in non-professional matters, should interfere in a matter which most distinctly does not concern it.

9. The following figures show the progress in granting loans:—

Amount disbursed.								In week ending—
Rs.								May 8th
928	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	" 15th
46,876	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	" 22nd
12,750	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	" 29th
6,435	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	

The work should be pushed forward with more energy. Applications are pending for over 4 lakhs of rupees.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Collector of Anantapur.
Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner.

ORDER—No. 533, Revenue, dated 3rd July 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. The Government concurs in the Board's remarks in paragraph 8. Orders on the question referred to are under issue.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Erd. Shaik Karim.

80 Copies.

Unattached in print

Unattached in print

Unattached in print

Unattached in print

Unattached in print

Unattached in print

Unattached in print

Unattached in print

Unattached in print

Unattached in print