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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Public DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1670	Press.
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CURRENT No 2566

[18th November 1881, No. 2804.]

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 18th November 1881.
No. 2804.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department, dated 5th October 1881, No. 1350.

Read—the following papers:—

Extract from the Review of the Madras Famine, 1876—1878.

In conclusion, His Grace the Governor in Council desires to place on record his high estimation of the services of the officers of all branches of the administration during the late famine. The great burden of the task of confronting it, with all its concurrent liability, fell naturally on the executive officers of the Revenue, Public Works, and Medical Departments, and His Grace in Council hereby tenders to all the officers of those departments who took any part in the famine operations his hearty thanks for the zeal and devotion they exhibited in the discharge of their onerous and often painful duties. As officers of those departments whose services were specially valuable, and to whom the Madras Government is under the deepest obligations, His Grace in Council selects the following:—

In the Revenue Department.	In the Public Works Department.	In the Medical Department.
Mr. A. Wedderburn. The Hon. D. Arbuthnott. Mr. G. Thornhill, c.s.i. " R. K. Puckle. " J. H. Master. " R. Davidson, c.s.i. " C. T. Longley. " W. S. Whiteside. " R. W. Barlow. " W. MacQuhae. " J. Grose. " J. F. Price. " H. J. Stokes. " C. S. Crole. " C. W. W. Martin. " G. McWatters. " H. F. Clogstoun. " E. Turner. " E. Gibson. " C. F. MacCartie. " R. S. Benson. " H. T. Ross.	Lieut.-Col. H. L. Prendergast, R.E. Lieut.-Col. J. O. Hasted, R.E. Major K. A. Jopp, R.E. (Bombay). Major J. Pennyquick, R.E. Mr. J. O'Shaughnessy. Major S. C. Clarke, R.E. Captain Awdry, R.E. Mr. W. B. Christie (P.W.D., Bengal). Mr. J. F. Maxwell (P.W.D., Bengal). Lieutenant Baddeley, R.E. " deVillamil, R.E. " Henderson, R.E. " S. C. Plummer. Mr. G. W. Allen (P.W.D., Bengal). Mr. J. D. Davies (P.W.D., N. W. P.). Mr. A. S. Russell. " G. A. G. Shawe (P.W.D., Bengal). Mr. J. Traill.	Surgeon-General G. Smith. Surgeon-Major W. R. Cornish, C.I.E. " C. Robertson. " A. M. Ross. " D. R. Thompson, C.I.E. Surgeon J. F. Fitzpatrick. " J. Backhouse. " C. MacNally. " A. N. Rogers Harrison. " L. Beech. " J. Lancaster. " W. G. King. " W. O'Hara. " J. Sturmer. " B. H. Williams.

There were also several officers of other departments, such as the Revenue Settlement and Survey, who were employed on active famine relief duties, owing to

their own departmental duties being at a standstill, who have deserved equally well of the Government, and to whom His Grace desires to extend the same expression of high approval. These are—

Revenue Settlement.

Mr. J. H. M. Cox.
„ G. P. Clerk.

Revenue Survey.

Major C. D. Baynes.
„ C. A. Liardet.
Mr. J. H. Cook.

Nor does His Grace in Council overlook the excellent services of the Police Force throughout the Presidency and particularly in the Town of Madras itself. Onerous and harassing as their duties are at all times they were rendered doubly so by the nature of the additional ones thrown upon them by the circumstances of the famine which were cheerfully and efficiently discharged. As deserving special commendation His Grace in Council selects the following officers:—

Colonel Drever, C.S.I., Officiating Inspector-General of Police.
Major Balmer.

„ Hicks.
Captain D. Heming.

„ Wilton.

„ Harris.

„ R. Wilson, Madras Army, } In charge of Relief Camps under the Inspec-
„ Scott, Her Majesty's 48th foot, } tor-General at Madras.

To the District Judges and their subordinate judicial officers and to those independent gentlemen throughout the famine districts and in Madras who devoted their leisure time and energies to the distribution of the Mansion House and other privately subscribed funds, the Government desire to tender their best thanks for the valuable services rendered at a period when, but for such aid, the splendid generosity of England and her colonies might have failed to reach those for whom it was intended, or have reached them when it was too late.

Mr. A. Weekes, B.C.S.
„ W. A. Howe, B.C.S.
„ W. B. Oldham, B.C.S.
„ H. M. Kisch, B.C.S.
„ A. W. Mackie, B.C.S.
„ E. J. Kitts, B.C.S.
„ H. Gillon, B.C.S.
„ F. H. B. Skrine, B.C.S.
„ H. Shaw, Deputy Collector, N. W. P.
„ H. L. F. Tonnere, Bengal Police.
„ Innes, Opium Department, Bengal.
„ Graham, Bengal Police.

The warmest thanks of the Madras Government are also due to those Civil Officers from other provinces whose services were placed at the disposal of the Madras Government from time to time for famine relief duty. Pre-eminent among these are the gentlemen noted in the margin, who, arriving at an early period of the famine, rendered admirable service during a period, in some instances, of more than eighteen months.

To the Consulting Engineer for Railways and his staff and to the administrative

Colonel Shaw-Stewart, R.E.
Major C. J. Smith, R.E.
„ Coaker, R.E.
Mr. R. B. Elwin, late Agent for the Madras Railway Company.
Mr. H. E. Church, Traffic Manager for the Madras Railway Company.
Mr. F. H. Trevithick, Locomotive Superintendent for the Madras Railway Company.
Mr. W. S. Betts, Agent, South Indian Railway Company.
Mr. F. Stanton, Traffic Manager, South Indian Railway Company.

the cause of humanity during the time that the famine was at its worst. Chief among these are those benevolent ladies of Madras who organised *crèches* throughout the city where crowds of starving children were daily fed and rescued from death; and the gentlemen noted below.

Mr. J. Macartney, Agent to the Rajah of Sandur.

The Rev. J. Thomas, St. Thomas' Mount.

„ Rev. A. Margoschis, Tinnevely.

Dr. Chester, Dindigul.

M.R.Ry. P. Ramasami Mudaliar of Madras.

M.R.Ry. A. Kumarasami Mudali, } of Bellary, who opened a native orphanage.

M.R.Ry. A. Sabapathi Mudali, }

Sanjiva Reddi of Johavapuram, }

Timma Reddi of Guntakal, }

Subba Reddi of Jutur, }

Kesava Reddi of Kallumadi, }

Yenni Sinappa, } of Hospet,

Yenni Kistnappa, }

in the Bellary District, who relieved the poor of their own villages at their own expense.

Lastly, the Governor in Council desires to pay his sorrowing tribute to the memory of those Government officers and volunteers who lost their lives in the discharge of their famine relief duties. These were—

Mr. E. L. Bamfield, Punjab Police.

„ G. P. Rae, Bengal Police.

„ E. de Groussilliers, Executive Engineer, 2nd Grade.

„ C. V. S. Cotton, Assistant Engineer, 2nd Grade.

„ J. Caldwell, Supervisor, 1st Grade.

Serjeant D. Haining, Overseer, 1st Grade.

Mr. W. A. Conroy, Sub-Engineer, 3rd Grade.

„ W. H. Stokoe, Supervisor, 2nd Grade.

Muzaffar Hussain, 3rd Class Hospital Assistant.

Volunteers.

Mr. Ernest Mason.

„ W. Coombes.

„ W. Chapman.

Messrs. Bamfield, Rae, and Cotton were all young officers of great promise, and His Grace in Council trusts it may be some consolation to their relatives to know that the manner in which they discharged their duties to the last was fully appreciated by the Madras Government.

From Lieutenant-Colonel T. E. TENNANT, Inspector-General of Jails, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Ootacamund, 22nd September 1881, No. 181 [Current No. 1996].

In the Review of the Madras Famine, 1876—1878, His Grace the Governor in

Received in September 1881.

Council has been pleased to place on record his high estimation of the services of the officers employed on relief duties during the late famine. In this report every branch of the administration that took any part in the famine operations is mentioned with the exception of the Jail Department, although Government in reviewing the Jail

G.O., 12th September 1878, No. 1865.

Administration Report for 1877 were graciously pleased to acknowledge the zeal and vigilance shown by the department during this unprecedentedly trying time.

2. Believing the omission to be an oversight, I venture to bring to the notice of Government the excellent and praiseworthy manner in which the officers of the Prison Department conducted their onerous duties, as I consider myself justified in believing that the success which attended the efforts to preserve life and to maintain discipline is due to the continued vigilance and discretion exercised by the staffs of the various prisons.

3. Without any desire to exaggerate the difficulties attendant upon the management and control of so large and sudden an increase to the numbers in confinement, I must record in justice to the Superintendents of Jails and to the establishments as a whole, that they went cheerfully through much anxiety and hard work in preserving discipline and in securing proper sanitation amongst the crowds of wretched creatures

passed into the jails. The ordinary gradual influx and release of prisoners causes little disturbance in the economy of a jail, but when it happens that gangs of half-famished people crowd into jail and thousands of men and women are sent to prison after passing through every stage of privation and degradation, utterly broken in health and callous of preserving even the common decency and propriety of life, the task of preserving discipline, order, and cleanliness becomes one of great difficulty.

4. Upwards of 200,000 persons passed through the jails during the famine						period; I scarcely need state that every
1877	85,044	jail was more or less crowded. The excess				
1878	69,772	numbers were accommodated in large				
1879	48,749	temporary jails in which the sanitary				
Total .. 203,565		arrangements were as perfect as circum-				
		stances would admit. In fact they were				
		model relief camps in which the inmates				

were perhaps better cared for than the crowds of wretched creatures who did not seek these harbours of refuge. There was no slight difficulty in making arrangements for feeding and clothing the enormous numbers who crowded into these jails. Nevertheless the food-supply never failed, and in one instance only did the Superintendent seek for the assistance of Government.

5. Early in the month of September 1876 the late Mr. Robert Ellis wrote as follows: "There is every probability of your jails in Kurnool, Cuddapah, and Bellary, and later in Nellore and North Arcot, becoming exceedingly overcrowded; no time should be lost in preparing for this emergency, and you have before you a time of trouble and crime due to want and distress." I at once visited the districts and made timely arrangements to meet the emergency, for example in the jail at Bellary, which has ordinary accommodation for 415 prisoners, the population rose to 3,000 prisoners, and the numbers in other jails rose in the same proportion. Temporary accommodation was prepared and contracts made for the supply of grain, so that when the railways became blocked with the enormous supplies of grain the jails had already obtained large stores before the intense famine pressure came. There was a very heavy mortality, specially from cholera and from diseases caused by inanition, but terrible as the mortality was, compared with the death-rate of the free population, it was not excessive nor as high as might have been expected, considering the ill-nourished and emaciated condition of the generality of the prisoners admitted. The tremendous strain of extra work thus thrown on the prison establishment was cheerfully borne. Virulent cholera broke out in several of the prisons, and the mortality was appalling. Nevertheless discipline was effectively maintained and the prison rules observed.

6. In conclusion, I believe that in no department of the State was there greater zeal and assiduity shown amongst the officers or a more satisfactory response to the demand for their continual vigilance and discretion than in the Prison Department. I beg permission to bring the services of the following officers prominently to the notice of Government:—

Major W. S. McLeod, Superintendent of the Central Jail, Vellore.
 Mr. H. R. Grimes, Superintendent of the Central and District Jails, Coimbatore.
 Surgeon-Major G. S. W. Ogg, in Medical charge of ditto.
 Surgeon-Major Æ. M. Ross, Superintendent, District Jail, Nellore.
 Surgeon-Major C. Robertson, Superintendent, District Jail, Cuddalore (has received the thanks of His Grace the Governor in the Medical Department).
 Lieutenant-Colonel R. A. Watters, Superintendent of the Central and District Jails, Trichinopoly (left the department).
 Surgeon L. Beech, Superintendent, District Jail, Bellary (has received the thanks of His Grace the Governor in the Medical Department).

Amongst the subordinate officers deserving of special mention are—

W. H. Bradbury, Jailer, District Jail, Bellary.
 J. Bullock, Jailer, Central and District Jails, Coimbatore.
 W. North, Jailer, Central Jail, Salem.
 C. Singaravelu, Hospital Assistant, Nellore (dead).

Order thereon, 5th October 1881, No. 1350, Public.

Communicated to all the Departments concerned in view to the thanks of Government being accepted by them and conveyed to those named.

2. The attention of the Governor in Council has been drawn to the fact that in the Review from which the foregoing extract is taken, the thanks of Government were accorded to Colonel Drever, C.S.I., as Acting Inspector-General of Police, he having been in charge of the department only from March 1878, to the date of his relief by Colonel Hearn, C.I.E., in November 1879.

3. Colonel Drever's excellent service was connected chiefly with the Town of Madras, where he held the appointment of Commissioner of Police.

4. The Government consider it due to Colonel Hearn, the Inspector-General of Police, to place on record the fact that he was in personal charge of the department from the commencement of the famine in 1876 until March 1878, when he returned to England in impaired health. The excessive strain on the department consequent upon the prevalence of violent crime and the necessity for raising extra forces and undertaking unusual duties was met by his very efficient arrangements, and the acknowledgments of Government are due to him for his able administration and untiring exertions during this prolonged period. When he took leave, the extreme pressure upon the Head of the Police Department was passing away, the famine being almost at an end.

5. The thanks of Government are also due to Lieutenant-Colonel Tennant, the Inspector-General of Jails, and to the following officers and subordinates who served under him during the famine for their exertions and excellent management:—

Major W. S. McLeod, Superintendent of the Central Jail, Vellore.
 Mr. H. R. Grimes, Superintendent of the Central and District Jails, Coimbatore.
 Surgeon-Major G. S. W. Ogg, in Medical charge of ditto.
 Surgeon-Major Æ. M. Ross, Superintendent, District Jail, Nellore.
 Surgeon-Major C. Robertson, Superintendent, District Jail, Cuddalore.
 Lieutenant-Colonel R. A. Watters, Superintendent of the Central and District Jails, Trichinopoly.
 Surgeon L. Beech, Superintendent, District Jail, Bellary.
 Mr. W. H. Bradbury, Jailer, District Jail, Bellary.
 Mr. J. Bullock, Jailer, Central and District Jails, Coimbatore.
 Mr. W. North, Jailer, Central Jail, Salem.
 C. Singaravelu, Hospital Assistant, Nellore.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. DAVIDSON,
 Chief Secretary.

To the Revenue Department,	} and for communication to the officers concerned.
„ Public Works Department,	
„ Board of Revenue,	
„ Collector of Bellary.	
„ do. Chingleput,	
„ do. Tinnevely,	
„ do. Madras,	
„ Inspector-General of Police,	
„ do. Jails,	
„ Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.	

M.R.Ry. P. Ramasami Mudaliar, Madras.

Resolution—

COMMUNICATED to the Member in charge of Settlement, the Superintendent of Survey, and to the following officers who served under the Board :—

Mr. W. S. Whiteside, Chittoor.	Mr. G. McWatters, Calicut.
„ R. W. Barlow, Madras.	„ H. F. Clogstoun, Madras.
„ J. Grose, Nellore.	„ E. Gibson, Madras.
„ J. F. Price, Saidápet.	„ C. F. MacCartie, Chicacole, and
„ H. J. Stokes, Madura.	„ R. S. Benson, Ootacamund, also to
„ C. W. W. Martin, Madura.	„ J. O'Shaughnessy, Ootacamund.

2. The Board request that Government will be pleased to communicate the order to retired officers and those on furlough.

(True Extracts.)

[Signature]
Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Member, Board of Revenue, in charge of the Settlement Department.

„ the Superintendent of Revenue Survey.
 „ W. S. Whiteside, Esq., M. C. S., Chittoor.
 „ R. W. Barlow, Esq., M. C. S., Madras.
 „ J. Grose, Esq., M. C. S., Nellore.
 „ J. F. Price, Esq., M. C. S., Saidápet.
 „ H. J. Stokes, Esq., M. C. S., Madura.
 „ C. W. W. Martin, Esq., M. C. S., Madura.
 „ G. McWatters, Esq., M. C. S., Calicut.
 „ H. F. Clogstoun, Esq., M. C. S., Madras.
 „ E. Gibson, Esq., M. C. S., Madras.
 „ C. F. MacCartie, Esq., M. C. S., Chicacole.
 „ R. S. Benson, Esq., M. C. S., Ootacamund.
 „ J. O'Shaughnessy, Esq., Ootacamund.
 „ Chief Secretary to Government, Public Department. *[Signature]*

Exd J. Tulloch.

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Public (1881) 10/11/81
 Board of Revenue,
 MADRAS.

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To
 THE MEMBER, BOARD OF
 REVENUE, IN CHARGE OF
 SETTLEMENT DEPT.

(3)
 &c., &c., &c.
 P. O.
 1881

CURRENT No. 2566
 Printed November 25th

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PROCEEDINGS, 18TH NOV. 1881, No. 2804.

Dec 30/11/81

COMMUNICATING to the Survey and Settlement Departments and to the officers concerned Government Order tendering thanks to them for their services during the late famine in Madras Presidency.

9th Dec 1881, No 1670

Recorded.

Copies have already been sent to retired officers except Mr. MacQuhrie, who was overlooked - Copy will now be despatched to him, and the following gentlemen to whom the Board have not commd the A.O.

- Mr. C. S. Cole, on furlough in England
- Mr. E. Turner, Judge, Madras - Despt 9/12
- Mr. H. T. Ross on furlough in England

To & Despt 13/12
 The Board of Revenue
 Despt 9/12

With order.