

Revenue (1898) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 2090

DATED 14th May

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording R.P. submitting Govt.
with remarks report from the Col. of North
Arcot on the state of season in his district.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Revenue (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 311/3.

8/14/5/88

From the Board of Revenue, Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture, Madras.

Order class no. 2090 d/14th May 98.

Recorded.

8/5/5/88

15798

2.5.98

Dated 26 April 1898

Received 29

Registered 29

Enclosures 4

Spare copies

It was received in the house on the 7th

8/14/5/88

SUBJECT.

State of Season.

To the Board of Rev (sett.)

rs 4-5-98

The following falls have been registered at the 3rd April

Palur — .32 inches

Wandur — "

Arni — "

Kaluhathi — .03

Submitting to Government, with remarks, report from the collector of the district on the in his District

5/5/98

2A

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
B.P.	1084	of 14-2	98
To	100	15-1	200
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		99-1	100
		100-1	100

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

SEASON REPORT, SECTION II.—Statement showing the extent of cultivation in the several Taluks of the North Arcot District, during the month of February 1898.

[illegible]

Season Report, Sec. I.—Statement showing the quantity of rainfall at the several authorised rain-registering stations in the district of North Arcot, during the month of February 1898.

Taluka.	Rain-reporting Officer.	Geographical position of the stations in the district.	Stations at which tested rain-gauges are kept. (Bd's. Pro., dated 9-2-84, No. 452).	AGGREGATE RAINFALL.		GREATEST FALL.		REMARKS.
				No. of wet days. (not counting those on which there was a fall of less than 1/16th of an inch.)	Quantity in inches. (up to two places of decimals.)	Date.	Quantity in inches (up to two places of decimals.)	
Kalahastiz.	Dy. Tah.	North.	1 Kalahasti ...	...	...	...	...	...
Chendragiri	Do. ...		2 Tirupati ...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tah. ...		3 Chendragiri ...	1	.22	11	.22	...
Karvetna-garam z.	Dy. Tah.	East.	4 Puttar (Narayana- vanam.) ...	...	...	...	...	...
	Do. ...		5 Tiruttani ...	...	...	...	...	...
	Do. ...		6 Arkonam ...	...	...	...	...	...
Walaja ...	Tah. ...	Central.	7 Walaja ...	...	...	...	...	...
Arcot ...	Do. ...		8 Arcot ...	...	...	...	...	...
Vellore ...	Do. ...		9 Vellore ...	...	...	...	...	...
Gudiyattam ...	Do. ...		10 Gudiyattam ...	1	.22	13	.22	...
Chittoor ...	Do. ...		11 Chittoor ...	1	.43	16	.43	...
Arcot ...	Sub-Begr.	South.	12 Thiruvathiyur.	...	...	...	...	...
Wandiwash ...	Tah. ...		13 Wandiwash ...	...	...	...	...	...
Arni z. ...	Dy. Tah.		14 Arni ...	...	...	...	...	...
Polur ...	Tah. ...		15 Polur ...	2	2.88	12	2.47	...
Kangundiz. ...	Dy. Tah.	West. (Above the ghauts.)	16 Kangundi ...	1	.80	12	.60	...
Palmaner ...	Do. ...		17 Venkatagirikota...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tah. ...		18 Palmaner ...	...	...	...	...	...
Punganuru z....	Dy. Tah.		19 Punganuru ...	...	...	...	...	...
Total...				6	4.68			
Average (with reference to No. of stations.)				.31	.24			

State of the season:—

River freshes:—Nil.

Supply received in tanks:—Generally insufficient for irrigation except in parts. Most of the tanks are dry.

Statement A. Comparative Statement of rainfall

Recording Station	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Total.
Polur 1890-91	.20	.25	4.85	2.85	2.10	3.80	7.60	4.15	.55	1.50	2.75	.40	31.00
1891-92	—	.90	4.45	.57	2.20	2.72	12.50	2.86	2.27	—	.85	—	29.32
1892-93	.38	2.10	3.24	7.95	8.55	11.24	3.97	.42	1.15	.10	.25	.50	39.85
1893-94	.74	1.64	3.90	5.64	3.38	3.95	7.25	10.27	—	.30	.95	—	38.02
1894-95	.42	1.69	1.00	1.1	7.13	12.28	5.06	2.75	19	—	—	—	31.62
1895-96	.50	1.31	—	4.94	6.93	12.92	13.69	2.01	4.68	.18	—	—	47.16
1896-97	—	2.57	.35	.94	1.62	16.56	1.94	5.40	5.60	—	.73	.09	35.80
1897-98	.18	3.56	1.03	1.27	7.03	7.31	3.40	2.84	.62	—	2.88	—	30.12
Wandiwash 1890-91	1.40	.50	4.67	7.40	5.87	1.93	4.79	2.68	.61	1.75	1.44	1.27	34.31
1891-92	.40	.31	3.39	.77	1.38	5.37	13.08	3.80	10.24	—	—	—	38.74
1892-93	.09	.59	4.07	16.43	14.77	13.37	9.00	.28	1.67	.30	—	1.60	62.17
1893-94	2.48	1.17	6.20	4.88	1.99	2.82	4.42	26.91	—	.37	.86	—	52.10
1894-95	2.12	.70	2.55	1.12	13.15	6.95	5.86	5.28	2.31	—	—	—	40.04
1895-96	4.75	1.99	.24	12.20	9.33	3.27	11.57	3.03	7.14	.53	—	—	54.05
1896-97	—	.31	.26	2.50	3.85	7.79	1.54	12.75	5.62	—	1.24	1.52	37.39
1897-98	.32	.15	1.31	1.45	6.00	7.66	2.01	2.77	1.46	—	—	—	23.13

(Sd) C. Ramaswamy
Deputy Col. Col.
M. K. K.

/ True Copy /

Statement B.

Statement showing the area cultivated in Plover + Wandering Tails from 1891-92 to 1897-98.

Official year	1st crop		2nd crop		1st crop		2nd crop	
	dry	Wet	dry	Wet	dry	Wet	dry	Wet
1891-92	59079	25322	16964	5258	66416	41268	19971	8768
1892-93	67929	28216	12404	9198	89402	45957	14630	20398
1893-94	71222	27924	18393	9509	91472	46229	24380	20536
1894-95	68539	27921	14553	6973	91859	43923	15806	10935
1895-96	70621	28543	14079	11748	93387	46690	22269	25954
1896-97	67653	28176	11230	10863	79349	46193	8597	19467
1897-98	68256	26430	12058	5672	77489	40721	6602	7905

Wet to Feb 1898.

/ True copy /

(St) Chamberlain

20/10/98 Mr. T. G. G. G.

Encl. 4. — 2398

Statement

[illegible]

In the case of Woundinean, the figures include in

Force Covey

Wm. L.

(Sd) C. Rainaschayza
by Colly

Wash CB Post-Collector

Statement of
Cawri Division

A

Wet Agent	}	1 Cultivated	Cawri
Cawri 12068-11-10		2 Waste	10271 - 10 - 12
			1797 - 0 - 14

Dry Agent	}	1 Cultivated	Cawri
Cawri 17803-4-9		2 Waste	15093 - 6 - 8
			2709 - 14 - 1

B

Paddy 1st Crop

1 Extent Cultivated	Cawri
	10271 - 10 - 12
2 Extent of waste	1797 - 0 - 14
(a) Full field waste	1797 - 0 - 14

(b) Part field waste	Nil
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3 Extent of Shari	568 - 8 - 15
-------------------	--------------

(a) Full field	568 - 8 - 15
----------------	--------------

(b) Partial Shari	Nil
-------------------	-----

4 Extent harvested

16 aunas	2775 - 2 - 0
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12 aunas	2905 - 3 - 4
----------	--------------

8 aunas	1923 - 0 - 0
---------	--------------

4 aunas	2099 - 12 - 9
---------	---------------

Paddy 2nd Crop

Extent Cultivated	207 - 11 - 11
-------------------	---------------

Extent of Shari	Nil
-----------------	-----

Extent harvested	207 - 11 - 11
------------------	---------------

16 Acreas
12 Acreas
8 Acreas 103-13-13
4 Acreas 51-14-14
2 Acreas 51-15--

C. Dry Crops. Extent Cultivated
under each main crops
for pulses and oil seeds
15093 - 6 - 8.

Extent waste. 2909-14-1

Extent harvested 15093 - 6 - 8

8 Acreas 10000 - - -

4 Acreas 3000 - - -

2 Acreas 2093 - 6 - 8.

D Wet Crops raised } Fashi 1306. 415 - - -
in dry land } Fashi 1307. 446 - 8 -

Dry Crops raised
on Wet lands.
Main crops Cultivated
- have watered

(Sd) C. Ramesh Chandra
Deputy C.R.

/Jone C. R. /

W. M. K.

Do Collection.

Copy of Special Season report Subm
by the Deputy Collector in general duties Ann
dated Polur, 25th March 1898 Dis no 993 of 98

I have the honour to Subm
Special Season report called for in your footnd
Ref no 88A Ver of 23rd Feb. 1898.
BVG

Rainfall. Enclosure A gives the State
ties of a monthly rainfall of the two Taluks of
Polur and Wandurash for a series of years
including the famine year of 1890. The total
rainfall during the current year in each of
the two Taluks was less than the past years. In
Polur, the quantity gauged up to date is
30.12 inches against 35.80 inches of last year
and 31.00 inches of the famine year 1890-91 and
36.96 inches, the average of the past six years.
In Wandurash the quantity registered in this
year is only 23.13 inches against 37.38 inches
of last year and 34.31 inches of the famine year
and against 47.41 inches, the average of the past
six

12 ins. It will be seen from the Statement annexed
 at the rainfall during the current year in
 Wandewash Taluk was less than half of the
 average. In Polur Taluk the fall was no doubt
 1/6th of the average; but the largest quantity
 was gauged only in the two months of August
 and September. The rains in the subsequent
 months were not plentiful and consequently
 the supply of water in the tanks was not suffi-
 ciently supplemented. This supplemental
 supply is indispensable in the case of most
 of the tanks especially the small ones, and defect
 in this respect tended to waste and shavie.
 Since October the fall gradually decreased and
 it was nil in the past 3 months in Wandewash
 and in January and March and the latter
 half of February in Polur. North East monsoon
 was almost a complete failure in Polur alone
 over 2 inches of rain fall, but it was too late
 to be any of any benefit to the dry crops or even
 wet crops. It brought in supply to few tanks and
 this to a very small extent and benefited the
 then standing crops of paddy on a small extent.
Water supply in the tanks. In Polur Taluk only

one tank has about 20 days' supply; the re-
 are all dry. In Wandewash Taluk, all the tanks
 have run dry, except one or two in Kadugai
 and Puvai first has 29 Puvai.

Cultivation

The annexed Statement B gives
 particulars of cultivation up to February 1898
 compared with the past 6 years. The holdings
 were wet and dry as compared with the
 cultivation up to last month is as follows—

Government

Holdings	1st crop				2nd crop	
	Dry	Wet	Dry	Wet	Dry	Wet
Polur	69,984	27,663	56,666	24,204	12,058	5,672
Wandewash	93,139	44,468	73,400	37,227	6,355	7,445

The cultivation in Wandewash and
 Polur Taluks was less than that of the past years
 though in Polur, the cultivation bears greater
 proportion. Though the latter rainfall was compa-
 -ratively scanty this year, yet the rainfall in the
 earlier months was rather good and tanks
 received sufficient supply for commencing
 dry crops

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Holdings

Cultivation

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 received sufficient supply for commencing
 dry crops.

dry and wet cultivation and a large tract
 as thus brought under wet and dry culti-
 vation. Unfortunately to the reports the rain
 fall in the succeeding months was scanty
 as already stated. Very little rain fell in
 November and December and none in the
 months of January, February and March,
 excepting that in Polur where there was a
 rainfall of 2.88 inches in the middle of January
 February. The failure of the monsoon told
 considerably both on the dry and wet crops.
 The late dry crop which had not the benefit of
 sufficient rainfall yielded less, but the earlier
 ones fared better; the wet crops also suffered
 to an ^{appreciable} extent on account of deficient supply
 in the irrigation sources. As per cultivation
 figures, it is seen that there are 13,318 acres
 of dry waste and 3459 acres of wet waste
 in Polur Taluk; and 19739 acres of dry waste
 and 7241 acres of wet waste in Wandewash
 Taluk. In the case of dry waste, it cannot
 accurately be stated what portion of the dry
 holdings has been waste, as cultivation of
 unoccupied lands is not distinguished from ^{that}

that of occupied lands (holdings). But in the
 case of wet lands, cultivation is almost
 restricted to holdings. Statement C gives the
 extent of cultivation, harvest, waste and Shavi
 in each of the two taluks. Polur figures represent
 Government, while Wandewash figures include
 Government and Inam. Of 3459 acres of waste
 in Polur Taluk, 2263 acres full field waste, 426
 acres are part field waste above one acre
 and the remainder is waste below one acre.
 Of the cultivated extents, 1760 acres are reported

Full field Shavi. 1186
 Part field Shavi } 310
 above one acre }
 Shavi below } 264
 one acre }

as Shavi as detailed in the margin. Of the
 2nd crop cultivation 282 acres are reported to
 have become Shavi. In Wandewash Taluk,
 out of 8128 acres of waste, 6294 ^{acres} are full field and
 the remaining acres are part field. Information
 as to above one acre and below one acre is
 not available for this taluk. Of the cultivated
 area 2441 are full field Shavi and 1209 acres
 part field Shavi. ~~Of the~~ and 201 acres represent
 2nd P. 1 Shavi. Of the wet cultivated the whole

by and wet cultivation and a large tract

as

was occupied by paddy alone. Dry crops
such as Varagu, Ragi, Cumbu, Cholum, ground-
nut &c. also occupy a portion and the extent
covered by such crops is given in the separate
statement C.

Harvest. In para 1 Supra, it has been
pointed out that there was ^{no} rain in the past
3 months, except for two days in Polvi taluk
in February and comparatively a small
quantity in November and December. The
result was that the whole of ^{the} late dry crops
and a great extent of the wet crops suffered
appreciably. The dry crops became ^{over} ~~very~~ small area, and even ~~over~~ the remainder,
the outturn was deficient. The average out-
turn of all kinds of dry crops put together in
both talukas did not exceed 8 ams. The earlier
crops of Cumbu and dholl fared better, but
the yield of fingerly was very poor. The later
ones such as ragi, Varagu, Cholum, horsegram,
ground nut, oil-seeds, did not thrive well
and suffered much. They yielded a outturn
ranging from 2 to 12 ams. The area under higher

rates were comparatively small and the
average under late crops did not exceed 6 ams.
Taking all crops earlier and later together the
average may be fixed at 8 ams as stated
above. The wet crops under small tanks suffer
more than those under large tanks. Some of the
latter held supply up to the time of maturity
of the crops under them and even contained supply
for a second paddy crop. But for the help
of wells the crops under most of the tanks would
not have matured and yielded the ^{same} ~~return~~ which
they have done. The yield varied from 2 to
12 ams. The average may be fixed at 8 ams.
The standing crops are paddy (earlier Samba
and late Kar), Castor, Ragi, Turmeric, fingerly,
sugarcane, tobacco, Sweet potatoes, brinjals
and chilies. Paddy, ragi and Castor occupy
the largest area. All the above crops excepting
Castor are under wells. Where wells have
fairly good springs, the crops under them are
thriving.

living well, but those in areas depending
 on in different wells are not faring so well.
 The harvest of Samba paddy and Sugar cane
 is going on, and their outturn is only about
 average. The harvest of Kari and Ragi will
 soon begin. The others are young crops except
 Pactor whose picking has been going on for
 some time and will soon close. The prospect
 of cultivation is not very hopeful and in
 case the season continues unaltered the cultivation
 for the next fasti will be dwindled to a very small
 extent and the agricultural operations would
 be considerably ~~be~~ behind hand.

The marginal figures represent
 the wells in Polur and Wandewash Taluks. Many
 of the wells do not contain good springs and in the
 case of continued absence of rain it is likely that
 the Springs will generally diminish and they will
 not therefore be capable of irrigating lands as
 in an ordinary year. The wells are generally small
 ones and none would irrigate more than a couple
 in a season of good rainfall. In the present state of
 the Springs, a small extent can be expected to
 be irrigated by them. Taking, however, roughly
 that each well could irrigate half an acre on
 an average, 5787 acres in Polur and 7141 acres
 in Wandewash may be cultivated even should there be no
 rain.

Wandewash. 9810

10945

Polur. 5105

6470

harvest against.

dry land

Condition of Cattle is generally good.
 No disease or heavy mortality is reported
 but in some villages of Kusli Firka of
 Wandewash Taluk, Rinderpest is said
 to prevail. Pasture is fast decreasing
 becoming scarce everywhere in both.
 Cattle are now being grazed on harvest
 fields and withered crops and the question
 of opening the reserved forests for grazing
 will have to be considered at no distant
 date. Even in jungles the pasture is
 stated to be not so good as in ordinary
 years. Though in reserves it will be
 greater yet owing to the growth of trees
 and thorny bushes, difficulties are stated
 to be met with in grazing. Fodder is
 for the present available, but is becoming
 dearer, as the harvest is coming to a
 close. The stock is being supplemented
 by the Ragi stock when the Ragi under
 wells is harvested will hold for 3 or 4 months
 to come. If in the meanwhile, the season
 does not turn favourable, difficulty will
 be felt in obtaining fodder for cattle.
 Drinking water is for the present sufficient.

of the...

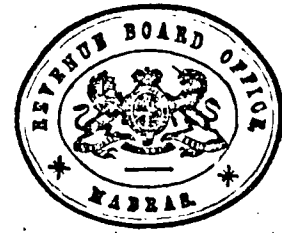
but several of the forest lands are
becoming dry and a continued absence of
rain for one or two months may call for
action in the direction of providing water
supply for the people and even for cattle.
Condition of people is generally good. Small-pox
in a mild form appears to prevail in
portions of both the Taluqs. There are no
epidemic or other diseases. The labouring
Classes will soon begin to meet with diffi-
culty in obtaining labour with the decrease
of agricultural operations. They however
now continue to find employment at the
small harvests still going on and in
Minor Irrigation works and in well
sinking which is being undertaken by
the ryots more largely though they are not
quite equal to the demand in the
labour market. The Minor Irrigation
works will be completed by the end of the
current month, but the harvest of standing
crops may continue for some time as the
Zagi and Kar under wells will become
fit for harvest soon. I do not think that
time has come for provision of work to
the

the cooly classes and perhaps they may
be able to pick up work without government
interference till the end of April; but from
May it would be necessary to provide
works at centres to employ them. As the
demand for labour will be on the increase
from that month forward, should there be
no rainfall, it is necessary to have a
sufficient number of works ready at
hand to supply the cooly classes with an
employment as necessity arises. The
Subsidiary of Patur names five tracts or
groups of villages which may demand our
earlier attention. They are given in the
annexed list marked D. The bulk of the
villages lie in the eastern portion of the
Taluq. A pretty large number of minor
works have been proposed in those tracts
and sanction to start works there as occasion
requires may be obtained. In Wandewash
Taluk, 3 firkas are stated to be much
affected viz Pernamattur, Desur and
Shellar. Pernamattur and Desur next
from the worst, then comes Desur Middle
and last and lastly Shellar. These firkas
from

of the Pote. Taluk especially of the Pote.

from the Southern and eastern portions
of the Wundewash Taluk. A list of minor
irrigation works available for relief
is enclosed as Statement E. The works
referred to are almost within the affected
regions and their completion may be
readily obtained. Besides these, labour
may also be provided by opening local
fund works and by the grant of State
loans for wells and other agricultural
improvements. The drinking water sources
in the affected parts may be attended
to advantageously and steps taken to
remove the prickly pear in and near
the village sites. Any outlay on the
improvement of drinking water sources
and improvement of village site (cartwork)
will be of a positive permanent benefit
to people, while the works will afford
suitable labour to the Cooly classes
in the localities concerned. As regards
State Loans, it would be difficult
to state with accuracy as to where need
arises and what amount would be required.
It is stated by the Tahildars of Wundewash
that

that the applications now pending for
loans may be taken as an index of
amount that would be required for grants
of loans. In Pothar Taluk only 13 cases
aggregating Rs. 1725 are pending while
in the Wundewash Taluk 156 cases of
Rs. 26833 are awaiting orders. The
number of applications received this
year in an ordinary season can be
taken as an index of the amount of demand for loans
in times of distress. At present the appli-
cations were few as the grant of loans
was stopped. But when the people hear
that State loans will be granted freely,
applications for them will multiply and
very large amounts will be required.
According to the rough estimate a sum
of Rs. 40,000 may be allotted to Wundewash
and Rs. 15,000 to Pothar for the present
but additional allotment will be
not long hence. At present a fair average
of the return of dry crop is 40% but the portion
of Jafhire lying in the eastern portion
of the Pothar Taluk especially on the right



Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

Dated 26th April 1898.

No. 159. Press

the following letter from the
Collector of North Arcot, Ref.
on Car. No. 88 B. & G. of 1898
dated 12th April 1898:—

With reference to
Board's Proceedings No. 1084
dated 14th February 1898,
I have the honour to report
as follows:—

2. Since the date of my
last report the state of affairs
has necessarily remained
practically unchanged. No
rain has fallen in the inter-
val with the exception of a
little (2.88 inches) in Polur
and a minute quantity in a

has to be treated like government
villages on that side. The prices of food
grains are no doubt high, from the pre-
sent situation. There seems to be no
improvement in the state of the season
during the current year in the district
of Jaghira also. The Deputy Subcollector
reports that grain is stored in villages
and by traders but the supply
stored is stated to be scarcely sufficient
till the next harvest. As a whole there is
not much difference between the Jaghira
and the government Taluqa of Orur and
Wandiwash. The coolie classes of the
Jaghira villages can find employment
in the works which will be started in the
government villages in the neighbourhood.

I have etc.

Yr. Obedt. Servant

Deputy Collector

(Encopy)

M. A. S. S.

A. S. Collector

Ed. S.

12th 98.

For record
in the
to be put in
two files
1-5-98

10. 1128
5-3-98

applied

a few other stations, which however fell at a time when it could not be of much use. The average rainfall in February and March for a series of years is almost nil. No valuable forecast can be made until after the time for the showers of April and May which time has not yet arrived.

3. The subcollector reports as regards his division that he has toured over the Vellore Taluk and especially visited the villages adjoining the Polur Taluk which are more affected than others, and has also visited Gudiyatham and Arcot. He is satisfied that there are as yet no signs of starvation or emaciation, and the children show no signs of insufficient nutrition. A failure of the south-west monsoon would, he says, be a serious matter, but

of course

of course we cannot now assume that there will be such failure. Even if showers of April and May should fail, there would be a lack of employment for the labouring classes who depend on these showers for the commencement of agricultural operations. As regards Para 2 of the Board's Proceedings under reply, he points out that though the supply of tanks has been exhausted, this fact alone would give a wrong impression as to the state of things, as the very large number of wells has saved the situation and enabled many thousands of acres of wet crops to be brought to maturity. From the reports of his Tahsildars I find that there has been no general failure of dry crops and

that

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^a
his that the harvesting of dry
it crops such as gingelly and
us Castor, and the harvesting
u of Raggi, Cholam &c under
a wells will give employment
up to the end of April.

4. The Head Assistant
Collector's letter report is
much to the same effect. The
following is his general sum-
mary of the situation "This
report is ^{based} almost entirely ~~based~~
on the reports of the various
subordinate officers. I have
myself during this month been
conducting the Jambudiy
of Gudigatham Taluk which
is outside of my division
and I have paid only a
hurried visit to Chandragiri
and Kalahasti. Taking a
general survey of the whole
division, I consider it un-
likely that we should find
any necessity for undertaking
relief operations provided
the south-west monsoon
is

is satisfactory and is
fairly early. The ~~fact~~ worst
feature of the situation is
that in spite of the harvest,
prices still run so high.
The fact is the ryots are with-
holding their supplies of
grain to a large extent be-
cause all anticipate a
coming bad season. I
feel a little anxiety about
Arkonam Taluk but more
especially about Kalahasti.
In this latter division the
crops have all been har-
vested and there are scarcely
any agricultural operations
owing to the encumbered con-
dition of the Zamindari, the
irrigation sources are in
a bad state of repair. There
are also very few wells, which
is due to the uncertainty of
the ryots tenure. It is true
however, that the outturn of
paddy

paddy was fair and no doubt the labouring classes have stored some of their wages in the shape of grain. The question is how long these supplies will last. I shall take the opportunity towards the end of the next month (April) of making a short tour of inspection in Kalahasti.

Some rain fall in April and May would be of great value."

The Head Quarter Deputy Collector also considers that there is no need for anxiety at least for two or three months to come.

5. As regards the General Deputy Collector's Division which is the worst part of the District, I enclose a copy of that officer's careful report with some of its enclosures. I have visited Polur and Wandewash Taluks and Anni Division, especially the

the neighbourhood of Sathupattu in Polur Taluk. I found that at present there is no cause for immediate anxiety. There is no emaciation though in the worst affected villages the people ^{while} they can hardly be said to be stinting themselves, are certainly not taking a full meal as usual. Everything depends in these taluks more than elsewhere, on there being showers in April and May. Even if there are no showers in April, good showers in May will give employment before there is any general distress. Even the Catholic Priest at Sathupattu, the Reverend Father Darios, who is not likely to take an unduly optimistic view of the situation and who lives in the midst of the worst affected part, considers that

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that labourers would hardly be willing to come forward get to work ~~and~~ even on ordinary Minor Irrigation Works, as owing to the want of rain the ground is very hard and the people are not yet so badly off as to accept such hard labour. Even if they did come to work, they would at once abandon the work for Agricultural operations at the first shower. The Reverend Mr. Scudder at Arni also informed me that plenty of employment is available till the end of April. In fact I may say that for the whole District employment is available at present as harvesting operations will continue for some time on the very large area of crops still standing under wells. As regards Wandewash and

and Polur the distress such as it is, is due to the very poor out-turn of crops combined with the very high prices. Less pay was available for Agricultural labourers and they are able to buy less food for their money. If rain falls in April and May the cultivation for early dry crops will commence and give employment and will also enable the poorer ryots to get credit.

6. There is a considerable extent of wet Shavi and waste in Polur, Wandewash Arcot and in the Arkonam Division of Wallajah Taluk. I will send complete figures for the whole District as soon as they are available. Careful enquiry has been made and remission is being granted where called for

for. In spite of the waste
and shavi I have found
in the Arkonam Division
of Madrajah where I have
been doing Jambandi that
there is a very large area
of crops cultivated under
Tiruvajasti and Tasalizasti
thanks to the numerous wells
both in wet and dry areas.

7. If the south-west
monsoon fails, of course
matters will be very serious.
But short of that, even if
the April and May showers
fail, I think we will be
able to find sufficient
employment for labour in
ordinary minor Irrigation
Works and in the Collection
of metal for ordinary local
fund road repairs. Esti-
mates for minor Irrigation
Works to the amount of Rs
45,408 have been submitted
to the Board for sanction
and

and sanction has been
received for Rs 40,678, of
which Rs 7,379 relate to
Wandewash and Rs 10,164
to Polur. Of the latter amount
works to the amount of
Rs 9,365 are available for
immediate execution in
Wandewash and for Rs
6412 in Polur. Estimates to
the amount of Rs 2,664 have
already been sent to the
Tahsildar of Polur with
instructions to begin the
works at once as they are
situated in the affected
parts. But for the reasons
given in Para 5, I doubt
if labourers will come
forward now. The bulk
of such works are in
practice usually carried
out after the North-East
monsoon. I am instructing
the Tahsildars to insist
on

on the contractors, employing local labour as far as possible.

8. In answer to a reference made by me, the Executive Engineer informs me that in the course of the next two months he is likely to have in hand works to the amount of about Rs 27,000 in Wandewash and Rs 26,000 in Polur of which amount about half relate to earth work suitable for unskilled labour.

9. I enclose for easy reference the cultivation and Prices statements up to February (sections 2 and 3 of the monthly season report.) Prices still remain fairly steady though they are still over the scarcity rate in Kalahasti as regards rice in and

in Palmaner, Chendragiri, Triupati, Chittoor, Polur, Arni, Wandewash, Nallajah, Arkonam, Tirutani and Kalahasti as regards rice, in Chittoor as regards Cholan, and in Chendragiri, Gudigatham, Arcot and Triupati as regards leambr.

10. I have not received information of any marked increase of grain thefts since the date of my last report. I have received Calendars relating to only 12 Cases of grain theft, all of a petty nature.

Resolution.

Submitted to Government with reference to Para 6 of Board's Proceedings 1084 dated 14th February 98 recorded in Government.

1128

5-2-98

order 1128 Revenue dated
5 March 1898.

2. The Ag Collector con-
siders that sufficient em-
ployment for the labouring
classes is available at
present throughout the
District as harvesting (and
the Board would ^{add} baling)
will continue for some time
on the large area of crops
still standing under wells.
In the 2 Southern taluks, —
Polar and Wandewash —
where the season has been
most unfavourable, there
are nearly 26,000 wells.
Should the approaching
South West Monsoon prove
favourable, it is believed
that the population can
hold out on its own re-
sources notwithstanding
that the prices of the staple
food grains remain at
scarcity rates. Should the
early showers fail, there
will ~~be~~ ^{be}

will be lack of agricultural
employment for the labouring
classes, especially in
the Polar and Wandewash
taluks and the Arni
and Kalahasti Divisions.
In the two Government taluks
work for considerable
numbers can be made
available in connection
with the repair of minor
Irrigation Works and the
ordinary local fund and
Public Works Department
works, and the Collector
appears to have taken
the necessary steps for
their being put in hand
as soon as the condition
of the people is found to
require it. The Collector
should also arrange for
the prompt grant of state
loans: these appear likely
to furnish employment
to

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the prompt grant of state
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to

to the needy

2. It is stated that there is a considerable extent of watered paddy and waste wet land in Polur, Wandewash, Arcot and Wallajah Taluks for which remission is being granted under the rules.

3. In a telegram dated 7th April 98 the Collector stated that no relief measures would be called for in April or May: that if any such measures should be found necessary thereafter it would be necessary to provide relief for only two months June and July and that ~~an amount~~^{about} Rs 20,000 might be provided therefor. The Board, however, is of opinion that if relief measures are necessary in

and the Board
had only for
two months more

in Rs 24⁵⁶
2-59⁴⁸

in June and July they will have to be continued for about three months more i.e. for the period during which the early crops are growing, and accordingly entered in its ~~file~~ Board's Proceedings No. 157 dated 21st April 1898: an estimate of about Rs 50,000 for the District for the current year under 33 famine Relief. From the Collector's present report, it would appear that he is at present of opinion that unless the South West Monsoon fails - in which case the situation must become critical - such labourers as cannot otherwise find work can be given in June or July sufficient employment on

on ordinary work, for
which there is a budget
provision.

(True copy and Extract)

R. V. Linniduria
Secretary.

To, The Secretary to Government

Revenue Department.

Collector of North Street.

The Enclosure
which was
sent with
the 13th inst.

NOTE FOR THE SECRETARY.

With reference to H.E.'s
remarks on (Nos. 3212 &
3173 that the papers
reached him only on the
13th although they passed
the Honourable members
on the 6th inst, it is sub-
mitted that both the
papers were circulated
in the same box and
that from the "list of
Circulation boxes to
sent out" it would
appear that the box
No. 23 containing
the papers was sent
out by the Circulation
on the morning of the 7th
inst. The delay ~~might~~ ^{should}
have occurred in the
Post House.

H.E.

14/5/98.

The above explanation
from the Circulation Clerk is
submitted with the Circulation
book, the Post House receipt
book as well as a
clip taken out from Box No.
23 ~~undermentioned~~

Copy to
the note

14/5/98

27/5/98

NOTE FOR THE SECRETARY.

2,000-5-3-98.

Garnes C No 3173 of 98.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1898.

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

Recd.

Regd.

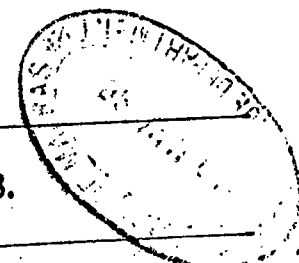
} 1898.

Enclosures

Spare copies

Printed April th.

Proceedings, No. 159, 26th April 1898.



20/5/98
APRIL.

State of season.—Submitting to Government, with remarks, report from the Collector of North Arcot on the — in his district.

20/5/98

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

READ—the following letter from J. K. BATTEN, Esq., Acting Collector and District Magistrate, North Arcot, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of Land Records and Agriculture, dated Chittoor, 12th April 1898, Ref. on Cur. No. 88 B. & G.-Ver.:—

With reference to B.P., Mis. No. 1084, dated 14th February 1898, I have the honour to report as follows.

2. Since the date of my last report the state of affairs has necessarily remained practically unchanged. No rain has fallen in the interval with the exception of a little (2.88 inches) in Polur and a minute quantity in a few other stations, which, however, fell at a time when it could not be of much use. The average rainfall in February and March for a series of years is almost *nil*. No valuable forecast can be made until after the time for the showers of April and May, which time has not yet arrived.

3. The Sub-Collector reports as regards his division that he has toured over the Vellore taluk and especially visited the villages adjoining the Polur taluk which are more affected than others, and has also visited Gudiyattam and Arcot. He is satisfied that there are as yet no signs of starvation or emaciation, and the children show no signs of insufficient nutrition. A failure of the south-west monsoon would, he says, be a serious matter, but of course we cannot now assume that there will be any such failure. Even if the showers of April and May should fail, there would be a lack of employment for the labouring classes who depend on these showers for the commencement of agricultural operations. As regards paragraph 2 of the Board's Proceedings under reply he points out that though the supply of tanks has been exhausted, this fact alone would give a wrong impression as to the state of things, as the very large number of wells has saved the situation and enabled many thousands of acres of wet crops to be brought to maturity. From the reports of his Tahsildars I find that there has been no general failure of dry crops, and that the harvesting of dry crops such as gingelly and castors, and the harvesting of ragi, cholam, &c., under wells will give employment up to the end of April.

4. The Head Assistant Collector's report is much to the same effect. The following is his general summary of the situation. "This report is based almost entirely on the reports of the various subordinate officers. I have myself during this month been conducting the jamabandi of Gudiyattam taluk which is outside of my division and I have paid only a hurried visit to Chendragiri and Kalahasti. Taking a general survey of the whole division, I consider it unlikely that we should find any necessity for undertaking relief operations provided the south-west monsoon is satisfactory and sets in fairly early. The worst feature of the situation is that in spite of the harvest, prices still rule so high. The fact is the ryots are withholding their supplies of grain to a large extent because all anticipate a coming bad season. I feel a little anxiety about Arkonam firka, but more especially about Kalahasti. In this latter division, the crops have all been harvested and there are scarcely any agricultural operations. Owing to the encumbered condition of the zemindari, the irrigation sources are in a bad state of repair. There are also very few wells, which is due to the uncertainty of the ryots' tenure. It is true, however, that the outturn of paddy was fair and no doubt the labouring classes have stored some of their wages in the shape of grain. The question is how long these supplies will last. I shall take the opportunity towards the end of the next month (April) of making a short tour of inspection in Kalahasti.

Some rainfall in April and May would be of great value.

The Head-quarter Deputy Collector also considers that there is no need for anxiety at least for two or three months to come.

5. As regards the General Deputy Collector's division which is the worst part of the district, I enclose a copy of that officer's careful report with some of its enclosures. I have myself visited Polur and Wandiwash taluks and Arni division, especially the neighbourhood of Sattupattu in Polur taluk. I found that at present there is no cause for immediate anxiety. There is no emaciation, though in the worst affected villages the people while they can hardly be said to be stinting themselves are certainly not taking a full meal as usual. Everything depends in these taluks, more than elsewhere, on there being showers in April and May. Even if there are no showers in April, good showers in May will give employment before there is any general distress. Even the Catholic priest at Sattupattu, the Revd. Father Darios, who is not likely to take an unduly optimistic view of the situation and who lives in the midst of the worst affected part, considers that labourers would hardly be willing to come forward yet to work even on ordinary minor irrigation works, as owing to the want of rain the ground is very hard and the people are not yet so badly off as to accept such hard labour. Even if they did come to work, they would at once abandon the work for agricultural operations at the first shower. The Revd. Mr. Scudder at Arni also informed me that plenty of employment is available till the end of April. In fact I may say that for the whole district employment is available at present, as harvesting operations will continue for sometime on the very large area of crops still standing under wells. As regards Wandiwash and Polur the distress such as it is, is due to the very poor outturn of crops combined with the very high prices. Less pay was available for agricultural labourers and they are able to buy less food for their money. If rain falls in April and May, the cultivation for early dry crops will commence and give employment, and will also enable the poorer ryots to get credit.

6. There is a considerable extent of wet shavi and waste in Polur, Wandiwash, Arcot and in the Arkonam division of Wallajah taluk. I will send complete figures for the whole district as soon as they are available. Careful azmoish has been made and remission is being granted where called for. In spite of the waste and shavi, I have found in the Arkonam division of Wallajah where I have been doing jamabandi that there is a very large area of crops cultivated under tirvajasti and fasaljasti, thanks to the numerous wells both in wet and dry areas.

7. If the south-west monsoon fails, of course matters will be very serious. But short of that, even if the April and May showers fail, I think we will be able to find sufficient employment for labour in ordinary minor irrigation works and in the collection of metal for ordinary local fund road repairs. Estimates for minor irrigation works to the amount of Rs. 45,408 have been submitted to the Board for sanction, and sanction has been received for Rs. 40,678, of which Rs. 7,379 relate to Wandiwash and Rs. 10,164 to Polur. Of the latter amount, works to the amount of Rs. 9,365 are available for immediate execution in Wandiwash and for Rs. 6,412 in Polur. Estimates to the amount of Rs. 2,664 have already been sent to the Tahsildar of Polur with instructions to begin the works at once as they are situated in the affected parts. But, for the reasons given in paragraph 5, I doubt if labourers will come forward now. The bulk of such works are in practice usually carried out after the north-east monsoon. I am instructing the Tahsildars to insist on the contractors employing local labour as far as possible.

8. In answer to a reference made by me, the Executive Engineer informs me that in the course of the next two months, he is likely to have in hand works to the amount of about Rs. 27,000 in Wandiwash and Rs. 28,000 in Polur, of which amount about half relate to earthwork suitable for unskilled labour.

9. I enclose, for easy reference, the cultivation and prices statements up to February (sections 2 and 3 of the monthly season report). Prices still remain fairly steady, though they are still over the scarcity rate in Kalahasti as regards rice, in Palmaner, Chendragiri, Tirupati, Chittoor, Polur, Arni, Wandiwash, Wallajah, Arkonam, Tirutani and Kalahasti as regards ragi, in Chittoor as regards cholam, and in Chendragiri, Gudiyattam, Arcot and Tirupati as regards cumbu.

10. I have not received information of any marked increase of grain since the date of my last report I have received calculations relating to only one of grain theft, all of a jolly nature.

Average price of staple food-grain in average

[illegible][illegible]

BOARD OF REVENUE (REV. SECT., L. RDS. AND AGRI.), No. 159, 26th April 1898. 5

BOARD OF REVENUE (REV. SECT., L. RDS. AND AGRI.), 1901.

South-west monsoon prove favourable, it is believed that the population can hold out on its own resources notwithstanding that the prices of the staple food-grains remain at scarcity rates. Should the early showers fail, there will be lack of agricultural employment for the labouring classes, especially in the Polur and Wandiwash taluks, and the Arni and Kālahasti divisions. In the two Government taluks work for considerable numbers can be made available in connection with the repair of minor irrigation works and the ordinary Local Fund and Public Works Department works, and the Collector appears to have taken the necessary steps for their being put in hand as soon as the condition of the people is found to require it. The Collector should also arrange for the prompt grant of State loans; these appear likely to furnish employment to the needy.

There is a considerable extent of withered paddy and waste land in the Arni and Wallajah taluks, for which remission is

3. It is stated that there is a considerable tract of
wet land in Polur, Wandiwash, Arcot and Wallajan taluqs,
being granted under the rules.

3. It is stated that there is a considerable tract of waste land in Polur, Wandiwash, Arcot and Wallajahpet being granted under the rules.

4. In a telegram dated 7th April 1893 the Collector stated that no relief measures would be called for in April or May; that if any such measures should be found necessary thereafter, it would be necessary to provide relief for only two months, June and July, and that about Rs. 20,000 might be provided therefor. The Board, however, was of opinion that if relief measures are necessary in June and July, they will have to be continued for about three months more, i.e., for the period during which the early crops are growing, and accordingly entered in its Proceedings. No. 151, dated 21st April 1893, an estimate of about Rs. 50,000 for the district for the current year under 33 Famine Relief. From the Collector's present report it would appear that he is at present of opinion that unless the south-west monsoon fails,—in which case the situation must become critical,—such labourers as cannot otherwise find work, can be given in June or July sufficient employment on ordinary works for which there is a budget provision.

(True Copy and Extract.)

P. P. Minerva

(True Copy and Extract.)

R. C. Inimawani
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with seven enclosures, in original, to be returned.
Collector of North Arcot.

(M.O. copy already sent)

Exd. C. M. Thambuswami.

N.B.—

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O., No. DATED

as to O. No.

OF GOVERNMENT A A A A A A A

OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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N.B.—
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