

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 429

Press
Mis.

500.501

Dated

27. 2. 1865.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
27th February 1865.*

No. 500. Read the following Despatch from the Right Honorable Sir C. WOOD, Bart., Secretary of State for India (Revenue), to His Excellency the Honorable the Governor in Council, Fort Saint George, dated India Office, London, 24th October 1864, No. 51:—

SIR,

1. I have considered in Council the Proceedings of your Excellency in Council on the Report of Dr. Shortt on certain savage tribes on the coast of Coromandel known by the name of Yenadees, Iroolers, Villees, and Donekers, which were transmitted in your letter numbered 5 Miscellaneous, and dated the 10th of June last.

2. This report gives an interesting account of these wild people, and I am glad to find that you obtained Dr. Shortt's consent to the publication of his remarks. It seems to be Dr. Shortt's opinion, founded on experience, that many, if not all, of these people might be trained to useful occupations, such as fishing and agriculture and forest employment. It is desirable that Government should wherever possible assist in the attempt to civilize these wild tribes, and I shall be ready to sanction any reasonable measures which you may deem likely to be effectual for that purpose.

No. 501.

ORDER THEREON, 27th February 1865, No. 429.

Miscellaneous.

1. Communicated to the Board of Revenue and the Public Department, with reference to the Proceedings of Government in this Department, 17th May 1864, No. 836.

2. Adverting to paragraph 2 of the Despatch, it is observed that the subject of the civilization of the Yenadis has long engaged the attention of Government and of its officers. The various measures which have, from time to time, been adopted in furtherance of that object are noticed below.

3. The tribe live in the Streeharicottah jungles, gain their subsistence by collecting for Government the wild products of those jungles, for which they are paid in grain, &c. The remuneration thus given them amounted in 1842-43 to 22½ per cent. on the value of the products collected, which being considered too low, it was in 1844 increased to 35 per cent. As a

further step for ameliorating the condition of this tribe, the Board thought of granting land to them upon easy terms in order to train them to habits of industry and agriculture; but the men, the Collector reported, were averse to any such stationary pursuits. To wean them from their wandering unsettled mode of life, the Board proposed that heads of families should be encouraged to locate themselves permanently in fixed places of abode, and be allowed land adjacent thereto.

G. O. 18th July 1845, No. 853.

G. O. 14th November 1845, No. 1,328, paragraph 5.

The Government consented to this being done. At the same time the remuneration to these people was raised to 50 per cent.; and shortly after, under the orders of the Court of Directors, to two-thirds of the value of their collections.

G. O. 15th May 1857, No. 626, Public Department.

4. In April 1857, the Board reported that the attempts to induce the Yenadis to adopt agricultural pursuits had all failed, and that the Collector had not even been able to persuade them to rear cattle. It was also reported that the men had been paid partly in money and partly in kind; and that as the result of this measure, they had evinced a desire to share in the comforts enjoyed by their neighbours, inasmuch as some had undertaken the preparation of charcoal for the canal works, and others the felling of timber.

G. O. 21st September 1861, No. 1,847.

5. In 1861, the Government ordered, on the Board's recommendation, that they should be paid entirely in money. They were also allowed the full value of the products brought. Subsequently the Collector, after visiting the locality, represented that to pay these people in

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
27th February 1865.*

money would not benefit them, as they would have to buy grain at high retail prices, and he also feared that many of them would indulge in drink and luxuries. Permission was therefore granted for reverting to the system of payments in grain.

6. A school has also been established at Streeharicottah for the children of the Yenadis, at which both industrial and literary instruction, suited to the capacity of the boys, is imparted. As to the suggestion made* by Dr. Shortt that the boys might be taught matmaking, carpentering, gardening and tailoring, the Inspector of Schools, Mr. Fowler, in his recent report upon the Institution, it is observed, shews that this could not be done with advantage.

7. The Government now resolve, with reference to paragraph 2 of the Secretary of State's present Despatch, to refer the subject to the Board of Revenue. They will be good enough to place themselves in communication with the Collector, Dr. Shortt, the Director of Public Instruction, and Conservator of Forests, and suggest what further measures can best be adopted in furtherance of the object in view.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue,
„ the Public Department,
„ the Educational Department,
„ the Conservator of Forests.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Abstract of correspondence respecting the Yenadies.

1 The yenadies are a wild tribe residing in the streeharicottah jungles in the Madras district, and employ themselves almost exclusively in collecting the products of those jungles which they deliver to the officers of Government, receiving from them remuneration for the same in kind.

2 The remuneration thus given them in the shape of grain, tobacco, and clothes, amounted in July 1252 to 22 1/2 per cent on the value of the products procured by them. This rate being considered too low,

the Government in April 1844 increased it, on the recommendation of the Board of Revenue, to

*Chapproot }
Soorol }
Cheeku }
Honey }
Wax }
Lumarind }*

to 35 per cent. At the same time, they expressed their readiness to give consideration to any further measures, which the Board might, in communication with the Collector, see fit to suggest for ameliorating the condition of this tribe.

3. In reference to this order, it occurred to the Board that land might be granted to them upon easy terms, in order to train them to habits of industry and agriculture; but the Collector reported that they were averse to any such stationary pursuits. The Board then proposed, on that officer's recommendation, that a higher rate of remuneration should be allowed them for their jungle collections than that (35 per cent) authorized in 1844; and to wean them from their wandering unsettled mode of life, it was further proposed that heads of families should be

be encouraged to locate themselves permanently in fixed places of abode, and be allowed land adjacent thereto, the assessment on which to be deducted from the value of their jungle collections.

G. O. 18th July 1845
No 853. Rev^d Dep^t

The Government consented to a trial of these measures, and increased the remuneration to these people to the extent of 50 per cent of the value of their collections.

To England 2nd
Nov^r 1844, No 148 para
13 Revenue Dep^t
From B^r 30th July 1845
No 17 para 9 & 10 in G. O.
14th Nov^r 1845 No 1328
para. 5. Rev^d Dep^t

The order of 12th April 1844 as above quoted having meanwhile been reported to the Court of Directors, that authority expressed their opinion that the Yeradis should be allowed two thirds at least of the value of the articles brought in by them, to be expended in affording them better means of subsistence, and a more frequent supply of clothing, in providing them proper implements for cutting firewood,

and in short, in any manner which might appear to the local authorities likely to promote their comfort, and to lead to their eventual civilization. The Board were accordingly authorized to give effect to this Despatch.

Nothing further was done in the matter until February 1855, when observing that the rate at which these people had been remunerated in Farsly, $\frac{1263}{1853/54}$ fell considerably below the maximum fixed by the Court of Directors, and all attempts to induce them to adopt agricultural pursuits having failed, the Board suggested that they might be engaged in rearing cattle or sheep, and be paid partly in money.

To this the Collector replied that he had not been able to persuade them to attempt to rear cattle, an occupation to which they were wholly unaccustomed, but

the other arrangement, viz of paying them partly in kind and partly in money was adopted.

As the result of this measure, the Collector in October 1856 reported that the yenadis evinced a desire to share in the comforts enjoyed by their neighbours, inasmuch as some had undertaken the preparation of charcoal for the Canal works, and others the felling of timber.

To promote this change still further, he proposed to establish a school for the education of the young. This measure was entirely approved by the Board, and the Government, after communication with

the Director of Public Instruction, sanctioned the entertainment of a schoolmaster

at Rs. 10 per month and the disbursement of a sum not exceeding Rs. 100 for completing the school house which had been partly erected by private funds, and for providing the requisite furniture; the Books Stationery &c. being supplied by the Director of Public Instruction. An allowance of grain was also sanctioned for the maintenance of the pupils at the rate of 2 Mircals a year for each

^h Raised in 1862 to Rs. 12 per mensem and a second teacher appointed on 5 or 6 Rs. a month. 60 16th Decr 1861 to 83 Educational Report

each. It was afterwards ordered that in ² Q. 1st Nov. 1857
view of this annual allowance of grain ^{1st 1864 Rev. Sept.}
a daily grant of half a measure should
be made to each pupil at an annual cost
of Rs. 3/15.

9. In 1860, ^{18th Aug. 1860. P. D.} desired the Board to con- sider whether the interference exercised by the Collector on behalf of these people might not with advantage cease, and they be left to traffic with private traders in the ordinary manner. The Sub Collector, after visiting the locality, thought that this suggestion could not be acted on without detriment to the people. In modification however of the system pursued, he suggested that payment should be made to them for a year in money instead of kind, and if this experiment succeeded, he would let them enjoy for a certain time the whole of the jungle produce to be disposed of by them on their own account without Govt. aid. He would also allow them the privilege which was confined to the woodcutters, of selling for the contractors who rented the jungles; this he thought would both add to their means of livelihood, and afford them an opportunity of

² Q. 21st Sept. 1861
1st 1864 Rev. A.

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of buying with other classes. The Collector and the Board supported only the proposition for payment being made in money instead of kind, and the Government acceded to this change, and also allowed the full value of the products brought. 10. Subsequently the Coll^r after visiting the place, and which he had not before done, represented that to pay these people in money would not benefit them, as they would have to buy grain at retail prices, while Govt. purchased it for them at wholesale prices, and when it was cheapest. He also feared that many of them would spend in drink and luxuries what was intended for the support of themselves and their families, and that much misery might in consequence ensue. The Bdth therefore supported that officers ^{request} for permission to revert to the system of paying the genadis in grain, which was accordingly granted.

²² Q. 1st Feb. 1862
1st 192. Rev. Sept.

11. No further correspondence seems to have taken place on the subject. ²² Q. 17th May 1864
1st 836 Rev. Sept. until May 1864 when Mr. Shortt's report was received.

12. In August following the
Director of Public Instruction submitted <sup>to GO. No 256-
Sep 14/64. Edu. Dep.</sup>
a report from Mr. Fowler on the Yendi
school. Referring to Dr. Shortt's sugges-
tion, as to the boys being taught mat-
-making, carpentering, gardening and
tailoring. Mr. Fowler showed in para-
graph of his report that this could not be done with
advantage. His remarks were
as follow: "Tailoring hardly seems a
suitable business for members of a
tribe that wears next to no clothing, and
probably never saw a needle; or carpen-
-tering for savages who delight in wander-
-ing and scorn even a hut: gardening
again would not be a very promising em-
-ployment where the soil is all sand, and
the whole of the cultivated portion of the
island a small patch of paddy. Mat-
-making ^{he continued} might perhaps be introduced,
provided the materials for it are avail-
-able (as I suppose they would be) and
a man could be found to teach it."
which last he thought was not an easy
matter. Mr. Fowler therefore considered
it preferable that the boys should
attain

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attain to greater proficiency in basket-
-making before anything further was at-
-tempted. In regard to the school ex-
-als. Mr. Fowler disagreed with Dr. Shortt,
and both he and the Collector Mr. Dykes
(who also visited the Institution) thought
that quite as much ^{of} instruction was
attempted as was desirable.

13. The Govt. Concurred generally
^{to GO. No 256 Edu. Dep. with Mr. Fowler and remarked that}
the industrial instruction should for
the present be confined to basketmaking,
and the literary instruction to Reading
Writing and Arithmetic and the
Elements of Geography.

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 27th February 1865.

Read the following letter
from the Right Honorable the
Secretary of State for India.

Stating that the Home
Gov^t will be ready to sanction
any reasonable measures for
training the savage tribes on the
Coromandel Coast to any useful
occupations—

(Here enter 24th Oct^r 1864)
No. 51.

1. Communicated to the
Board of Revenue and
the Public Department
with reference to the
Proceedings of Government
in this Department
17th May 1864 No. 836.
2. Adverting to para
2 of the Despatch, it is
observed that the
subject of the civilization
of

of the general has long engaged the attention of Government and of its Officers. The various measures which have from time to time been adopted in furtherance of that object are noticed below.

3. This ~~mild~~ ^{live} tribe ~~live~~ in the Streeharicottah jungle gain their ^{subsistence} ~~living~~ by collecting for Government the mild products of those jungles for which they are paid in grain &c.

The remuneration thus given them, amounted in 1842/43 to $22\frac{1}{8}$ per cent on the ~~value~~ ^{value}.

G. O. 12 April 1844, No 355.

value of these ^{products} collection, which being considered too low, it was in 1844 increased to 35 per cent. As a further step for ameliorating the condition of this tribe, the Board thought of granting land to them upon easy terms in order to train them to habits of industry and agriculture; but the men, the collectors reported, were averse to any such stationary pursuits. To wean them from their wandering unsettled mode of life, the Board proposed that heads of families should be encouraged to

to locate themselves permanently in fixed places of abode, and be allowed land adjacent thereto.

The Government consented to this being done. At the same time the remuneration to these people was raised to 50 per cent; and shortly after, under the orders of the Board of Directors, to two-thirds, of the value of their collections.

4. In April 1857, the Board reported that the attempts to induce the Yonadis to adopt agricultural pursuits had all failed, and that the collection had not even been able to persuade them to rear cattle. It

G. O. 18th July 1845
No 853.

G. O. 14th Nov " "
No 1328 para 5.

G. O. 15th May 1857
No 626 Pub. Dept.

G. O. 21st Sept. 1861
No 1847.

was also reported that the men had been paid partly in money and partly in kind; and that as the result of this measure, they had evinced a desire to share in the comforts enjoyed by their neighbours, inasmuch as some had undertaken the preparation of charcoal for the canal works, and others the felling of timber.

5 In 1861, the Government ordered, on the Board's recommendation, that they should be paid entirely in money. They were also allowed the full value of the products brought. Subsequently, by the collector, after visiting

visiting the locality, represented that to pay these people in money would not benefit them, as they would have to buy grain at high retail prices; and he also feared that many of them would indulge in drink and luxuries.

Permission was therefore granted for reverting to the system of payments in grain.

b. A school has also been established at Strichari: cottah for the children of the yemadis, at which both industrial and literary instruction, suited to the capacity of the boys, is imparted. As to the suggestion made by

G. O. 4th Feb^y 1862
No 192

G. O. 17th May 1861.
No 2336. Rev. Dep^y

G. O. 14th Sept^r 1864
No 256. Educational
Department.

but the boys might be taught mat-making, carpentering, gardening, and tailoring, the Inspector of Schools Mr. Fowler in his recent report upon the Institution, it is observed, shews that this could not be done with advantage.

7. The Government now resolve, with reference to para 2 of the Secretary of State's present Despatch, to refer the subject to the Board of Revenue. They will be good enough to place themselves in communication with the collector, Dr. Shortt, the Director of Public Instruction, and Commissioner of Forests, and suggest what further measures can best be

adopted

adopted in furtherance
of the object in view.



- 4 Board of Revenue. Des 28 Feb
- 5 Public Department ✓
- 5 Educational Dept ✓
- 4 Conservator of Forests ✓

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Revenue 1865 Despatch
Pro: of Govt. for Feb.

N. 429.

Pro: of the Madras Govt.
Df 27. Feb. /65.

Pro: of the Board of Rev. 27/24
October /66 C. A. 3845.

Communicating to
Board of Revenue the
Despatch from Home
Government regarding
Yenadie's Sea of Tree.
Lancottah.

N. 570 & 501