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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1148A.	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	19.3.1877	197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Famine Relief.

No. 616A. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 10th March 1877, No. 1,131:—

Read the following letter from R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Acting Collector of Kurnool, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 20th January 1877, No. 59.

I HAVE the honor to forward, for the information of the Board of Revenue and of Government, two copies of the rules framed by me in consultation with the Relief Officers in the district regarding the general management of relief works.

2. The rules were framed before the receipt of Board's Proceedings, No. 1, dated 2nd January 1877, but a supplement has since been added, making such corrections as were found necessary to make the rules conform to the Board's instructions.

3. The only material difference between the two sets of rules is in regard to the manner of indenting for tools; and I have thought it advisable to allow my rule to stand, as the indents for the tools wanted have already been sent, and it is only in emergent cases we shall want more, in which case it is best, I think, that the Sectional Officer should apply to the Superintendent of Public Works Stores direct, informing the Board of the same through me.

THE Board have deferred orders on the foregoing paper pending orders of Government on the rules proposed. These have been issued, and instructions as to task-work propounded in G.O., dated 5th February 1877, No. 520-A, and Board's Proceedings, 21st February 1877, No. 756, which will of course be observed by the Collectors.

2. Mr. Davidson's rules are judicious and require little change, and their good effect is already apparent in the district. Alterations should, however, be made as regards the rates and mode of payment of wages, and as regards the extent of fines with reference to the recent orders.

3. Gratuitous relief by tickets is well planned. The Collector will bear in mind the instructions of Government as to the formation of regular camps.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary.

No. 616B. ORDER THEREON, 19th March 1877, No. 1,148A.

Miscellaneous.

RECORDED.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. H. GARSTIN,
Additional Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue,
the Financial Department.

Exd. A. F. Goodall.

11480

IN paragraph 2 of the prefatory instructions issued with the Rules* for the guidance of all Officers in charge of Famine Relief Operations in the Kurnool District, the Acting Collector gave prominent notice to the fact that "while those who by reason of youth, age, or infirmity are unable to work, will be fed at the cost of the State, those who are able to labor will be entitled to maintenance *only on condition that they deliver day by day a fair out turn of work*"

Again in his Circular, dated 19th instant, he had occasion to observe that at this early stage of distress nearly a third of the entire population of the District were deriving state-aid while it is quite certain that so great a proportion is not reduced to absolute want and impressed upon the officers concerned with the relief operations the necessity there is for weeding out those who are not really in needy circumstances and so protect the State from unnecessary or premature expense.

With a view to still further impressing the importance of the subject on all who are concerned with Famine Relief Operations in the District, the Acting Collector communicates to them copies of the Gazette of India Extraordinary, dated the 16th instant, wherein the general views of the Government of India bearing on this matter are set forth, and invites their very earnest attention to the principles therein enunciated. He will only farther add that the Government of Madras in G. O. dated the 17th instant, No. 164, have enjoined that "the grain and money wages given must be strictly confined within the limits of the rates laid down by Government, and every exertion made to prevent other than the absolutely destitute from coming to the works."

Acting Collector.

His Excellency the Governor General in Council having been pleased to depute you on a special mission for the purpose of inspecting the districts suffering from scarcity in the Presidencies of Madras and Bombay, and conferring personally with the Governments of those Presidencies regarding the measures which are being carried out, and which will have to be carried out, for the relief of distress, I am directed to communicate to you the following observations, indicating the general views of the Government of India on some of the more important questions with which you will have to deal.

2. I am to observe in the first place, that while it is the desire of the Government of India that every effort should be made, so far as the resources of the State admit, for the prevention of deaths from famine, it is essential in the present state of the finances that the most severe economy should be practised. The distress is so wide-spread, extending over twenty-one districts in the two Presidencies, and more or less affecting a population of twenty-seven millions, and threatens to be protracted for so many months, that the utmost care is necessary to restrict the expenditure to

tly lead to the imposition of heavy and permanent burdens on the industry of the country. Even for an object of such paramount importance as the preservation of life, it is obvious that there are limits which are imposed upon us by the facts with which we have to deal. If the estimates of the Local Governments are to be accepted, the relief of the existing scarcity in the Madras and Bombay Presidencies, including loss of revenue, will not cost less than six and a half millions sterling. Considering that the revenues are barely sufficient to meet the ordinary expenditure of the empire, and that heavy additional taxation is both financially and politically impracticable, we must plainly admit that the task of saving life, irrespective of the cost, is one which it is beyond our power to undertake. The simple fact is this, that the recurrence of a few famines such as that from which the country is now suffering, or such as that which occurred three years ago in Behar, would, if measures of relief were carried on upon that principle, go far to render the future Government of India impossible. The embarrassment of debt, and the weight of taxation, consequent on the expenditure thereby involved, would soon become more fatal to the country than famine itself. Happily, however, the Government are not placed in any such dilemma. They believe that from the history of past famines, rules of action may be learnt which will enable them in the future to provide efficient assistance for the suffering people without incurring disastrous expenditure.

3. One of the first points which should engage your attention is the extent to which relief is given, and the principles on which it is afforded.

Madras—	
On relief works	1,125,117
Fed gratuitously	119,363
Bombay—	
On relief works	1,244,450
	287,000
	1,531,450

The numbers on the relief works are so great, that the Government of India see reason to apprehend that many persons must be employed to whom such relief is not absolutely essential, and who without it would have been able to maintain themselves, at all events for some time to come. The Governor General in Council does not for a moment doubt the reality of the calamity that has fallen upon the country, a calamity which unhappily threatens to become ere long still more disastrous. But it is necessary to remember that the mere collection of enormous numbers of people on relief works in seasons of scarcity is in itself no sufficient proof of serious actual suffering. If relief works are carried on upon wrong principles; if labour is not strictly exacted from all who are physically

able to work; if proper supervision is wanting, and people find that they can obtain, almost for the asking, and in return for next to no work at all, wages in money or in grain, there is hardly any limit to the numbers who even in prosperous times may be attracted to them. "When," as Sir George Campbell has observed, "a lax system is established, and everyone down to the merest child gets paid for the merest pretence of work, with probably a good many abuses besides, the thing becomes too attractive, the whole country tends to come on the works, the numbers threaten to be absolutely overwhelming. The people, too, become demoralized; works where real work is exacted, are deserted, and many evils follow." A good illustration of this may be found in the official narrative of the scarcity of 1873-74 in the North-Western Provinces. "In a season of considerable pressure, but not of absolute famine, the relief works in Gorakhpur and Basti were for some weeks daily thronged by more than 200,000 men, women, and children who found an attraction in the light work, in the liberty of going at night to their houses after attending a sort of vast picnic during the day, and in the wages earned at a time when ordinarily they had no employment in the fields, and had to live on their harvest savings. But when the wages were cut down to a mere subsistence allowance, when a full day's labour was insisted on, and when the liberty of living at their homes was threatened, these immense crowds melted away as rapidly as they had collected, and it was found that there was hardly any one who really stood in need of relief." The Governor General in Council does not assert that a similar condition of things now exists in any of the districts of Madras or Bombay, but the matter is one which requires the most careful observation.

4. The general principles on which operations for the relief of famine in India should be conducted, have been established beyond question by past experience. When, as may easily happen, at the commencement of a period of distress, it is a matter of doubt whether serious scarcity is actually threatening a tract of country, it may be desirable, in the first instance, to open, as a tentative measure, small and well supervised local works. The Government may thus avoid the risk of finding itself committed to serious expenditure on large public works which there was no immediate necessity for undertaking. It was for reasons of this kind that the Government of India, at the commencement of the present scarcity, and while still in doubt regarding the extent to which relief operations might ultimately become necessary, thought it right, both in the Madras and Bombay Presidencies, to encourage, in the first instance, the organization

of works of a local character in preference to those of greater magnitude. But when it becomes no longer a matter of doubt that serious scarcity is impending, and that relief will have to be provided upon an extensive scale, the great difficulty of insuring adequate supervision for numerous scattered works renders it necessary to resort to large works on which large gangs of labourers can be employed, and on which adequate labour tests can be exacted. As soon, therefore, as it is clear that the Government will have to undertake serious measures for the relief of scarcity, no time should be lost in giving to the people, to the greatest extent practicable, the means of employment on large public works. Such works supply the means of subsistence to the able-bodied poor; they prevent, instead of merely relieving, distress.

5. In choosing such works it is obviously of great importance that those selected shall be of a permanently useful and remunerative character; for it is in the last degree unsatisfactory that when the necessity for employing great multitudes of people is forced upon the Government, their labour, which might have been devoted to works which would have conferred lasting benefit on the country, should be thrown away. The works should also be such as are calculated to absorb in comparison with their entire cost a sufficient proportion of labour during the anticipated period of famine. They need not always be in the distressed districts, or near the homes of the people who require relief. When railways or other thoroughly good means of communication are available, it may sometimes be easier and wiser to carry the people to the works and to their food, than to carry the food to the people. Temporary migration from their homes has always, in times of scarcity, been the natural and one of the best remedies to which the people have had recourse, and the organization of public works in places where food is plentiful, and to which access is not difficult from the distressed districts, may in some cases be more useful than works at places where the supply of food is already insufficient. No apprehension need be felt that the people will not return to their homes when the period of distress has passed away. It will be for you to consider how far these principles are being acted on, and if necessary to recommend to the Local Governments the discontinuance of any works, or system of works, which, in your opinion, cannot be usefully proceeded with.

6. When, by undertaking large public works, employment has been provided for the able-bodied poor, it may still be necessary, even before the pressure of famine has become extreme, to afford means of support to persons who are physically unable to give a full amount of labour

in return for the wages they receive. These must either be employed in poor-houses or on roads and other easy work, every effort being made to prevent relief being given to any one who does not really require it. It has often been found a most useful test of actual distress to insist, when charitable relief is necessary, that it shall ordinarily be given in the shape of cooked food.

7. It should be added that when distress becomes extreme, and a state of absolute famine has been reached, that large public works may become insufficient to afford relief to the numbers of people in need of it. At such a time the Government may be driven to set up relief works near the homes of the people on a scale inconsistent with careful supervision or searching tests. Such measures as may be practicable must then be adopted for reducing to a minimum the inevitable evils that will then arise. The Governor General in Council leaves it to you to communicate to the Local Governments the results of your own experience in regard to this very difficult part of the question.

8. A very satisfactory feature in the course taken by the Bombay Government in dealing with the present famine is their adherence to the principle of non-interference with private trade, which up to the present time they have acted on with marked success. In Madras a different policy has been observed. At an early stage in the scarcity, the Government of Madras contracted through a local firm for a supply of 30,000 tons of grain, to be used as a reserve to meet deficiencies in the local markets. Applications for authority to make further similar purchases have since been received, but have not been sanctioned, the Government of India being of opinion that such purchases are seriously calculated to discourage the operations of private trade, and to increase, instead of diminishing, the difficulty of procuring the supplies which will be necessary to augment the deficient food-supply of the Presidency. Enquiry has been made whether this objection would apply to the Government advertizing for tenders for the supply and delivery of grain in the immediate neighbourhood of certain works on which gangs of labourers are employed at a distance from all local markets. The answer must of course be in the negative. There is no more objection to such purchases than there is to the Government making purchases through the Commissariat for the troops. The objection is to the Government entering into transactions which may excite apprehensions on the part of traders, that the Government are about to take their place, and so to disarrange the bases on which they found their calculations of profit. This objection is especially applicable to purchases of a secret character.

In such cases the fact that the Government are in the market is almost certain to become known, and thereupon doubts are raised as to the nature and extent of the transaction, and private trade is paralysed. In regard not only to this but all other matters connected with the management of famines, the general rule should be that the operations of the Government, and the reasons on which those operations are based, shall receive full and complete explanation and publicity.

9. One of your most important duties in connection with the present state of things in the Madras Presidency will be to ascertain how far private trade, if left perfectly unfettered, may be counted on to supply the wants of that Presidency. As at present informed, the Governor General in Council entertains a strong opinion that the supply of that Presidency from foreign sources, such as Burma, Bengal &c., should be left altogether to private trade, and that the intention of the Government so to act should be widely made known, together with full and frequent information regarding the prices of food-grains and other articles of consumption in the distressed and other districts. It is possible, however, that in certain localities at a distance from the lines of Railway and from large markets, it may be requisite for the Government to intervene by making purchases at the nearest local depot to which the trade will convey the grain. In such cases, where the local trade, from whatever cause, is not active, the direct intervention of the Government may probably tend rather to facilitate than to discourage the importation of grain, by affording confidence to the trade that importations will find a certain purchaser. Finally, it must not be overlooked that there is a great advantage in paying labourers on relief works in money, wherever and so long as this mode of relief is practicable.

10. The Governor General in Council would have hoped that it was hardly necessary to impress upon local officers the importance of exercising no interference of any kind with the object of reducing the price of food; but cases have come to his notice which show that a warning on this point may not be uncalled for. It is obvious that, especially in a time of scarcity, nothing could be more mischievous than such interference, and that high prices, by reducing consumption and encouraging the importation of fresh supplies of food, are not only necessary but highly beneficial.

11. Another matter of importance is the question of transport of grain, both on the Railways and to parts of the country with which the existing means of communication are insufficient, as

well as of providing additional facilities for landing it at the ports. These matters, the Government of India have reason to believe, have not been at all overlooked by the Local Governments, but it is probable that your experience will enable you to offer valuable suggestions on the subject.

12. There is one other subject to which the Governor General in Council thinks it desirable to refer, not because it is one with which you will have at present in any way to deal, but because he wishes to place you generally in possession of the views which are held by the Government of India on all the more serious questions connected with the treatment of Indian famines.

You will observe that His Excellency in Council, in my letter to the Government of Bombay, No. 5 A., dated the 5th instant, has laid down the principle that if any great irrigation works or other works of local and provincial importance, involving heavy future responsibilities for their completion and maintenance, be undertaken, certain rules will be prescribed, which will hereafter be prescribed applicable, which will hereafter be prescribed, in regard to the enforcement of provincial responsibility for meeting the charges for extraordinary public works. This is not a convenient time for entering into a full discussion of these questions, but His Excellency in Council desires to take the present opportunity of declaring his opinion, not only that the main portion of the charges incurred on public works which protect the people against famine, and which add greatly to their wealth, should be borne by the people protected and benefited, and not by the general tax-payer, but also that every province ought, so far as may be practicable, to be held responsible for meeting the cost of the famines from which it may suffer. The Governor General in Council believes that until these principles are enforced, the only real security for wise and economical management will be wanting. When Local Governments and local officers understand that the inevitable consequence of unnecessary expenditure will be the imposition of heavy burdens upon their own people, and not upon those of other provinces, a powerful and most useful check upon extravagance will have been established. On this subject the opinions of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India have been expressed in a passage which may properly be quoted here*:-

"There is a further point, though not one to fall within the scope of such an enquiry as that which you have directed to be made, which should, in my opinion, be carefully considered by Your Excellency's

* Despatch from Secretary of State to Government of India, No. 59 (Revenue), dated 25th November 1875.

Government before the questions that arise in connexion with the occurrences of 1873-74 can be regarded as fairly met. I refer to the proper incidence of the charges that are necessarily incurred in providing for the requirements of the population of a district in a period of drought. However plain may be the primary obligation on the State to do all that is requisite and possible towards preserving the lives of the people under such circumstances, it would be most unwise to overlook the great danger of tacitly accepting, if not the doctrine, at least the practice, of making the general revenues bear the whole burden of meeting all local difficulties or of relieving all local distress, and of supplying the needful funds by borrowing in a shape that establishes a permanent charge on the general revenues for all future time. In Bengal, where (as the Lieutenant-Governor observes in reference to the objections of the Government in relation to emigration) the beneficial interest of the Government in the land is limited by the permanent settlement, these considerations are of special and more pressing application.

"The question which is thus raised, of how to make local resources aid in meeting local wants, is no doubt one of great difficulty and complexity, particularly in a country like India. But the difficulty of providing any satisfactory solution of it should not be allowed to obscure the perception of its vital importance to the future well-being of the country, as well as of the troubles to the Government and the demoralization of the people which must necessarily result from postponing too long the introduction of some system under which shall be suitably recognised the undoubted responsibility which rests on the people themselves to provide for their own support and well-being. The duty of the

State does not extend further than to see that the needful means are supplied for giving effect to this principle, and for distributing the local burdens arising from its practical application in the manner which shall be most equitable and least onerous to those who have to bear them."

The manner in which these principles shall be carried into practical effect is under the consideration of the Government. It is sufficient at present to say that the Governor General in Council is of opinion that they ought to be kept in view in connection with the present scarcity, and that a considerable portion, if not the whole, of the permanent charges which relief operations now in progress may entail ought to be borne by the Presidencies in which the expenditure is being incurred.

13. The above are the only observations that the Government of India deem it at present necessary to place on record in connection with the onerous and delicate duty which you have undertaken; and they have been made, not so much with the view of advising you on a subject which you have probably studied more thoroughly than any other public officer in India, as for the purpose of furnishing you with a statement of the views of the Government of India, to which you can refer in your communications with the Local Governments. I am directed, in conclusion, to convey to you the cordial thanks of the Governor General in Council for the promptitude with which on this as on other occasions, you have responded to the call made upon you.

Kurnool District
General

11484/5

1. Area 7,037 Sqr Miles exclusive
of Banaganapally which
is 206 Sqr Miles. -

2. Population 914,432 besides the
population of Banaganapally
which is 45,065. -

3. (a) Land Revenue 15,35,268 Rs. besides
Abkari which is Rs.
2,27,706. -

(b) No of Villages. Govt 699
Inam. 64
763
Banaganapally 63
826.

4. Cultivation. -
Percentage of Wet. - 2 per cent. -
- or - Dry. - 98 per cent. -

5. Rainfall. - Average from 1st April
to the end of February for 5 years
previous to 1876-77, viz: 1871-2 } Inches
to 1875-76. 27.54.

Do. Do. for 1876-77. - 8.84.

Do. Do. for 1877-78. - 24.37.

3rd March 77 2nd March 78.

6. Prices. - 2nd Sort Rice. - 7.10 9.21
Cholam. - 8.63 13.55
Ragi. - 9.65 14.85
Cuminseed. - 9.31 12.0.

Value

7. Value of 1 th of grain.	as p.	as p.
2 nd Sort Rice --	1-2	"-10.
Cholum. --	1-	"-7.
Ragi. --	"-10	"-7.
Cumboo. --	"-11	"-8.

8. Ryots holding land from Govt. -- 103858 with an average of $13\frac{1}{4}$ acres for each holding. --

9. Ryots holding six acres & under. -- 50000.

10. Inamdars... 10612.

11. Crops usually sown. --	Cholum. --	acres
	Korra ..	3,22,000.
	Srikelu ..	1,42,000.
	Cumboo ..	83,000.
	Rice ..	74,000.
	Ragi ..	17,000.

Note. -- On S. W. Monsoon, $\frac{2}{3}$ Cholum crop depends, and on the N. E. $\frac{1}{3}$ d. The former reaped in September and the latter in January. --

12. Cultivation of Govt. land. --	Sept. to July. 8 = 7,1286	acres.	7,1286	7,1286
	7,1286	acres.	1,82,650	7,99,961
	3,38,721	+		20,617
Full year's Cultivation.	12,24,450	6,68,418		
Canal Irrigation ..	10,420	1,607		
* Day.	11,98,347	6,57,423		
Wet.	26,103	16,995		

13. Probable crop in Annas }
during the current season } --

Average outturn of dry crops : 9 annas for 8 taluqs
-- of wet crops : $10\frac{1}{2}$ annas for 8 taluqs

14. Probable recoverable Land Rev. 13,2,000.
Revenue from all sources { Alkary. 1,88,000.
Salt. 2,000.
Fasli 1287. Stamps. 1,05,000.

15. Probable Remission or loss. -- 1,48,103.

Famine

16. Numbers receiving	On Works --	Number	Percentage on population
State aid on 2 nd March	In progress		
	Botnipillas		
	In camps	342	.003
	(3 in progress)		
	In villages	6796	.75
	Total	7138	.753

17. Private Charity -- Mission House Fund -- Rs. Unknown

18. Relief Works. Under Civil Officers.	Completed.	In progress.	Not employed
	31 - 27	• - •	• - •
Under D.P.W.	25 - 62	1 - •	215
Total	56 - 89	1 - •	215

19. Famine grants up to 2nd March 1878. Rs. 732,000

20. Expenditure up to 2 nd March	On Works	Rs.
	In camps	7357,000
	houses	379,000
	Village Relief	784,000
	Botnipillas	
	Total	85,20,000

21. Probable expenditure at present rates and for present numbers

Per week --	4,200 Rs.
In month of 30 days	1,80,000 Rs.

22. Establishment --	No.	Cost
Upper Subordinates Civil	8	5174
Military	2	660.
D.P.W.	3	Not known
Medical	5	1157
Total	18	6991
Minor Subordinates	69	2559

23. Average wages as paid on 23rd February 1878

Man	3/4 th to 2 1/6 th.
Woman	2/3 th to 1 2/3 th.
Child	1/2 th to 1 1/6 th.

24. Grain Depots & quantity of food grain in hand

25. in each.

26. Quantity of food grain.

Name of Depot	Bags.	Sq. Ach.	Rs.
Kurnool.	16 1/2	10-15	24
Nandicottkur.	1393	56-14	3-14
Minakur (including Elode Sub Depot)	2812	120-10-1	14 1/2
Peapally.	8299	27-8	12
Koil Kurtha.	149	41-7	3-9
Chagalmarry.	9317	79-17	25 1/2
Sirwell.	1909	1249-11	3-6
Nandial.	27512	129-4	1-4
Cumburn.	1809	22-2	19
Markapur.	296		

26. Total. 53,657 1/2. 2,125-17-16

27. Present rate of weekly consumption on some works and camps. 21 tons.

28. Employment, how long available for present. Nil

29. Name of large works available --

From adavaram project in Markapur Taluq. with a navigation Canal to Bezware.

Shanani Bank

Dhanani Tank in Sivalli } Will give employment
Taling } for 5000 persons
for 3 months.

Railway from Gooty or Adoni } 60 lacs at 1 lac a mile
to Hussur. — }

Sagiler and Divuler projects } Will afford
in Cumburn Taling } employment
for 2000 persons
for 3 months.

A few abandoned roads in } Will give
the District, if taken up. } employment
for 5000 coolies
for 2 months.

30. Highest number at one
time dependent on State } 337,727
Aid viz 6th January 1877

31. Percentage of above to } 36.97 Excluding Bangampally
Population } 35.29 Including do.

32. Highest number at one
time on Relief works } 320,338.
viz on 6th January 1877.

33. Percentage of above to } 35.03 Including Bangampally
Population } 33.38 Including do.

34. Highest number in
Camp Relief 21st April 1877 } 53,149

35. Percentage of above to } 5.81 Including Bangampally
Population } 5.54 Including do.

36. Highest number on
Village Relief 29th Sep 1877 } 76,116

37. Percentage of above to } 8.32 Including Bangampally
Population } 7.93 Including do.

11/28/80
R.D.
14 FEB 80
David Low Egge C.S.D.
Dear Respected Sir,

I felt great pleasure
on hearing of your return
from England. Your honor
is well aware of my hard work
during the famine especially
at the grain depot both day
and night. Rice was then being
sold till 8 or 9 in the night and
money was being remitted
to the Sheristadar very late at
nights. There were other
multiparious work such as
distribution of wages to road
coolies. Then the permanent
Shroff died and one Mr. Man
was acting for him. On the
28th December 1877 a deficiency

Harmon L

of Rs 250 was found in the
Inventory. Mr. Know after
examination reported that
I was not to blame for it.
After I left himself on
furlough Mr. Crook reported
to the Board that I am also
responsible for the deficit.
Though the Board were of opinion
that I was not to blame in
the matter yet the Government
were pleased to order to with-
draw Rs 50 out of my pay. I was
away at Benares during
this period. After my return
to Bellary having come to
know the above circumstance
I applied to the Collectors
for a copy of G.O. referred to who
referred the matter to Government
but they refused to grant it.
On your recommendation

the Government were pleased
to grant me an additional
year's service for all my hard
work during the famine, which
is in no way beneficial to
me. I having already completed
my full period of service viz
30 years. Though I had not been
promoted to any higher
appointment as a reward
for my service yet the shame
brought on me the Circumstances
of 50 Rs from my pay is one which
I do not deserve for all my
trouble. As your honor has now
come to a position where you
can redress all such grievances,
I have given your honor this trouble
and humbly beg to be excused
for the same. Should your honor
do me the kindness of freeing me

from the present grievance
I shall retire though I am
strong enough to continue
in the service longer and I see
that there is no use in remaining
in the service any more. I have
a great kind to see your honour
but as I have rejoined my
Appointment only to months
I cannot at leave of any
kind at present and I beg
therefore to be excused for writing
this letter. I was very
in the charge of the Shrivastad, during
the time when deficiency occurred.
As the deficiency was caused
owing to the negligence of the then Shrivastad
the Government have reduced his pension
from 30 to 25. While such is the case
your honour can consider that how
I, who am only deputised to famine
work, shall be held responsible
for the deficit, which fact is well

R.D.
14 FEB 80

Kathair
Nagapattinam Dist
21st January 1880

Sahasil Das

I was very sorry not to
have seen you when I was
at Bellary, but was glad to
find that you had quite recovered
your health and been able
to return to Kurnool. I hope
the District is now healthier
than it was, and that you will
have no return of your fever.
I was very sorry to hear that
you had been compelled to
refuse a portion of the Rs 250
deficiency found in your
Treasury - a deficiency for

which Mr. Kinn held that
you were not responsible
The Government I suppose
acted on Mr. Kinn's report,
but had Mr. Kinn had the
slightest idea of the difficulties
under which we all laboured
in Kinn's or given that
consideration which it was
but natural, he should give
to the opinions received by
the officers who knew you
as to the way in which you
had laboured throughout
the Kinn. I feel sure
that he would have hesitated
a long time before recommending
Government to

well known to your honor.

They to remain
I am, Sir,
Your most obedient servant

J. Kinn
Sahildar of Panchaloke

P.S. I herewith enclose copy of the
letter from Mr. Kinn for
your honor's perusal.

J. K.

imposed upon an old and
very deserving servant ¹⁸³⁸ the
shame involved in their
deed which you complaining
I cannot officially support
any aspect of yours, nor can
I see, I am sorry to say,
what avail my support
would be if the testimonials
that I and others gave you
have done nothing for you.
I feel quite assured that
the Standard accounts of
your Saley will compare
not unfavorably with those
of any other Saley in the
preciseness in which there
was an approximate
amount

account of *Harind* work,
and I feel that the error
in the accounts was due
not to carelessness but
to the overworked state
of all the *Gumastahs* at
the time it occurred

Your sincere friend
Chikam

Letter from *Pandita Krishna-*
rama - *Talukdar* of *Namatta-*
Nota Taluk - *Kurnool* district
Praying for a reconsideration
of the Government order direct-
ing him to make good Rs 50
out of the deficit of Rs 250
found in the *Taluk Treasury*
Kurnool in December 1877.

Dated February 1880.

I regret to hear this of
P. Krishnarao who is one of
the few native officials in the
district who stood by Government and
worked heartily, faithfully and con-
scientiously throughout the
famine.

The defalcation or rather
the short balance in the Treasury
appears to have been discovered
on the 29th December 1877, and
as the investigation made at
the time by Mr. Knox, Special

Assistant Collector Kurnool,
shows, there was no fraud
apart from the fact that the
balance in Cash did not
agree with the books. This
difference, Mr Knox attributed,
either to an erroneous overcredit
in the accounts or to an
overpayment made through
carelessness by the Shroff and
the Taluk Sheristadar, the
Talukdar having then no
immediate concern with it.
Large sums of money, realised
from the sale of Government
grain, were daily sent from the
Kurnool grain depot to the
Taluk Treasury which was at
some distance, and as the money was
generally received in small silver coin and
copied and ^{was} very often ^{submitted} late at
night, ~~the mistake appears to have been made~~ ^{the mistake appears to have been made} ~~the Treasury Es-~~ ^{the Treasury Es-}
~~tablis had not in consequence~~ ^{tablis had not in consequence} ~~the Treasury Es-~~ ^{the Treasury Es-}
~~being unable to examine~~ ^{being unable to examine} ~~the Treasury Es-~~ ^{the Treasury Es-}
~~for a few days.~~ ^{for a few days.}

the Treasury Es-
tablis had not in consequence
being unable to examine
for a few days.

the discrepancy admitted to.
All this happened at a
time when every endeavour was
being anxiously made to dis-
pose of the 7000 tons of grain
in the hands of Government
in Kurnool town, when the sale
by auction of single bags or
in lots of five authorised
by Government proved a
failure, when retail sales had
had to be resorted to on an
extensive but economical scale
under responsible supervision
as ordered in G.O. 13th December
1877 No. 1528, and when
the Government had to autho-
rize me by wire to employ
"whatever prisoners or Sepoys
required" at the grain depot
in case of strike among coolies
or other necessity which actually
occurred just about the time
this ^{mistake} discrepancy was made in the
Taluk Treasury.

G.O. 21st Dec 1877
No. 2973 J.D.

23rd to 29th December 1877

ad lity
Lanc

P. Krishnarou

The Tahsil dar had to spend
his whole time at the grain
depot in sorting, ^{measuring} ~~weighing~~,
storing and selling grain, and
sending it out to various places

for distribution as wages to
road coolies, ^{and} the retail sales
continued so brisk for a time
that I had to tax ^{his} ~~the~~ energies
of P. Krishnarou to the fullest
extent. On one occasion especially,
I may mention, he had to work
with me at the grain depot

from 6 A.M. till 12 P.M. in arranging
for the grain sales.

From all that I personally
saw of Krishnarou's work,

I can ^{conscientiously} ~~confidently~~ assert that
it was simply impossible for
him to have attended to the
Treasury work in addition to
the multifarious ~~work~~ ^{attention} on his
attention at the time. Further

11280
184

the unfortunate Tahsil dar
was about the same time sorely
afflicted by the death of a
promising son of his and
the severe illness of the other
members of his family, his
own health having been
seriously broken by the fre-
quent attacks of Khurcool
fever—circumstances under
which many a junior of his
would have either taken
sick leave or succumbed
altogether. Yet, Krishnarou
stood at his post and ^{cheerfully} continued
to do his duty to my entire
satisfaction. All the Famine
Officers with whom he came
in contact have expressed a
high opinion of his industry
and integrity, notably Mr

Clogston whose Certificate
is attached to ^{Krishnarao's} ~~the~~ petition.

Were I not personally
acquainted with the way in
which Krishnarao conducted
himself throughout the famine,
and were I not confident
that the Government would not
have been so severe with him
had these facts been known
to them before, I should not
have now ventured to trouble
them to reconsider his case.

Krishnarao complains
not so much for the pecuniary
loss inflicted on him, but for
the stigma cast on his character
just at the end of his long
and faithful service without
blemish. He has 36 years
service and the Government have
been pleased to concede another
year's service to him by admitting

* G.O. 30th Aug 1878 No. 1378
N.D.

him to the second ^{11/20/78} ~~57~~ th
famine concessions as a
person who did specially
good service in Kurnool;
but Krishnarao rightly points out
that this concession can be
of little use to him, while his
character ^{stands} ~~is~~ otherwise stigma-
tized.

11/10/76
3rd Sept. 1881
Zarb.

Honble Sir

I received a note yesterday
from Mr. Zifferman asking for
all correspondence relating to the
Administration of Zaccaria in
Larnool. Anticipating the call,
I kept the papers in readiness
and despatched them in three
big files by book post yesterday.

122 I hope they will reach you
in time.

I distinctly remember your
proposal to transport 1,50,000
Cookies of Hurwood to Kistua,
and know also the arrangements
you made on the occasion.

Please see 8th 10th Octr 1877
no 2253 F.R. enclosed.

This shows the particulars
of the intended stages and
the termination of the whole

11487
affair. The origin however is
not there, ^{but} I can ^{be} ~~have~~ gathered
from paras 5 and 6 of your
letter printed there. Copy of
your letter to the Head Asst
quoted in para 1 of Mr Lumsden's
letter might give further partic-
ulars, but it is not available.
The original correspondence
relating to the Kistua project
was, I see, sent to the Duke
who mislaid the papers &
never returned them to the Office.

Mr. Garstin has noted this on the
original of G.O. 10th Oct 77 No 2253.
So these papers are at present
unattainable. They were not
handed.

All papers relating to
Captain Vernon are also enclosed.

Trusting that these will reach
you in time for Monday's Council.

I stay to remain
Respectfully
Yours most obedt
Majumdar Banerjee

Br 12
Bd. Genl. R. No 762

Revenue Department

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

dated 10th March 1877

No 1131

Read the following

No 59

From

The Dy. Commr

Mumool

To

The Secretary to the
Board of Revenue
Madras

Sir,

I have the honor to forward
for the information of the Board
of Revenue, and of Government
two copies of the rules framed
by me in consultation with the
relief officers in the district regarding
the general management of relief
works.

2. The rules were framed before
the

the receipt of Board's Proceedings
No 1 dated 2nd January 1876 but a
supplement has since been added
making such corrections as were
found necessary to make the rules
conform to the Board's instructions

3- The only material difference
between the two sets of rules is in
regard to the manner of indenting
for tools, and I have thought it
advisable to allow my rule to
stand, as the indents for the tools
wanted have already been sent, and
it is only in emergent cases we shall
want more in which case it is best
I think that the sectional officer
should apply to the Superintendent
of P. W. Works direct, informing the
Board of the same through me.
Mineral Colln's office }
20 January 1877 }
I have etc
J^d H. Davidson
Collector

1148A/1a
The Board have deferred orders on the
foregoing paper pending orders of
Government on the rules proposed.
There have been issued instructions
as to book work propounded in
G.O dated 5 February 1877 No 520 A
and Board's Proceedings 21 February
1877 No 766 which will of course be
observed by the Collectors.

2- Mr Davidson's rules are judicious
and require little change and their
good effect is already apparent
in the district. Alterations should
however be made as regards the
rates and mode of payment of wages
and as regards the extent of fines
with reference to the recent orders.

3- Gratuitous relief by tickets is
well planned. The Collector will
be

hear a mind the instructions of
Government as to the formation
of regular camps.

(True copy and Extract)

J^d H. Stokes
Secretary

To
The Collector of Muzool

(True copy)

W. H. Stokes
Secretary

To
The Additional Secretary to Govt
Muzium Department.

With one enclosure to be returned.

E. H.
Copies

Nov 1877 Dept.
7th 1887

Proceedings of the
Board of Agriculture
dated 10th March 1877

en 1 Dec

Sept 20.

Jan 12 -

cut

Referring to the
return the collector
of the district having
order of Government
on the rules proposed
by the Police

GA 19 March 1877 No 11484

Ch. 11484

Account

Ch. 11484

12/3/77

19th March 1877

Mr. S. C. 11484
5th Dec 1877
11484