

- (1) Number of pages 28
(2) Date of repair 21-8-1969
(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1983	Press
B.P. No.		Mis
Dated	9.12.1876	196

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 219. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 6th December 1876, No. 2,694 :—

Read the following letter from R. W. BARLOW, Esq., Collector of the Chingleput District, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sydapet, 1st December 1876, No. 674 :—

In continuation of my No. 649, dated the 17th ultimo, and with reference to paragraph 3 of the Board's Proceedings of the 9th idem, No. 2,788, I have the honor to forward, for the information of the Board, copy of a further report* received

* No. 801, dated 24th November 1876. from the Acting Sub-Collector regarding the state of the sub-division, and beg to solicit sanction for an immediate grant of Rupees 5,000 for the Madurantacum Taluq. It will be observed from paragraph 3 that as anticipated a further grant will shortly be necessary for the Conjeeveram Taluq.

2. I approve generally of the Sub-Collector's proposals, but have informed him that a portion of the grant for the Chingleput Taluq should be spent in deepening pools so as to improve the village water-supply and to distribute local relief more widely, the remainder being expended in converting *part* of the road from Goodnowanjeri to Triporan into a good gravelled line, at a cost of Rupees 500 a mile.

3. The Board will regret to note that the Sub-Collector has found it necessary to open relief-houses at Conjeeveram and Chingleput. I have directed him to see that only those unable to work and really in need are fed. I may add, with reference to urgent demi-official correspondence, that I have authorized the Sub-Collector to open a relief-house at Madurantacum in anticipation of sanction, should he find it necessary to do so to ward off starvation from the decrepit and young who cannot work.

4. I enclose, for the perusal of the Board, a note (to be returned) received from the Revd. W. Schaffter describing the state of a part of the Conjeeveram Taluq. Similar accounts were received from the Right Revd. Dr. Tennally, through the Honorable R. S. Ellis, which were at once transmitted, in original, to the Sub-Collector with instructions.

Enclosure No. 1.

From S. T. McADAM, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector, to R. W. BARLOW, Esq., Collector of the Chingleput District, dated Oavery, 24th November 1876, No. 511.

With reference to your letter, No. 2,028, dated 14th instant, I beg to report on the arrangements which I have made for starting relief works in the Conjeeveram Taluq. I have decided to apportion the sum of Rupees 5,000 allowed for this taluq as follows :—

- (1.) Rupees 2,000 for formation of a road from Markaveri's Choultry to Madurantacum, six miles in length. (This is the amount recently sanctioned by the Public Works Department).
- (2.) Rupees 1,500 for repairing the road from Conjeeveram to Sevalmedu.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department
26th December 1878

I just mention this one fact which has come under my own observation to show the state of distress that is in these parts. What I have stated of the misery in these parts I have on good authority. I am not pleading for the Christians only, but for all the poor who are in the neighbourhood. At Navelur Kuppam the people have not grain enough for sowing purposes and barely enough for their cattle. They have to go about with empty bellies. At a certain place I went to Church and reported the matter to the Sub-Commissioner, who he went away from home in distress and I had the opportunity of seeing him. I would suggest that at Navelur Kuppam a list should be kept of once by the Government and once by the people who cannot leave home on account of their families, as are too weak to go to any distance to earn something for their livelihood. There are villages in that place which have a certain number of acres. These are maintained to have a well dug and also a system so that the people and the cattle may have water to drink. The same kind of village wells with a regularly dug well, as in Madurai, but also in Valluvar and other adjoining villages.

Though the able-bodied men and women not considered with large families are able to go to Madras and other places to earn a livelihood, yet it is impossible for all in the village to do so, and those who are left behind are in great misery and a state of starvation. I have no heart to see this, and this is a great crying sin of the authorities of the place, that is help is not sent to these poor people, many of whom are with small families, so that perhaps some of them will be able to go to some place where they can earn a little, but I shall be happy to do all I can to help the poor people in this manner, but the pressing nature of the case would not permit me to do so.

I have my reading you against this matter, but the pressing nature of the case would not permit me to do so.

From Madras to Government.

The grant of Rs. 1000 applied for for the Madurankulam Taluk is sanctioned and the Government are approved.

Mr. Barlow will deliver a copy of the Report Mr. Schaffner's kind observations on the improvement of the work. Village improvement works should be carried out immediately and the larger projects.

(True Copy and Extract)

Signed: H. B. STOKES,
 Acting Secretary.

Madras, 26th December 1878, No. 1,382.

Madurankulam Taluk.

The Government approve the Board's Proceedings.

(True Copy and Extract)
 Signed: D. N. GARNETT,
 Secretary to Government.

From Madras to Government.
 The Government are approved.
 The Government are approved.

Minute Book.

Proceedings of the Board of Trustees

Dated 6 December 1876

Read the following:

No. 676.

Mr.

N. W. Barlow Esq.
Collector of Washington District

Dr.

A. E. Miller Esq.
Ag. Secretary to the
Board of Trustees
Madison

Sir,

In continuation of my No. 649, dated
the 17th ultimo, and with reference to
3 of the Board's Proceedings of the 7th March
No. 2488, I have also herewith forwarded
for the information of the Board, copy of
a further report received from the
Ag. Secy to collect regarding the state
of the Lib. Shewing, and beg to
submit same for an immediate
grant of \$5000 for the maintenance

Dec 19/76
Dec 18/76

Salug. It will be observed from para-
graph 1, as anticipated, a further grant
will probably be necessary for the con-
tinuance of the

2. It appears generally if the
last collection proposals, but have
informed him that a portion of the
grant for the Chingleput Salug
should be spent in deepening pools,
so as to improve the village water supply
and to distribute local relief more
widely, the remainder being to be expended
on carrying part of the sand from
Gudamangur to the point into which
it is carried by a boat of Masoomb
The Board will require to be
satisfied that the Board has given it

it necessary to open relief houses at
Gudamangur and Chingleput. I have
directed him to see that only those
unable to work and really in need are
fed. I may add, with reference to
urgent, direct official correspondence
that I have authorized the Subcollector
to open a relief house at Gudamangur
in anticipation of sanction, should
he find it necessary to do so & ward
off starvation from the dead and
young, who cannot work.

4. I enclose for the perusal of the
Joint Board, a note received from the
Rev. W. Schaffter, describing the
state of a part of the Congress
Salug. Similar accounts are

received from the Right Hon^{ble} Council
through the Hon^{ble} R. S. P. M., which
was at once transmitted, in original,
to the Sub Collector, with instructions

Chungappa R. P. M. }
Officer, Bangalore }
18th May 1894 }
Shanar }
(Sd) R. S. P. M. }
Collector }

Rs. 500.

From
The Asst. Collector of
Chungappa Dist.

The Collector of
Chungappa Dist.

With reference to your letter No.

109, dated 15th Instant. They propose
for the commutation which Shanar
make for plating relief works, in the
Chungappa Taluk. I have decided
to appropriate the sum of Rs. 5000 allotted
for this Taluk as follows:

(1) Rs 2000 for formation of a road
from Shankara's Choultry to Kadu-
rangaluru 3 miles in length.
(This is the amount recently estimated by
the S.P.M.).

(2) Rs 1250 for repairing the road from
Goggera to Savelimadu.

(3) Rs 1900 for deepening drinking ponds
at the undermentioned villages. The
amount allotted to each village follows:

Kannangaluru	100.	Kundappa Shankara's	100.
Shankara's tank	100.	Tank at Dama	100.
Tank at Andimavali	150.	Tank at Kuttanipuduru	100.
Tank at Poduru	150.	Tank near Goggera	100.
Tank at Paravathi	200.	Tank at Kuttanipuduru	100.
Tank at Kuttanipuduru	200.	Paravathi	100.
Tank at Kuttanipuduru	100.	Tank at Kadavallu	100.
Kundappa's tank	100.	Kuttanipuduru	100.
Tank at Savelimadu	100.	Kuttanipuduru	100.
Total 1900			

The road from Shankara's Choultry
will be a useful one and owing to
the nature of the country, it is feared
that no compensation will be received.

will cost little. It is open by the village
of Sankar & Kammara police station, pro-
pose afterwards to continue the road
westward to Parandur, a distance of
5 miles. There is a very good road
already in existence between Padavelli
great Taluk Railway Station) and
Parandur, so that when the roads
now proposed are completed, there
will be the most convenient communication
between Padavelli & Chankannur
thrusting altogether some 16 miles. I
have not yet commenced this
work, but intend proceeding there
in a day or two to get it in hand.
Arrangements have, however, been
made for completion of the other
works, namely, the paving of Chank

and repair of the road from Chankannur
to Palas, near Seelamedu, which is
very much out of repair and requires
to be punctured here & there. In the
repair of this road, I have allotted
a sum of Rs. 1250 namely, at the
rate of 500 a mile. This being near
the town of Chankannur, will be
under the immediate superintendence
of the Dy. Tahsildar. I have deemed
it necessary to depute a special
officer, one of the Revenue Inspectors
to go about & superintend the repairs
of funds at the different villages
and to confine himself solely
to this work, as otherwise, I fear

probably increased & there would be
the money given would be no check
on the expenditure.

2. I have also opened a relief house
at Chingnam for the distribution of
food daily to poor persons incapac-
itated by age or infirmity from
working. I have particularly cautioned
the Sahibdar to use great discri-
mination about the objects of this
relief and to find out who are at
all able to work. I cannot as yet
form any idea as to what the
actual expenditure will be, as the
relief house has only been started
during the past few days; but in
a large town like Chingnam, it
can scarcely be better than in 2000.

3. You will observe therefore that
as anticipated by you, Rs 5000
will be insufficient for this relief.
It will be necessary by-and-by no
doubt, though not just yet, to in-
crease it to Rs 10,000 in order to keep up
the relief house and to provide for further
relief work.

I regret to say that distress is
beginning to be felt daily more &
more. The monsoon still holds off
the crops are all withering and
unless matters mend, a general
failure of crops is anticipated.
There was some rain some time
yesterday ago, which held off and
on for two or three days, and then
was not good for the monsoon.

had taken at least. However, there
has been no real price, and
agricultural prospects are more
improving than ever. I have gone
about a good deal through the
villages, since I came to this
part of the Valley, and the con-
clusion, which I have formed, is
that there is considerable suffering
abundant amongst the poorer
classes. The crops are withering
in many places and the condition
of the people is very bad. The
hope of a good harvest are
practically getting fainter, and
even with the general famine, of
a few villages.

I have heard the same
accounts from all directions. I have
been informed that in some places, the
very poor people are reduced to
such straits, that they have subsisted
partially on prickly pear fruit, grass
grain (civon &c) and such herbs as
"Kamualagui" "Parattakani" &c.
Numbers of people have had died
in the village. The Sahibdar of
Madanabacuri was with me this
morning & stated that the condition
of the people in certain parts of his
Valley was as bad as anywhere
else. He urged the necessity of
opening relief works as soon as possible.

5. I propose to build the bulk of
the sum of Rs 5000 to be granted for relief
works in Chingleput taluq, in the
formation of a road between Gudur
varjore & Tripuram. This is the only
useful work of any importance that
I can think of. It would form a
line of great general utility and open out
communication through a large
portion of the Taluq, passing through
a great several important villages
such as Nagarambodu, Kaloor,
Koyat, Venkadesu &c. The entire length
of this road would be about 15 miles.
The Talukdar proposes to make
only a cart track at a cost of
Rs 500 a mile (a liberal allowance

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for a more cart track). I think, however,
we might do more than this and
at an expenditure of Rs 500 a mile
construct a tolerably good gravelled
road. It is true that the sum
at present allotted (after reserving
a portion for a whif house at Chingle-
put which I am about to open)
would suffice for the construction
of only about 9 miles of the road,
but looking to the present prospects
of the Taluq, it is pretty certain
that I shall have to apply for more
leg and exp, and it could not
I think, be spent on a more
useful work. I am of opinion
that it is better, and more

Satisfactory. I spend money on
a large work of the kind than
better it away in repairing a
number of little ponds. One
great advantage is, that better
improvements can be exercised over
such a work than over a multitude
of petty works. There are, of course,
certain disadvantages; but, I think,
on the whole, the general results
are likely to be more satisfactory
than, if you think otherwise.
I can spend a part of the money
in repairing ponds. The Subbhadra
has sent me a list of 12 ponds
of 1000 square which, by

ask for allotments aggregating
over Rs 1000. I intend in any case
to open a relief house immediately, &
request therefore that you will be
good enough to have the amount
already sanctioned placed at my
disposal.

6. I think it necessary to con-
-vince some relief works in the
Madurantacim Taluq also. The
chief work, also which I would
propose to undertake there, would
be the formation of a road from
Madurantacim to the river (distance
of 15 miles) and this would
cost about Rs 1000.

from Goodenough to Pimpri
 I intend also to open a relief house
 at Madanantacum, or Karangoshi
 as the Subahdar informs me that
 the necessity for this is beginning
 to be felt. I request therefore that
 you will be good enough to supply for
 an immediate grant of at least
 Rs. 5000 for Madanantacum
 and also inform me whether
 you share my opinion as to the
 selection of sites in that and
 Chingliput Taluk.

Yours faithfully
 J. S. McFarlane
 Agent Collector.

(For copy)
 (10) J. S. McFarlane
 Offg. Deputy Dy. Collector
 in Charge

St. Thomas Mount
 November 24th 1876

My dear Mr. Pimpri

is the most of Poorvullee near
 Chindulam, and starvation has
 reached such a height that if something
 is not soon done to help the poor of that
 place, several will soon die of starvation.

At a place called Chindulam Pimpri
 not far from Chindulam, there are several
 wretched poor people who are so near
 want of food that they faint away after
 the least exertion. A woman with two
 children from that village came four days
 ago to me, asking for food, she was
 on her way to Madras to her husband
 who had gone there in search of work,
 leaving his wife and two young children
 at Chindulam Pimpri. I gave the poor woman
 & her children some food and sent her
 on her way. Yesterday she returned
 saying that her husband was doing too
 much work, but what he earned was barely
 sufficient for himself, so sometimes he
 got food employment. The poor woman
 looked pale & faint, & so also her
 children about 12 years old.

said her to sit down, she would
have fallen from sheer exhaustion - I gave
her & her children some food yesterday
evening, & thought of sending her home this
morning to her village, but she is in such
a weak state, that I fear she would
not reach her village - I just mentioned
this one fact, which has come under my
own observation, to show the state of distress
that is in those parts - What I have stated
of the misery in those parts, I have on
good authority - I am not pleading
for the Christians only, but for all the
poor who abound in that neighbourhood.
At Shikhar Pophan the people have
not got a drop of water fit for drinking
purposes, & hard enough for their cattle.
They have to go about one mile to obtain
water. About a fortnight ago, I went to
Chungpet to represent the matter to the
Collector, but he was away from home on
business, & I had no opportunity of seeing
him. I would suggest that at Shikhar
Pophan relief works should be begun
at once in the village itself, so as to enable
the people who cannot leave home on account
of their family or are too weak to go to any

any distance to earn something for their
livelihood. There is no well in that place,
could a certain amount, say Rs. 300 be
sanctioned to have a well dug and also
a cistern, so that the people & the cattle
may have water to drink. The same
kind of village relief works is absolutely
needed not only in Shikhar but also in
Valluvaram & other adjoining villages.

Though the able bodied men and
women not encumbered with large families
are able to go to several other places to
gain a livelihood, yet it is impossible for
all in the village to leave, & those who are
left behind are in great misery & state
of starvation. I have in hesitation in
saying & that on good ground, supported
by the authority of others, that if help is
not soon sent to those parts, many human
beings will die of starvation in that neigh-
bourhood.

I repeat what I have stated
in a previous letter to you, that I shall
be happy to do all I can to help you
in carrying out any measures for the
relief of the poor, without restriction of
caste, race, or sex.

Pondicherry

Pardon my troubling you again
about this matter, but the pressing nature
of the case forbids my keeping silent.

Believe me

Yours sincerely

Wm. W. Schaffner

Submitted Memorandum.

The grant of Rs 5000 applied for for the
Madras Museum is sanctioned
and the Collector's proposals approved.

Mr. Bartlett with doubtless will
himself of Mr. K. S. S. Schaffner's kind
offer to assist in the supervision of
the work. Village improvement
work should be started simulta-
neously with the large projects.

(Enclosed)

to Mr. S.

by Mr. S.

The Secretary to Government
Madras District.

1908

1908

