

Revenue (1897) Department.

PRESS SERIES.

G.O., No. 760

DATED 6th September

[Despatch Abstract.]

Fortnightly Narrative.

According, with remarks, Board's Prags submit to
Government the — of the Kurnool D. for the
period ending 31st July 1897.

CURRENT No.

The Hon. Mr. Calkins
The Governor

FURTHER PAPERS.

Print sharp
RS
6997

From

The Board of Revenue.
Self.

Order (Purs) N^o 760 of 6th Sept 1897

Recorded

No. 581

2. Orders have already been passed on the application for the opening of gratuitous relief in Nandakotkur and Nakkapur.

Dated 19th August 1897

Received

Registered

Enclosures

Spare copies.

3. There has been good rain in many parts of the district since the date of the Board's Process, and the Govt is glad to note that the season has much improved.

The Board of Rev. Supt.
 - P. M. D.
 - 7. D.
 - Low. Dept.
 - A-C.

SUBJECT.

Short nightly narrative

Leitung

of the General St for the
period ending 31st July

Note. The remarks in para 4 about the distance best affecting the health of coolies are somewhat misleading. This best has ~~not~~ ^{been} insisted on in the present famine; on the other

2/19/97

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

READ—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Kurnool District during the period ending 31st July 1897:—

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Rainfall.—

	INCHES.
Rainfall during the period	3.44
Do. up to the period from 1st April 1897	8.31
Average rainfall expected during the period	1.95
Do. do. up to the period from 1st April 1897	9.00

Rainfall at all the registering stations of the district, as is shown below:—

Affected tracts Station.	Fall in inches.
South-central section ... { Nandyal	6.24
... { Allagadda	3.82
... { Owk	2.73
... { Kalwa	2.47
... { Koilkuntla	1.93
Western section ... { Kurnool	4.28
... { Pyápali	1.04
... { Pattikonda	.44
Unaffected tracts.	
North-central section ... { Atmakuru	6.25
... { Nandikotkur	5.31
Eastern section ... { Giddalur	5.29
... { Markapur	1.49

There were excellent falls on the Nallamalais and throughout the plain tracts bordering them on either side, also between Atmakúru and Kurnool and from the latter place 40 miles to the west as far as Devanakonda which lies a little to the south of the Bellary road. There was a considerable deficiency in the villages situated in the centre of the western section, especially in the vicinity of Pattikonda, where the total amount registered during the whole month barely exceeded half an inch.

Water-supply—For drinking.—The supply was amply sufficient, except in a few villages of the Koilkuntla and Pattikonda taluks.

For irrigation—Eastern and North-central sections.—The supply was insufficient in the Markapur taluk, and sufficient elsewhere. The great Cumbum tank received a four months' supply. *South-central section.*—There was plenty of water in the canal and in the tanks fed by it. In the Sirvel taluk rain-fed tanks received a fair supply, and some of them were in danger of breaching. In that part of the Nandyal taluk that lies at a distance from the canal and in the Koilkuntla taluk the supply was insufficient. The amount of water in the Owk tank was small. *Western section.*—The supply was generally insufficient, though a few tanks in the Pyápali range of the Pattikonda taluk were full.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops—Eastern section.—In the Cumbum taluk cholam, cumbu, korra and pulses were sown. Crops standing on red soils are in fair condition. In the Markapur taluk the preparation of the ground for cultivation continued and sowings were made where there was sufficient moisture. Standing crops practically nil. *North-central section.*—Cholam, arika, korra, oil-seeds and paddy were sown. Cholam standing on shallow soils revived to a great extent and is in moderate condition. *South-central section.*—Ploughing of all kinds of lands proceeded briskly. Sowings, however, were restricted to red and mixed soils, the rainfall being insufficient for the cultivation of the heavier black-soils, notably in the Koilkuntla taluk. In many places the ryots were sowing dry crops on tank-fed wet lands

in view to making sure of a harvest of some kind. Standing crops, viz., cholam, arika and korra, revived to some extent, but one-third of the early sowings has been lost and from the remainder a comparatively poor harvest is expected, and even that at a later date than in ordinary seasons. *Western section.*—Black soils were prepared for cultivation. In the Pyápali range of the Pattikonda taluk, where the ground was thoroughly soaked by the heavy rain that fell in May, the standing crops, consisting of cholam, korra, sazza, castor and pulses, are generally flourishing. Elsewhere, on the other hand, though well covered fields are to be met with here and there, the shallow soils present for the most part a patchy appearance, the cholam crop having come up only on portions of the fields and failed to sprout on others; the outturn in such cases will necessarily be poor. On black soils a somewhat better state of things exists. In Pattikonda and the neighbourhood the early crops have withered or are rapidly withering.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—Fodder continued to be moderately sufficient in the eastern and north-central sections, and to be exceedingly scarce in the other sections. The Head Assistant Collector after making personal enquiries at Owk considers that it would be useless to lay down any imported fodder there as the ryots are disinclined to buy more than they have already bought at the rate of Rs. 17-8-0 a ton. Pasture revived to a great extent in most places, and with a few more showers will have probably resumed its normal condition in less than a month. The condition of the cattle was very poor in the affected tracts, and pretty good elsewhere. The Head Assistant Collector remarks that though they were improving somewhat, the majority presented a half-starved appearance, and were in a precarious state having been fed for months together on leaves and other unwholesome food. Veterinary-Lieutenant Edwards has arrived in the district in view to adopt measures for the suppression of rinderpest, to which the enfeebled cattle succumbed in considerable numbers during the hot weather, as remarked in my fortnightly narrative for the period ending 15th May. The disease subsided in the south-central section during the fortnight, and for the first time for some months no deaths from it were reported; it was, however, still prevalent in the north-central section.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—The rain that fell during the period came only just in time to avert wholesale distress throughout the district. There is no longer any anxiety regarding the unaffected taluks of Cumbum and Nandikotkur, in which I was on the point of proposing the opening of relief works, and prospects are for the present considerably brighter both in the affected tracts and in the unaffected taluk of Markapur. It is unfortunate that the Koilkuntla taluk, which was thoroughly parched up, received so little rain and that many villages in the Pattikonda taluk had practically none at all.

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 July 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		Ragi.		Cholam.		Cumbu.		Remarks.
	End of last period.	End of current period.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Pattikonda ..	6.52	7.49	13.58	14.55	10.55	8.24	12.22	12.22	In rice prices are falling at all stations except at Kurnool and Kalwa.
Pyápali ..	6.12	7.49	13.52	14.55	9.78	8.24	9.40	12.22	
Kurnool ..	8.21	7.86	10.32	14.19	8.56	9.93	8.75	7.50	In cholam prices are rising in Pattikonda, Pyápali and Kalwa and falling elsewhere.
Nandikotkur ..	7.86	8.58	..	..	9.59	11.30	..	..	
Atmakúru ..	8.58	8.58	..	..	11.30	12.33	..	..	In ragi prices are rising in Markapur but falling elsewhere.
Nandyal ..	8.21	8.93	12.57	15.48	9.24	10.96	..	..	
Kalwa ..	7.86	7.50	..	..	9.59	8.90	..	..	In cumbu prices are rising in Kurnool and falling elsewhere.
Koilkuntla ..	8.30	8.30	12.00	12.00	8.69	9.48	..	..	
Owk ..	7.47	7.47	12.00	12.75	8.69	9.48	..	..	In cumbu prices are rising in Kurnool and falling elsewhere.
Allagadda ..	7.15	7.15	12.25	12.25	9.59	9.24	..	..	
Giddalur ..	7.47	8.30	13.50	13.50	12.64	12.64	10.87	11.30	In cumbu prices are rising in Kurnool and falling elsewhere.
Markapur ..	8.30	8.30	15.00	13.50	..	..	10.87	10.15	
Average ..	7.07	7.99	12.75	13.64	9.84	10.07	10.42	10.74	

Activity of trade.—Trade was dull throughout the period except in the eastern section, where it was moderately active. Till the advent of the rain the markets were but scantily supplied, and the greatest difficulty was experienced by the officials in inducing the merchants to expose their stocks for sale. For a few days at the commencement of the fortnight cholera was selling in Kurnool town and at Pattikonda as high as 7 Government measures per rupee—a rate that recalled the worst period of the great famine of twenty years ago.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

On works.—Cholera continued to prevail in the Joharapuram work near Kurnool. The proposed splitting up of the workers into sections, alluded to in my last narrative, was carried into effect, and there have been fewer attacks since. During the fortnight the disease broke out on the works at Bellagal and Panchikalapad to which, it is believed, to have been introduced by workers coming from Hyderabad territory. Energetic steps to prevent its spread were being taken. The Sanitary Commissioner considered the health of the people on the Joharapuram works, which he inspected, to be indifferent; he showed me a considerable number of cases of emaciation and incipient scurvy amongst the workers.

Pretty fair is the general pronouncement on the state of the relief workers by the Divisional and Taluk officers and medical subordinates. The Assistant Engineer, Koilkuntla, had several workers turned off the Owk-Banganapalle frontier road work, along which their villages were situated, in order to induce them to resort to a more distant work, where their labour could, in his opinion, be better utilized. This action was quite unauthorized, and when my approval was sought *after the event*, I ordered that the workers should be re-admitted to the former work till such time as it might be finally closed.

In villages.—The reports from the affected tracts showed the people to be, on the whole, in fair condition, in spite of the existence of a few cases of emaciation here and there. The Sanitary Commissioner, however, found incipient scurvy to be rife at Kocheru and pointed out several half-starved persons among the inmates of the kitchens of the Rámallakóta taluk that he inspected. Cholera, introduced in the first instance from Hyderabad territory, broke out in several taluks during the period, causing 236 attacks and 104 deaths. My touring was chiefly confined to the unaffected divisions, whither I went to inquire into the state of the labouring classes. At Cumbum there was a large number of coolies who were badly in need of help, but as there were some Local Fund ordinary works in progress, and as I was assured that if the Cumbum tank received a good supply of water, some 5,000 labourers would, at once, get employment in the fields, I determined to wait a short time before proposing measures of relief; fortunately there was copious rain all over the taluk within a few days after I left it, and now the tanks everywhere contain plenty of water for one crop, and a brisk demand for labour has arisen. From Markapur I visited Tokapalli, which the Deputy Collector considered to be the centre of the worst part of the taluk, and there I found it necessary to arrange to have the repairs of some Local Fund roads put in hand at once as ordinary works, so as to afford employment to the poorer classes. I have since recommended the opening of two kitchens in this tract. There has not been much rain at Markapur itself up to date, but the taluk depends, I believe, chiefly on the north-east monsoon and there have been good showers in different outlying places. I agree with the Deputy Collector that there is no necessity to open relief works. My inspection of the Cumbum division was brought to an abrupt conclusion by a summons received from the Famine Commissioner to meet him at Dhone, and, considering the good rain that fell during the days I was with him, I thought it not worth while to return, especially as other parts of the district were urgently calling for my attention. In the Nandikotkur taluk, to which I proceeded towards the end of the fortnight, the District Board Engineer had just completed arrangements for the employment of the Panchama labourers who are not likely to get regular work for some 6 weeks more; no further measures will be required, provided that four kitchens, which I have recommended, are opened for the worker's dependants and for the beggars with which latter the two villages of Nandikótkur and Átmakúru were swarming.

Sickness and Mortality.—Beyond what is stated under the head "condition of the people in villages" no particular remarks are called for. Mortality was due to ordinary causes, that from cholera excepted.

Remarks.—The figures shown in the tables given below cover a period of three weeks, the last Friday in the previous fortnight having fallen on 9th ultimo and that in the fortnight under report on 30th ultimo. The increase in the numbers on all sorts of relief during the first of the three weeks was enormous, and may be attributed to the critical state of the district alluded to in my previous narrative, and to the sudden and alarming rise in prices mentioned in this narrative. There was a slight decrease in numbers towards the close of the month. As regards the large extent to which gratuitous relief is being given in the Rámallakóta taluk, I greatly fear this to be due to the fact that the taluk did not receive the same amount of attention in the hot weather as the other affected taluks. All the works that were recommended by the Divisional officer were certainly started, but now that I am better acquainted with the district, I feel that enough was not done in this particular taluk, and that many persons for whom work should have been provided have been allowed to fall into a low condition, entitling them to relief in the shape of grain doles. I must, however, remark that the total number on all kinds of relief, viz., 52,000, or nearly 42 per cent. of the population according to the census of 1891, does not appear to be excessive when compared with the total number relieved in the Alúr taluk of the Bellary district. The Board has already in its Proceedings, No. 539, dated 30th July 1897, alluded to the fact that the prices and numbers on relief a fortnight ago were practically identical with the prices and numbers on relief in May 1877. A careful check of the recipients of grain doles is being made by the divisional and taluk officers, and the taluk relief officer having just joined, good progress in the business may be expected. I have myself examined several villages, and did not find that undue liberality had been shown by the circle inspectors.

MEASURES OF RELIEF.

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

Taluks.	Number employed	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
1. Pattikonda	42,476	44,981
2. Rámallakóta	24,955	27,751
3. Nandyal	15,191	19,333
4. Koilkuntla	36,932	41,949
5. Sirvel	18,940	18,552
Total	1,38,494	1,52,566

Gratuitous Relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise—

Taluks.	Number relieved							
	At kitchens.				In poor-houses.		In villages.	
	Dependants.		Others.					
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
1. Pattikonda	1,566	1,717	1,213	1,337	..	..	933	1,286
2. Rámallakóta	731	728	8	138	..	..	4,898	6,266
3. Nandikotkur	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,497	1,165
4. Nandyal	451	537	39	36	..	..	11,947	* 18,803
5. Koilkuntla	1,438	1,516	175	117	..	..	620	577
6. Sirvel	822	862	17	22	..	..	1,157	1,319
Total	5,008	5,360	1,452	1,650	..	..	2,636	3,678
							3,505	3,396
							3,159	3,410
							1,563	1,869
							3,364	2,983
							† 9,275	† 9,612
							26,002	36,140

* Includes figures for Kurnool town.

† The first set of figures represent the number of persons fed in village kitchens and the second set those in receipt of grain doles.

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.
1. Pattikonda ..	94	105	4,310	6,372	15,829	52,380
2. Ramallakota ..	98	101	3,744	4,209	14,164	33,167
3. Nandikotkur ..	3	3	..	..	..	..
4. Nandyal ..	116	122	..	..	..	..
5. Koilkuntla ..	86	89	1,414	1,444	1,394	3,917
6. Sirvel ..	100	102	837	863	1,189	3,143
Total ..	497	522	10,305	12,888	32,586	92,607

GENERAL REMARKS.

I have purposely delayed this narrative in order to embody in it, as directed by the Board, full information regarding those who have immigrated to our works from Hyderabad territory. I regret that I have not yet received all the expected reports, and must therefore make the matter the subject of a separate communication.

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

LOAN TRANSACTIONS.—Statement showing particulars of loan transactions under the Land improvement and Agriculture Department.																												
Repair and construction of wells.					Other purposes.					Total.					Number of wells.													
Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	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.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Under construction or repair.							
Taluka.																												
1. Pattikonda ..	153	RS. 39,865	153	RS. 24,301	223	RS. 63,696	999	RS. 1,05,970	999	RS. 1,05,970	705	RS. 81,611	1,152	RS. 1,45,835	1,152	RS. 1,30,291	928	RS. 1,38,307	153	153								
2. Ramallakota ..	21	5,180	17	4,000	56	15,460	5	490	5	490	97	12,350	26	5,670	22	4,490	153	27,810	15	15								
3. Nandikotkur ..	2	400	2	400	..	..	4	500	3	450	2	300	6	900	5	850	2	300	3	3								
4. Nandyal ..	11	3,900	10	1,450	35	10,000	26	3,770	23	3,295	197	24,450	37	7,670	83	3,745	202	34,400	24	24								
5. Koilkuntla ..	24	4,700	24	4,700	35	11,460	25	2,765	23	2,615	35	5,380	49	7,466	47	7,215	70	16,840	63	63								
6. Sirvel ..	57	11,800	57	10,700	22	7,920	13	1,450	13	1,450	5	530	70	13,250	70	12,150	27	8,450	..	..								
7. Cumbum ..	..	..	..	..	2	350	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..								
8. Markapur ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..								
Total ..	268	65,845	263	45,551	373	98,886	1,072	1,14,945	1,066	1,14,270	1,011	1,27,651	1,340	1,80,790	1,339	1,59,841	1,384	2,26,537	..	267								
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.	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.					
Taluka.																												
1. Pattikonda ..	1,616	RS. 82,044	1,616	82,044	2,610	1,62,710	53	2,225	53	2,225	166	12,328	1,630	84,269	1,630	84,269	1,669	84,269	153	153								
2. Ramallakota ..	23	1,015	..	..	493	42,103	..	..	..	..	211	13,221	23	1,915	23	1,915	..	..	794	794								
3. Nandikotkur ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	669	64,446	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	3								
4. Nandyal ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..								
5. Koilkuntla ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..								
6. Sirvel ..	33	1,675	29	1,241	45	3,463	115	5,375	115	5,375	41	1,802	148	7,050	148	7,050	144	6,616	86	86								
7. Cumbum ..	..	..	..	..	106	2,391	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	100								
8. Markapur ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2								
Total ..	2,248	1,19,518	2,043	1,08,723	4,489	3,78,047	169	7,640	169	7,640	1,092	92,197	2,417	1,27,458	2,417	1,27,458	2,212	1,16,363	5,581	5,581								

* These do not quite tally with the figures reported in the weekly season report for the week ending 31st July 1897. Explanation has been called for.

INSPECTIONS OF THE DISTRICT OFFICERS.

Taluks and places visited.

I was in camp for 11 days and inspected the following places :—

Markapur taluk.—Markapur, Gobbura and Tokapalli.

Ramallakota taluk.—Dhone and Kocheruvu.

Nandikotkur taluk.—Gadilemadugu, Bapanakotkur, Botlavaram, Nandikotkur, Malyem, Jupad and Atmakur.

Work.—Joharapuram.

The Head Assistant Collector was in camp for 14 days and visited the following :—

Nandyal taluk.—Udumalpuram, Kavalur, Neravodu, Pangam, Voddagundla, Chilakala, Alamur, Gonavaram and Bhupanapad.

Koilkuntla taluk.—Gullasingavaram, Annavaram, Vamalapad, Gokuladinne, Raghavarapuram, Konapuram, Mettupalli, Nichanametla, Chimmampalli, Sivavaram, Owk, Singanapalli, Sangapatnam, Ramapuram, Kolinegundla, Itikala, Kanakaddipalli and Kalavatala.

Works.—Panyam, Gullasingavaram, Owk, Ramapuram and Itikala.

The Deputy Collector of Pyapalli was on tour throughout the fortnight and inspected the following villages and the works at Gudipad, Maralla, Katarkonda and Mallapuram :—

Pattikonda taluk.—Upparlapalli, Potedoddi, Gudipad, Pasamrangareddipalli, Jakkasanikuntla, Neandoddi, Chandrampalli, Mettupalli, Obulapuram, Eddupenta, Devarabunda, Kottakota, Chanugundla, Chinna Padilla, Pedda Padilla, Enudole, Kothaburuza, Kalchatla, Yenugamarri, Kottapalli and Malkapuram.

The Head-quarter Deputy Collector was on tour throughout the fortnight and inspected the following places :—

Nandikotkur taluk.—Nandikotkur, Lakshmapuram, Atmakur, Kurukunda, Guvvalakunta and Jupad.

The Deputy Collector of Cumbum Division visited the following places :—

Cumbum taluk.—Cumbum, Eddulur, Kristamsettipalli, Kanehipalli, Doddavadu, Yedavalli, Cherlapalli and Akkapalli.

Markapur taluk.—Gobbur, Tokapalli and Darimadugu.

RESOLUTION—No. 581, dated 19th August 1897.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the fortnight was heavier than the average, and was good in all parts except in Pattikonda taluk and part of the Koilkuntla taluk. The fall materially improved the prospects of the district. A considerable portion of the crops on the lighter soils has, however, been lost, and the remainder has been seriously affected by the prolonged drought, while much of the heavier soils, especially in Koilkuntla taluk, still remained uncultivated. Pasture was generally reviving.

3. Prices, after running up to the quotations of 1877, fell with the fall of rain, and, at the close of the period, were somewhat lower than at the commencement. The following figures show the comparative positions of prices :—

Rate.	Measures for a rupee.			
	Rice.	Ragi.	Cholam.	Kambu.
Normal ..	13.2	..	30.0	28.0
Warning ..	10.6	..	22.5	21.0
Scarcity ..	7.9	..	15.0	14.0
Current ..	7.9	13.6	10.0	10.7
July 1892 ..	9.7	16.7	16.3	13.7
July 1877 ..	5.4	6.4	6.2	5.9

4. The condition of the people on works is pronounced pretty fair, though the Sanitary Commissioner considered the health of the coolies at goharapuram and elsewhere to be indifferent, incipient scurvy being noticeable. The Sanitary Commissioner will report separately regarding the condition of these works. It is possible that the price of firewood has been a factor in causing the fall in condition both here and at Adoni, the coolies at both places being obliged to purchase fuel out of their wages.

The Famine Commissioner examined the coolies at Owk, Gullasingapuram and Paniem. It was satisfactory to find that the coolies at Owk were generally in better condition than those at the above-named places. This is partly due to the fact that the Owk coolies have not been subjected to a severe distance test, the coolies from a distance, who formerly came to Owk, having found employment nearer their homes. The gangs at Gullasingapuram were generally fair, but with many exceptions, belonging mostly to new arrivals from Banganapalle. At the latter work 225 babies were examined; of these 128, or 56 per cent., were in good condition; 54, or 24 per cent., were in indifferent, and 43, or 20 per cent., in bad, condition. The effect of the distance test is evident here as compared with Owk, where 202 babies were examined, with the following results: 136, or 68 per cent., good; 47, or 23 per cent., indifferent; and 19, or only 9 per cent., bad. The babies marked as good were all that could be desired, and it was noticeable in these places that the mothers attended to the clothing of their infants in a way which has not been noticed elsewhere. Several of the children had little frocks on. This is most unusual in the villages. Possibly some missionary has been round, distributing clothes. At Paniem 2,500 coolies were specially examined. After eliminating all cases in which bad condition might be due to old age or disease, 312 persons, or 12.5 per cent., were found to be in indifferent condition. This was after excluding nursing mothers and babies, who were separately examined, with the following results :—

Mothers examined, 182.

Good ..	96 or 52.7 per cent.
Indifferent ..	70 or 38.5 "
Bad ..	16 or 8.8 "

Babies examined, 186.

Good ..	121 or 65 per cent.
Indifferent ..	31 or 16.7 "
Bad ..	34 or 18.3 "

The distance test works strongly at Paniem also, and this no doubt affects the babies severely. A woman who has spent the days of her pregnancy in taking long walks, and breaking stones all day in the sun, on a scanty wage, cannot produce healthy offspring. One poor woman, who came from a distance, was taken in labour during the inspection, and her child was born within half an hour in the village chattram.

The numbers on relief ran up at the commencement of the fortnight, but declined slightly after the rains, though there was an increase of 10 per cent. among workers and about 25 per cent. among the recipients of gratuitous relief. The latter increase was contributed mainly by the Ramallakot taluk, the condition of which has been reported on in B. P., No. 539, dated 30th July 1897. The pauperism of this taluk is, no doubt, partly due to the prevalence of polygamy; two or three wives being a common allowance.

The Collector's application for the opening of gratuitous relief in Nandikotkur and Markapur has been submitted with B.P., No. 6456, dated 14th August 1897.

5. The following figures show the progress made in disbursing loans :—

Up to end of week ending	Amount.
	RS.
July 3rd ..	1,64,989
" 10th ..	2,07,904
" 17th ..	2,32,644
" 24th ..	2,40,001
" 31st ..	2,78,076

Good work has been done, but an enormous number of applications still remains to be disposed of. Many of the applications for loans for the purchase of fodder will possibly be now withdrawn. It is to be regretted that so many applications for loans to purchase cattle and seed grain should have remained undisposed of; it is probably now too late for the loans, if granted, to be of use. The Collector's attention is drawn to the remarks of the Famine Commissioner in his Proceedings, No. 549, dated 4th August 1897, regarding loan work in Ramallakot taluk.

6. The Collector has explained the cause of the late submission of his narrative. His report on the immigration from Hyderabad is awaited.

(True Copy and Extract.)

Anchor 97/8
Famine Secretary.

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

Government {1897} of Madras. REVENUE.

Recd.

Enclosures

Regd.

1897.

Spare copies

G.O., No. 760, 6th September 1897.

SEPTEMBER.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording, with remarks, Board's Proceedings submitting to Government the — of the Kurnool district for the period ending 31st July 1897.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 581, dated 19th August 1897:—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Kurnool District during the period ending 31st July 1897:—

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Rainfall.—

	INCHES.
Rainfall during the period	3.44
Do. up to the period from 1st April 1897	8.31
Average rainfall expected during the period	1.95
Do. do. up to the period from 1st April 1897	9.00

Rainfall at all the registering stations of the district, as is shown below:—

Affected tracts Station.	Fall in inches.
South-central section ... { Nandyal	6.24
... { Allagadda	3.82
... { Owk	2.73
... { Kalwa	2.47
... { Koilkuntla	1.93
Western section ... { Kurnool	4.28
... { Pyápali	1.04
... { Pattikonda	.44
Unaffected tracts.	
North-central section ... { Atmakuru	6.25
... { Nandikotkur	5.31
Eastern section ... { Giddalur	5.29
... { Markapur	1.49

There were excellent falls on the Nallamalais and throughout the plain tracts bordering them on either side, also between Atmakuru and Kurnool and from the latter place 40 miles to the west as far as Devanakonda which lies a little to the south of the Bellary road. There was a considerable deficiency in the villages situated in the centre of the western section, especially in the vicinity of Pattikonda, where the total amount registered during the whole month barely exceeded half an inch.

Water-supply—For drinking.—The supply was amply sufficient, except in a few villages of the Koilkuntla and Pattikonda taluks.

For irrigation—Eastern and North-central sections.—The supply was insufficient in the Markapur taluk, and sufficient elsewhere. The great Cumbum tank received a four months' supply. **South-central section.**—There was plenty of water in the canal and in the tanks fed by it. In the Sirvel taluk rain-fed tanks received a fair supply, and some of them were in danger of breaching. In that part of the Nandyal taluk that lies at a distance from the canal and in the Koilkuntla taluk the supply was insufficient. The amount of water in the Owk tank was small. **Western section.**—The supply was generally insufficient, though a few tanks in the Pyápali range of the Pattikonda taluk were full.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops—Eastern section.—In the Cumbum taluk cholam, cumbu, korra and pulses were sown. Crops standing on red soils are in fair condition. In the Markapur taluk the preparation of the ground for cultivation continued and sowings were made where there was sufficient moisture. Standing crops practically nil. **North-central section.**—Cholam, arika, korra, oil-seeds and paddy were sown. Cholam standing on shallow soils revived to a great extent and is in moderate condition. **South-central section.**—Ploughing of all kinds of lands proceeded briskly. Sowings, however, were restricted to red and mixed soils, the rainfall

being insufficient for the cultivation of the heavier black-soils, notably in the Koilkuntla taluk. In many places the ryots were sowing dry crops on tank-fed wet lands in view to making sure of a harvest of some kind. Standing crops, viz., cholam, arika and korra, revived to some extent, but one-third of the early sowings has been lost and from the remainder a comparatively poor harvest is expected, and even that at a later date than in ordinary seasons. **Western section.**—Black soils were prepared for cultivation. In the Pyápali range of the Pattikonda taluk, where the ground was thoroughly soaked by the heavy rain that fell in May, the standing crops, consisting of cholam, korra, sazza, castor and pulses, are generally flourishing. Elsewhere, on the other hand, though well covered fields are to be met with here and there, the shallow soils present for the most part a patchy appearance, the cholam crop having come up only on portions of the fields and failed to sprout on others; the outturn in such cases will necessarily be poor. On black soils a somewhat better state of things exists. In Pattikonda and the neighbourhood the early crops have withered or are rapidly withering.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—Fodder continued to be moderately sufficient in the eastern and north-central sections, and to be exceedingly scarce in the other sections. The Head Assistant Collector after making personal enquiries at Owk considers that it would be useless to lay down any imported fodder there as the ryots are disinclined to buy more than they have already bought at the rate of Rs. 17-8-0 a ton. Pasture revived to a great extent in most places, and with a few more showers will have probably resumed its normal condition in less than a month. The condition of the cattle was very poor in the affected tracts, and pretty good elsewhere. The Head Assistant Collector remarks that though they were improving somewhat, the majority presented a half-starved appearance, and were in a precarious state having been fed for months together on leaves and other unwholesome food. Veterinary-Lieutenant Edwards has arrived in the district in view to adopt measures for the suppression of rinderpest, to which the enfeebled cattle succumbed in considerable numbers during the hot weather, as remarked in my fortnightly narrative for the period ending 15th May. The disease subsided in the south-central section during the fortnight, and for the first time for some months no deaths from it were reported; it was, however, still prevalent in the north-central section.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—The rain that fell during the period came only just in time to avert wholesale distress throughout the district. There is no longer any anxiety regarding the unaffected taluks of Cumbum and Nandikotkur, in which I was on the point of proposing the opening of relief works, and prospects are for the present considerably brighter both in the affected tracts and in the unaffected taluk of Markapur. It is unfortunate that the Koilkuntla taluk, which was thoroughly parched up, received so little rain and that many villages in the Pattikonda taluk had practically none at all.

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 July 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		Ragi.		Cholam.		Cumbu.		Remarks.
	End of last period.	End of current period.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Pattikonda ..	6.52	7.49	13.58	14.55	10.55	8.24	12.22	12.22	In rice prices are falling at all stations except at Kurnool and Kalwa.
Pyápali ..	6.12	7.49	13.52	14.55	9.78	8.24	9.40	12.22	
Kurnool ..	8.21	7.86	10.32	14.19	8.56	9.93	8.75	7.50	In cholam prices are rising in Pattikonda, Pyápali and Kalwa and falling elsewhere.
Nandikotkur ..	7.86	8.58	..	..	9.59	11.30	..	..	
Atmakuru ..	8.58	8.58	..	..	11.30	12.33	..	..	In ragi prices are rising in Markapur but falling elsewhere.
Nandyal ..	8.21	8.93	12.57	15.48	9.24	10.96	..	..	
Kalwa ..	7.86	7.50	..	..	9.59	8.90	..	..	In cumbu prices are rising in Kurnool and falling elsewhere.
Koilkuntla ..	8.30	8.30	12.00	12.00	8.69	9.48	..	..	
Owk ..	7.47	7.47	12.00	12.75	8.69	9.48	..	..	In cumbu prices are rising in Kurnool and falling elsewhere.
Allagadda ..	7.15	7.15	12.25	12.25	9.59	9.24	..	..	
Giddalur ..	7.47	8.30	13.50	13.50	12.64	12.64	10.87	11.60	
Markapur ..	8.30	8.30	15.00	13.50	..	..	10.87	10.15	
Average ..	7.57	7.99	12.75	13.64	9.84	10.07	10.42	10.74	

Activity of trade.—Trade was dull throughout the period except in the eastern section, where it was moderately active. Till the advent of the rain the markets were but scantily supplied, and the greatest difficulty was experienced by the officials in inducing the merchants to expose their stocks for sale. For a few days at the commencement of the fortnight cholam was selling in Kurnool town and at Pattikonda as high as 7 Government measures per rupee—a rate that recalled the worst period of the great famine of twenty years ago.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

On works.—Cholera continued to prevail in the Joharapuram work near Kurnool. The proposed splitting up of the workers into sections, alluded to in my last narrative, was carried into effect, and there have been fewer attacks since. During the fortnight the disease broke out on the works at Bellagal and Panchikalapad to which, it is believed, to have been introduced by workers coming from Hyderabad territory. Energetic steps to prevent its spread were being taken. The Sanitary Commissioner considered the health of the people on the Joharapuram works, which he inspected, to be indifferent; he showed me a considerable number of cases of emaciation and incipient scurvy amongst the workers.

Pretty fair is the general pronouncement on the state of the relief workers by the Divisional and Taluk officers and medical subordinates. The Assistant Engineer, Koilkuntla, had several workers turned off the Owk-Banganapalle frontier road work, along which their villages were situated, in order to induce them to resort to a more distant work, where their labour could, in his opinion, be better utilized. This action was quite unauthorized, and when my approval was sought *after the event*, I ordered that the workers should be re-admitted to the former work till such time as it might be finally closed.

In villages.—The reports from the affected tracts showed the people to be, on the whole, in fair condition, in spite of the existence of a few cases of emaciation here and there. The Sanitary Commissioner, however, found incipient scurvy to be rife at Kocheru and pointed out several half-starved persons among the inmates of the kitchens of the Rámallakóta taluk that he inspected. Cholera, introduced in the first instance from Hyderabad territory, broke out in several taluks during the period, causing 236 attacks and 104 deaths. My touring was chiefly confined to the unaffected divisions, whither I went to inquire into the state of the labouring classes. At Cumbum there was a large number of coolies who were badly in need of help, but as there were some Local Fund ordinary works in progress, and as I was assured that if the Cumbum tank received a good supply of water, some 5,000 labourers would, at once, get employment in the fields, I determined to wait a short time before proposing measures of relief; fortunately there was copious rain all over the taluk within a few days after I left it, and now the tanks everywhere contain plenty of water for one crop, and a brisk demand for labour has arisen. From Markapur I visited Tokapalli, which the Deputy Collector considered to be the centre of the worst part of the taluk, and there I found it necessary to arrange to have the repairs of some Local Fund roads put in hand at once as ordinary works, so as to afford employment to the poorer classes. I have since recommended the opening of two kitchens in this tract. There has not been much rain at Markapur itself up to date, but the taluk depends, I believe, chiefly on the north-east monsoon and there have been good showers in different outlying places. I agree with the Deputy Collector that there is no necessity to open relief works. My inspection of the Cumbum division was brought to an abrupt conclusion by a summons received from the Famine Commissioner to meet him at Dhone, and, considering the good rain that fell during the days I was with him, I thought it not worth while to return, especially as other parts of the district were urgently calling for my attention. In the Nandikotkur taluk, to which I proceeded towards the end of the fortnight, the District Board Engineer had just completed arrangements for the employment of the Panchama labourers who are not likely to get regular work for some 6 weeks more; no further measures will be required, provided that four kitchens, which I have recommended, are opened for the worker's dependants and for the beggars with which latter the two villages of Nandikótkur and Átmakúru were swarming.

Sickness and Mortality.—Beyond what is stated under the head "condition of the people in villages" no particular remarks are called for. Mortality was due to ordinary causes, that from cholera excepted.

Remarks.—The figures shown in the tables given below cover a period of three weeks, the last Friday in the previous fortnight having fallen on 9th ultimo and that in the fortnight under report on 30th ultimo. The increase in the numbers on all sorts of relief during the first of the three weeks was enormous, and may be attributed to the critical state of the district alluded to in my previous narrative, and to the sudden and alarming rise in prices mentioned in this narrative. There was a slight decrease in numbers towards the close of the month. As regards the large extent to which gratuitous relief is being given in the Rámallakóta taluk, I greatly fear this to be due to the fact that the taluk did not receive the same amount of attention in the hot weather as the other affected taluks. All the works that were recommended by the Divisional officer were certainly started, but now that I am better acquainted with the district, I feel that enough was not done in this particular taluk, and that many persons for whom work should have been provided have been allowed to fall into a low condition, entitling them to relief in the shape of grain doles. I must, however, remark that the total number on all kinds of relief, viz., 52,000, or nearly 42 per cent. of the population according to the census of 1891, does not appear to be excessive when compared with the total number relieved in the Aldr taluk of the Bellary district. The Board has already in its Proceedings, No. 539, dated 30th July 1897, alluded to the fact that the prices and numbers on relief a fortnight ago were practically identical with the prices and numbers on relief in May 1877. A careful check of the recipients of grain doles is being made by the divisional and taluk officers, and the taluk relief officer having just joined, good progress in the business may be expected. I have myself examined several villages, and did not find that undue liberality had been shown by the circle inspectors.

MEASURES OF RELIEF.

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

Taluks.	Number employed	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
1. Pattikonda	42,476	44,981
2. Rámallakóta	24,955	27,751
3. Nandyal	15,191	19,333
4. Koilkuntla	36,932	41,949
5. Sirvel	18,940	18,552
Total	1,38,494	1,52,566

Gratuitous Relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise—

Taluks.	Number relieved							
	At kitchens:				In poor-houses.		In villages.	
	Dependants.		Others.					
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
1. Pattikonda	1,566	1,717	1,213	1,337	..	..	933	1,236
2. Rámallakóta	731	728	8	138	..	..	4,896	6,266
3. Nandikotkur	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,497	1,165
4. Nandyal	451	537	39	36	..	..	11,947	* 18,803
5. Koilkuntla	1,438	1,516	175	117	..	..	620	677
6. Sirvel	822	862	17	22	..	..	1,157	1,319
							2,636	3,678
							3,505	3,395
							3,159	3,410
							1,563	1,869
							3,364	2,985
Total	5,008	5,360	1,452	1,650	..	..	† 9,275	† 9,612
							26,002	35,140

* Includes figures for Kurnool town.

† The first set of figures represent the number of persons fed in village kitchens and the second set those in receipt of grain doles.

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.
1. Pattikonda ..	94	105	4,310	6,372	15,829	52,380
2. Ramallakota ..	98	101	3,744	4,209	14,164	33,167
3. Nandikotkur ..	3	3	..	..	..	..
4. Nandyal ..	116	122	..	..	..	..
5. Koilkuntla ..	86	89	1,414	1,444	1,394	3,917
6. Sirvel ..	100	102	837	863	1,199	3,143
Total ..	497	522	10,305	12,888	32,586	92,607

GENERAL REMARKS.

I have purposely delayed this narrative in order to embody in it, as directed by the Board, full information regarding those who have immigrated to our works from Hyderabad territory. I regret that I have not yet received all the expected reports, and must therefore make the matter the subject of a separate communication.

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

Taluka.	Repair and construction of wells.						Other purposes.						Total.						Number of wells.	
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.
1. Pattikonda ..	153	39,865	153	24,801	223	53,606	999	1,05,970	999	1,05,970	705	84,611	1,152	1,45,835	1,152	1,30,291	928	1,35,207	..	153
2. Ramallakota ..	21	5,180	17	4,000	66	15,466	5	490	5	490	97	12,350	26	5,670	22	4,490	153	27,810	..	15
3. Nandikotkur ..	..	409	2	400	..	..	4	500	3	450	2	300	6	900	5	850	2	300	..	3
4. Nandyal ..	11	3,900	10	1,450	35	10,000	26	3,770	23	3,995	197	21,480	37	7,670	33	4,743	202	34,400	..	9
5. Koilkuntla ..	24	4,700	24	4,700	35	11,400	25	2,765	23	2,615	55	5,380	49	7,465	47	7,815	70	16,840	..	24
6. Sirvel ..	57	11,800	57	10,700	22	7,920	13	1,456	13	1,450	5	580	70	13,250	70	12,150	27	8,450	..	63
7. Cumbum ..	..	..	..	..	2	350	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	350	..	..
8. Markapur ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	268	65,845	263	45,551	373	98,886	1,072	1,14,945	1,066	1,14,276	1,041	1,27,651	1,340	1,80,790	1,329	1,59,841	1,884	2,20,537	..	267

Taluka.	Purchase of fodder.				Cattle and seed-grain.				Total.			
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.	
1. Pattikonda ..	1,616	82,044	1,616	82,044	53	2,225	53	2,225	1,669	84,269	1,669	84,269
2. Ramallakota ..	23	1,015	..	..	..	..	..	..	23	1,015	..	..
3. Nandikotkur ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4. Nandyal ..	32	2,315	32	2,175	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5. Koilkuntla ..	544	32,769	566	23,263	..	..	..	..	544	32,769	566	23,263
6. Sirvel ..	33	1,675	29	1,211	115	5,375	115	5,375	748	7,060	144	6,616
7. Cumbum ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
8. Markapur ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	2,248	1,19,318	2,043	1,08,723	169	7,640	169	7,640	2,417	1,27,458	2,212	1,16,303

Taluka.	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.
1. Pattikonda ..	1,616	82,044	1,616	82,044	2,610	1,22,710	53	2,225	53	2,225	166	12,328	1,669	84,269	1,669	84,269	2,776	1,75,038
2. Ramallakota ..	23	1,015	..	..	498	42,103	..	..	..	..	211	13,221	23	1,015	..	..	704	55,324
3. Nandikotkur ..	..	..	..	..	722	86,321	..	..	..	..	669	64,446	..	..	..	..	8	300
4. Nandyal ..	32	2,315	32	2,175	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,391	1,50,767
5. Koilkuntla ..	544	32,769	566	23,263	513	81,059	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	366	23,263
6. Sirvel ..	33	1,675	29	1,211	45	3,463	115	5,375	115	5,375	41	1,802	748	7,060	144	6,616	86	6,265
7. Cumbum ..	..	..	..	..	106	2,391	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	106	2,391
8. Markapur ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	100
Total ..	2,248	1,19,318	2,043	1,08,723	4,489	3,78,047	169	7,640	169	7,640	1,032	92,197	2,417	1,27,458	2,212	1,16,303	5,581	4,70,244

* These do not quite tally with the figures reported in the weekly season report for the week ending 31st July 1897. Explanation has been called for.

INSPECTIONS OF THE DISTRICT OFFICERS.

Taluk and places visited.

I was in camp for 11 days and inspected the following places :—

Markapur taluk.—Markapur, Gobbura and Tokapalli.

Ramallakota taluk.—Dhone and Kocheruvu.

Nandikotkur taluk.—Gadilemadugu, Bapanakotkur, Botlavaram, Nandikotkur, Malyem, Jupad and Atmakur.

Work.—Joharapuram.

The Head Assistant Collector was in camp for 14 days and visited the following :—

Nandyal taluk.—Udumalpuram, Kavalur, Neravodu, Pangam, Voddagundla, Chilakala, Alamur, Gonavaram and Bhupanapad.

Koilkuntla taluk.—Gullasingavaram, Annavaram, Vamalapad, Gokuladinne, Raghavarazapuram, Konapuram, Mettupalli, Nichanametla, Chinnampalli, Sivavaram, Owk, Singanapalli, Sangapatnam, Ramapuram, Kolimegundla, Itikala, Kanakaddipalli and Kalavatala.

Works.—Panyam, Gullasingavaram, Owk, Ramapuram and Itikala.

The Deputy Collector of Pyapalli was on tour throughout the fortnight and inspected the following villages and the works at Gudipad, Maralla, Katarkonda and Mallapuram :—

Pattikonda taluk.—Upparlapalli, Potedoddi, Gudipad, Pasamrangareddipalli, Jakksanikuntla, Neandoddi, Chandrapalli, Mettupalli, Obulapuram, Eddupenta, Devarabunda, Kottakota, Chanugundla, Chinna Padilla, Pedda Padilla, Enudole, Kothaburuza, Kalchatla, Yenugamarri, Kottapalli and Malkapuram.

The Head-quarter Deputy Collector was on tour throughout the fortnight and inspected the following places :—

Nandikotkur taluk.—Nandikotkur, Lakshmapuram, Atmakur, Kurukunda, Guvvalakunta and Jupad.

The Deputy Collector of Cumbum Division visited the following places :—

Cumbum taluk.—Cumbum, Eddulur, Kristamsettipalli, Kanchipalli, Doddavada, Yedavalli, Cherlapalli and Akkapalli.

Markapur taluk.—Gobbur, Tokapalli and Darimadugu.

Resolution—No. 581, dated 19th August 1897.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the fortnight was heavier than the average, and was good in all parts except in Pattikonda taluk and part of the Koilkuntla taluk. The fall materially improved the prospects of the district. A considerable portion of the crops on the lighter soils has, however, been lost, and the remainder has been seriously affected by the prolonged drought, while much of the heavier soils, especially in Koilkuntla taluk, still remained uncultivated. Pasture was generally reviving.

3. Prices, after running up to the quotations of 1877, fell with the fall of rain, and, at the close of the period, were somewhat lower than at the commencement. The following figures show the comparative positions of prices :—

Rate.	Measures for a rupee.			
	Rice.	Ragi.	Cholam.	Kambu.
Normal	13.2	..	30.0	28.0
Warning	10.6	..	22.5	21.0
Scarcity	7.9	..	15.0	14.0
Current	7.9	13.6	10.0	10.7
July 1892	9.7	15.7	16.3	13.7
July 1877	5.4	6.4	6.2	5.9

4. The condition of the people on works is pronounced pretty fair, though the Sanitary Commissioner considered the health of the coolies at Joharapuram and elsewhere to be indifferent, incipient scurvy being noticeable. The Sanitary Commissioner will report separately regarding the condition of these works. It is possible that the price of firewood has been a factor in causing the fall in condition both here and at Adóni, the coolies at both places being obliged to purchase fuel out of their wages.

The Famine Commissioner examined the coolies at Owk, Gullasingapuram and Paniem. It was satisfactory to find that the coolies at Owk were generally in better condition than those at the above-named places. This is partly due to the fact that the Owk coolies have not been subjected to a severe distance test, the coolies from a distance, who formerly came to Owk, having found employment nearer their homes. The gangs at Gullasingapuram were generally fair, but with many exceptions, belonging mostly to new arrivals from Banganapalle. At the latter work 225 babies were examined; of these 128, or 56 per cent., were in good condition; 54, or 24 per cent., were in indifferent, and 43, or 20 per cent., in bad, condition. The effect of the distance test is evident here as compared with Owk, where 202 babies were examined, with the following results: 136, or 68 per cent., good; 47, or 23 per cent., indifferent; and 19, or only 9 per cent., bad. The babies marked as good were all that could be desired, and it was noticeable in these places that the mothers attended to the clothing of their infants in a way which has not been noticed elsewhere. Several of the children had little frocks on. This is most unusual in the villages. Possibly some missionary has been round, distributing clothes. At Paniem 2,500 coolies were specially examined. After eliminating all cases in which bad condition might be due to old age or disease, 312 persons, or 12.5 per cent., were found to be in indifferent condition. This was after excluding nursing mothers and babies, who were separately examined, with the following results :—

Mothers examined, 182.

Good	...	...	...	...	...	...	96 or 52.7 per cent.
Indifferent	...	...	...	...	...	...	70 or 38.5 "
Bad	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 or 8.8 "

Babies examined, 186.

Good	...	...	...	...	...	...	121 or 65 per cent.
Indifferent	...	...	...	...	...	...	31 or 16.7 "
Bad	...	...	...	...	...	...	34 or 18.3 "

The distance test works strongly at Paniem also, and this no doubt affects the babies severely. A woman who has spent the days of her pregnancy in taking long walks, and breaking stones all day in the sun, on a scanty wage, cannot produce healthy offspring. One poor woman, who came from a distance, was taken in labour during the inspection, and her child was born within half an hour in the village chattram.

The numbers on relief ran up at the commencement of the fortnight, but declined slightly after the rains, though there was an increase of 10 per cent. among workers and about 25 per cent. among the recipients of gratuitous relief. The latter increase was contributed mainly by the Ramallakot taluk, the condition of which has been reported on in B. P., No. 539, dated 30th July 1897. The pauperism of this taluk is, no doubt, partly due to the prevalence of polygamy; two or three wives being a common allowance.

The Collector's application for the opening of gratuitous relief in Nandikotkur and Markapur has been submitted with B. P., No. 6456, dated 14th August 1897.

5. The following figures show the progress made in disbursing loans :—

Up to end of week ending	Amount.
RS.	
July 3rd	1,64,989
" 10th	2,07,904
" 17th	2,32,644
" 24th	2,40,001
" 31st	2,78,076

Good work has been done, but an enormous number of applications still remains to be disposed of. Many of the applications for loans for the purchase of fodder will possibly be now withdrawn. It is to be regretted that so many applications for loans to purchase cattle and seed grain should have remained undisposed of; it is probably now too late for the loans, if granted, to be of use. The Collector's attention is drawn to the remarks of the Famine Commissioner in his Proceedings, No. 549, dated 4th August 1897, regarding loan work in Ramallakot taluk.

6. The Collector has explained the cause of the late submission of his narrative. His report on the immigration from Hyderabad is awaited.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

„ Collector of Kurnool.

Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner.

ORDER—No. 760, Revenue, dated 6th September 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. Orders have already been passed on the application for the opening of gratuitous relief in Nandikotkur and Markapur.

3. There has been good rain in many parts of the district since the date of the Board's Proceedings, and the Government is glad to note that the season has much improved.

(True Extract.)

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

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

„ the Public Works Department.

„ the Financial Department.

„ the Local and Municipal Department.

„ the Accountant-General.

Ed. Shik Karim.

Returned for signature.

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