

Revenue (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 1469.

DATED 22nd April 99

[Despatch Abstract.]

According to statement of consumption of Country
spirits and of locally made foreign spirits in the several
wards of the Madras Presidency in and up to the
month of January 1899.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
C. no. 2911/99							

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1899.

Board of Revenue

(Separate Revenue),

MADRAS.

Current No. 2353

Printed April th.
Recd } 7/4.
Regd }

22/4/99

Proceedings, No. 72, 25th March 1899.

G.O. mis no. 1469 of 22nd April 1899

Recorded.

MARCH.

Note.

There has been no improvement in the consumption during the month of January. ~~as well~~. The Board attributes the decrease to a general rise of price which it says is noticeable throughout the Presidency (para 18 of the Current)

P.S. 10.4.99

10.4.99

Submitting to Government, with remarks, the statement of consumption of country spirits and of locally-made foreign spirits in the several excise tracts of the Madras Presidency in and up to the month of January 1899.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE
(SEPARATE REVENUE).

RESOLUTION—No. 72, dated 25th March 1899.

The Board begs to submit to Government, with the following remarks, a statement showing the consumption of country spirits and of locally-made foreign spirits in the several excise tracts of the Madras Presidency in and up to the month of January 1899.

COUNTRY SPIRITS.

2. Compared with the corresponding period of last year, there has been, in the excise tracts of the Presidency, a net decrease in consumption of 117,346 proof gallons or about 14·8 per cent. up to the month. The causes of this decrease were examined in some detail in the review for the month of December. The following explanations are offered by the Collectors for the local variations, in their districts in and up to the month of January.

3. *The Nilgiris*.—The increase is ascribed to an increase in the temporary population, the steady decrease in the sale of foreign liquor owing to the closure of two foreign liquor taverns and to the fact that country-made foreign liquor is going out of favour.

4. *Ganjām, Kistna and Tanjore*.—The decrease is attributed to an increase in the selling price of arrack. The rise in the price in Ganjām is reported to be due to the fact that the town shops of Chatrapur, Gopālpur and Berhampur are practically in the hands of a single renter. Further reasons given are, in Kistna, absence of large works and an increasing demand for toddy, and in Tanjore the impoverished condition of the consumers.

5. *Nellore and Cuddapah*.—The decrease is ascribed to the unfavourable character of the season.

6. *Anantapur*.—The decrease is attributed to the plague scare.

7. *Kurnool*.—The decrease is reported to be due to (1) labourers' wages being paid in the shape of grain, which is cheaper than in the previous year, and their purchasing power being decreased in consequence; (2) a decrease in the cultivation of indigo and a fall in the demand for labour, and (3) larger consumption of toddy which is stated to be more plentiful owing to timely rains this year.

8. *Madras Town Circle*.—The decrease is attributed to the unfavourable character of the season, high prices of staple grains and absence of large works. The closure of a large number of tanneries in the Saidapet taluk since the beginning of the current official year is also reported to have affected consumption.

9. *Chingleput*.—The decrease is reported to be due mainly to the vicissitudes of the season. It is also attributed to (1) an enhancement in the selling price of arrack, (2) postponement of several festivals, (3) completion of railway works, and (4) to the non-execution of petty construction and repair works and stoppage of manufacture at the salt factories during the last season.

10. *North Arcot*.—The decrease is reported to be due to an increase in the selling price of arrack brought about by the amalgamation of the two rival firms now trading under the name of the East India Distilleries and Sugar Factories (Limited) and to the opening of a smaller number of wholesale vend depots than in the previous year.

11. *South Arcot*.—The decrease is attributed to (1) an increase in the selling price of a rack (namely As. 10·6 against As. 5 to As. 7 per gallon of 30° under-proof in 1897-98) brought about by the amalgamation of the two firms referred to above,

(2) adverse state of the season in the early part of the year, (3) poverty of the drinking classes, and (4) people resorting to the cheaper liquor sold in the adjoining French Territory.

12. *Trichinopoly*.—The decrease is ascribed to the high selling price of food-grains, the comparative cheapness of toddy, the unfavourable character of the season at the beginning of the lease and the closure of some shops for want of bids.

13. *Madura*.—The decrease is attributed to people resorting more to toddy than to arrack.

14. *Salem*.—The decrease is ascribed to the unfavourable character of the season and to a temperance movement set on foot by the weaving and Muhammadan communities. There has been an increase in the number of cases of illicit distillation detected in this circle.

15. *South Canara*.—The decrease is reported to be due to the indebtedness of the poorer classes owing to the high prices of food-grains and to the depression of trade.

16. *Malabar*.—In the Wynaad taluk, the decrease is attributed to the unfavourable character of the season for the first four months of the year, the cessation of cooly immigration from Mysore owing to plague and the extended sale of Colombo arrack by tavern-keepers. In the other excise tracts of the district it is ascribed to the fact that cholera, which accounted for a large consumption last year, is no longer prevalent and to the preference shown for toddy because of its comparative cheapness. But the last-mentioned reason does not appear to be correct as the toddy revenue is also falling off.

17. The Collectors of Bellary and Tinnevely have not explained the variations in their districts. The variations in the other districts call for no remarks.

18. A general rise of price is noticeable throughout the Presidency and has doubtless much to do with the general falling off of consumption. On the whole there is no increase of illicit distillation so far as the Board is at present aware.

FOREIGN SPIRITS.

19. The total quantity of locally-made foreign spirits issued up to the month under review amounted to 10,580 proof gallons against 13,094 in 1897-98, thus showing a decrease of 2,514 proof gallons or about 19·2 per cent.

20. The increase in Cuddapah and the decrease in Bellary have not been explained by the Collectors concerned.

21. *Madras Town Circle*.—The increase is reported to be due to the sale of Malabar arrack in taverns in lieu of Colombo arrack, the first being locally made and therefore included in this return.

22. *Trichinopoly*.—The decrease in the quantity of raisin wine issued up to the month under review is due to fluctuations in the requirements of the Madura Catholic Mission.

23. *The Nilgiris*.—The decrease is due to the causes mentioned in paragraph 3 *supra*.

(True Extract.)

(Signed)

C. G. TODHUNTER,
Acting Secretary.

(True Copy.)

Assistant Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

„ all Collectors.

„ the Deputy Commissioner, Central Division.

Copy to other Deputy Commissioners.

„ all Assistant Commissioners.

„ the Inspector, Madras Town Circle.

Exd. Md. Palilvan.

APPENDIX.

COMPARATIVE statement of consumption of spirits in the several excise tracts of the Madras Presidency in and up to the month of January 1899.

Districts.		COUNTRY SPIRITS IN GALLONS.					LOCALLY-MADE FOREIGN SPIRITS IN PROOF-GALLONS.	
		In the month.				Total up to the month (proof).	In the month.	Up to the month.
		20° under-proof.	30° under-proof.	60° under-proof.	Total (proof).			
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1. Ganjām	1897-98..	7	2,749	8,412	5,295	43,381	24	* 253
	1898-99..	..	1,893	8,572	4,753	40,629	35	196
2. Vizagapatam	1897-98..	101	7,791	1,038	5,950	52,052	..	..
	1898-99..	42	7,094	1,035	5,414	50,848	..	..
3. Kistna (Excise tracts)	1897-98..	880	9,226	687	7,437	60,924	..	..
	1898-99..	737	5,797	350	4,788	51,806	..	..
4. Nellore	1897-98..	..	5,388	..	3,772	34,773	..	22
	1898-99..	..	3,986	..	2,790	27,458	..	..
5. Cuddapah	1897-98..	2,452	1,546	..	3,044	32,221	..	53
	1898-99..	1,217	1,131	..	1,766	20,471	14	258
6. Anantapur	1897-98..	626	878	..	1,115	11,783	14	122
	1898-99..	426	644	..	792	10,045	..	147
7. Bellary	1897-98..	638	2,839	..	2,497	30,696	25	288
	1898-99..	377	3,380	..	2,667	34,567	10	104
8. Kurnool	1897-98..	1,871	320	..	1,721	18,169	10	94
	1898-99..	1,187	243	..	1,120	15,392	..	111
9. Madras Town Circle. { Madras town, including the outside shops.	1897-98..	..	6,149	..	4,304	41,801	..	..
	1898-99..	..	5,903	..	4,132	38,015	266	2,749
{ The rest of the Madras Town Circle.	1897-98..	..	1,742	..	1,219	11,714	164	4,365
	1898-99..	..	1,872	..	1,310	7,331	..	..
10. Chingleput	1897-98..	..	4,534	..	3,174	25,217	..	47
	1898-99..	..	3,844	..	2,691	17,131	..	108
11. North Arcot	1897-98..	328	8,608	..	6,288	56,102	14	123
	1898-99..	498	6,434	..	4,902	42,384	4	..
12. South Arcot	1897-98..	15	10,987	..	7,703	60,801	..	20
	1898-99..	244	8,005	2	5,800	43,815	..	..
13. Tanjore	1897-98..	6	4,171	..	2,924	28,653	..	..
	1898-99..	1	3,542	..	2,480	23,410	..	..
14. Trichinopoly	1897-98..	68	4,999	..	3,554	33,012	91	912
	1898-99..	..	4,763	..	3,334	30,817	..	362
15. Madura	1897-98..	..	5,380	..	3,766	36,314	..	24
	1898-99..	..	5,002	..	3,501	30,377	..	49
16. Tinnevely	1897-98..	..	3,984	..	2,789	23,517	..	1
	1898-99..	..	3,786	..	2,650	22,268	..	363
17. Coimbatore	1897-98..	4,103	1,708	..	4,478	43,970	37	323
	1898-99..	3,709	1,393	..	3,942	42,375	29	8,077
18. The Nilgiris	1897-98..	55	2,789	..	1,996	22,048	599	4,311
	1898-99..	20	3,424	..	2,413	25,976	278	..
19. Salem	1897-98..	..	7,285	..	5,100	50,938	..	137
	1898-99..	26	6,189	..	4,353	41,010	14	..
20. South Canara (Excise tracts)	1897-98..	..	3,341	..	2,339	29,852	..	..
	1898-99..	..	3,102	..	2,171	21,821	..	..
21. Malabar .. { Wynaad taluk	1897-98..	589	..	..	471	5,326	..	..
	1898-99..	801	..	..	641	4,899	..	..
{ Other excise taluks	1897-98..	992	3,877	612	3,752	38,075	15	29
	1898-99..	794	4,467	366	3,908	32,448	..	26
Total ..	1897-98..	12,731	100,291	10,749	84,688	792,239	1,095	* 13,094
	1898-99..	10,079	85,893	10,325	72,818	674,893	548	10,580

* Revised figure.

† Includes 223 gallons of jaggery arrack.

When given for copying _____
 When copied _____
 When examined _____
 When signed _____

189

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
 189

DATED

No.

ENCLOSURE TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DATTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
 IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

A = Copy in full.
 B = Not to be copied.
 P = Copy abstract only.
 Q = Copy heading only