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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.
B.P. No.

1148

Press
Mis.

Dated

19.3.1877

197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1148

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
19th March 1877.*

Famine Relief.

No. 615. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 12th March 1877, No. 1,140.

Read the following letter from J. F. PRICE, Deputy Collector, in charge of Budwail Taluq, to J. F. PRICE, No. 95-47:—

Cuddapah, dated Tillela, 23rd February 1877.

I have the honor to submit a brief report for January on the Famine Relief Works placed under my charge in this taluq and the Hoblam Valley of Sidhout.

2. As explained in my letter of the 9th ultimo, No. 2-2, I paused a day at Sidhout on my way out to speak to the Tahsildar about the arrangements to be made regarding the conduct of work in that portion of his taluq which I was to have the supervision of, and I arrived at Budwail on the 6th of January.

I lost no time in seeing the Sub-divisional Officer with reference to the works in progress and others which it was thought might be opened out. I visited with him the Nellore Road, making arrangements for the introduction of the system of small gangs under head coolies which was necessary before task-work could be exacted. I afterwards inspected the work going on on the Mydukur Road, where I found the coolies had been much demoralized by cholera, which had broken out badly in some of the neighbouring villages and had also caused several deaths among the coolies. The maistries got frightened and wanted to leave, particularly when they found that it was

proposed to increase their gangs to 400* instead of 150 coolies. Their qualifications as Accountants being very poor, they felt themselves quite unequal to the extra work thus thrown on them, and it was some time before I could get things at all into any thing like order. This detained me in that neighbourhood till almost the end of the month, when I moved up to look after the Cumbum Road.

3. On both the Nellore and Mydukur Road the introduction of the system of task-work caused a strike among the coolies, but they have since begun to come back again, and work seems going on satisfactorily there now, though in most

cases the full amount of task is not turned out.

4. The new line of road between Porumamilla and Kalasapam was opened out soon after the middle of the month

Was this on an estimate and under sanction or not? I have no view to providing for the cattle of the sub-division, which have nothing. If it is possible to make the people use prickly-pear, I can give funds. The experiment being made in this taluq appears to be succeeding. The taluq people and Reddies must be made to take an interest in this work. Gumastahs going about and showing that feeding with prickly-pear is possible will do no good.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Acting Collector.

practically to the villagers that the cattle would be got to eat the leaves, I have not yet

The

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
19th March 1877.

Roads.	Miles operated on.	Total Number of Coolies of all Grades.	Particulars of Work prepared.
1. Budwail to Nellore			
2. Namilla to My...			al and gravel
3. Do. to Cumbum...	60 to 100		Clearing away bushes, excavating channels, raising earth-work, and collecting metal.
4. Do. to Kalasapaud.	1 and 2	2,460	Clearing away bushes, excavating side channel, and collecting boulders for metalling.

The reduced numbers on the first two weeks was owing to the strikes mentioned in paragraph 3.

6. Besides the above I had eight Gumastahs in this taluq and one in the Hoblam Valley of Sidhout visiting the villages and sending in a report regarding the condition of the people and cattle and furnishing me with lists of different minor relief works which they thought might be undertaken in each village. These were still under consideration at the end of the month, some having been referred for the Tahsildar's opinion, so that beyond the ten minor works that were in progress in the Hoblam Valley of Sidhout in the previous month (December) no fresh ones were taken in hand in January.

7. The report showed that the supply of water was in most places very low, and to remedy this our first attention will be given to the clearing out and deepening of the wells. The condition of the people is generally poor, a large number of them being reduced to eating leaves and roots where they cannot afford to buy grain. Numbers go long distances to the road work, but others exhibit a decided objection to leaving their villages. The cattle, too, are in many places reduced to great straits, being fed on dry grass got from the hills.

Clear and deepen: revetting and so on can be looked to afterwards.

(Signed) J. E. PRICE,
Acting Collector.

How is this when plenty of work is provided? If the coolies can strike because task-work is introduced, they cannot be so very badly off. Is there any difficulty in regard to obtaining grain? What is the rate per Rupee? It is strange that this objection to leaving villages does not hold in other parts of the district.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Acting Collector.

are, if they get even dug grass, far better

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Acting Collector.

work to some of the coolies, who were increasing very fast on the Cumbum Road.

5. The number of coolies working on each of the above relief works, with the number of the miles when operations progressed during the month, the number of coolies at work on the 31st January, and the particulars of work done, are given in the following statement:—

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Acting Collector.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
19th March 1877.

heard of a single instance where the people have taken at all to adopting this article as fodder. Large numbers of cattle are taken to the Nallamala Hills, where there appears to be still a fair amount of pasturage.

I regret the delay that has taken place in sending in this report, which I have not yet received for some days for want of different information.

FORWARDED for the information of the Board of Revenue.

CUDDAPAH,
3rd March 1877.

(Signed) J. W. JOHNSTON,
Special Deputy Collector,
for Acting Collector.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

2. Mr. Cox has experienced the usual difficulty in introducing task-work, but with perseverance he will succeed.

3. The state of affairs described in paragraph 7 is such as to give cause for much anxiety. If with work to be had and the bazaars supplied people are falling into a low state and eating leaves, it is clear either that the rates are too low or that some fraud is going on. Mr. Price will report the result of his further inquiries.

(A true Copy and Extract.)
(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary.

No. 616.

ORDER THEREON, 19th March 1877, No. 1,148.

Miscellaneous.

THE Government await the result of Mr. Price's further inquiries into the cause of the low condition of the people in the Budwail Taluq.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
the Financial Department.

Exd. A. Grubert.

Revenue Department.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
dated 12 March 1877

Read the following

No 95
47

From J. H. M. Con Rymie
Special Deputy Collector
in charge Budnail Talug

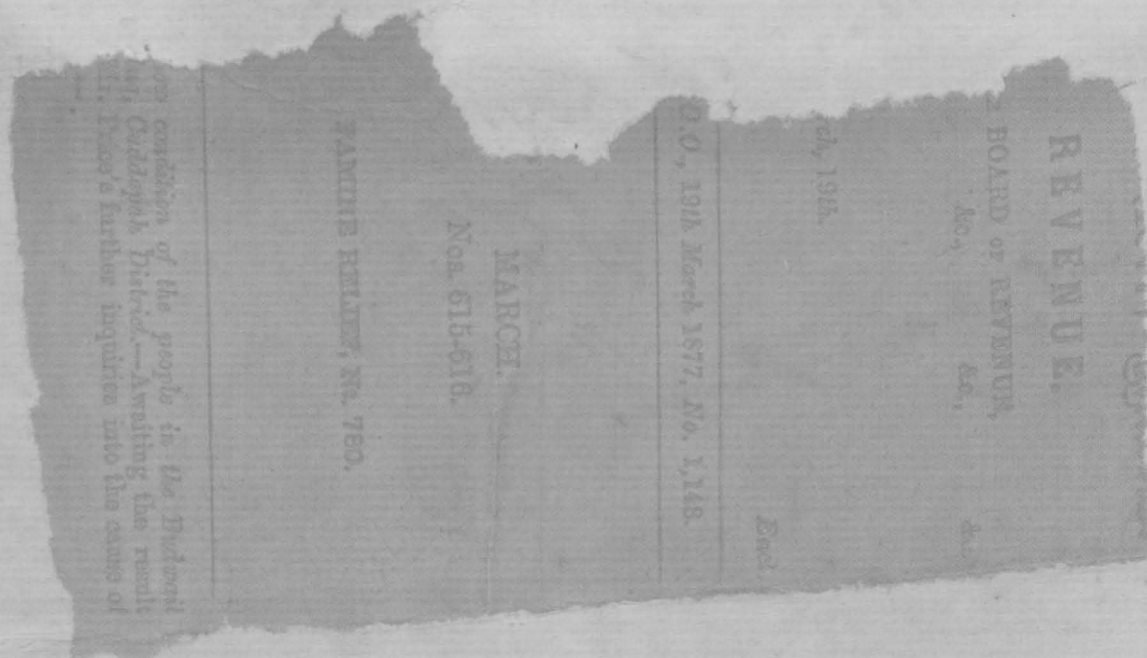
To J. J. Rymie
Acting Collector of
Cuddapah

Sir

I have the honor to submit
a brief report for January on
the Famine Relief Works placed
under my charge in this Talug
and the Hollam Valley of Sidhont.

As explained in my letter of
the 9 ultimo No 2 I passed a day
at Sidhont on my way out to speak
to the Tahsildar about the arrange-
ments to be made regarding the
conduct of work in that portion
of his Talug which I was to have
the

Bd. G. P. No 244



the supervision of and I arrived
at Budwai on the 6th of January.

I lost no time in seeing the
Sub divisional officer with
reference to the works in progress
and those which it was thought
might be opened out. I visited
with him the Helson Road making
arrangements for the introduction
of the system of small gangs
under Head coolies which was
necessary before task work
could be exacted. I afterwards
inspected the work going on, on
the Mydukur Road where I
found the coolies had been
much demoralized by cholera
& I had taken out badly
in some of the neighbouring villages
and had also caused several
deaths among the coolies. The
Magistrate got frightened and wanted

to

8 Head coolies gangs of
50 coolies each

to leave particularly when they found
that it was proposed to increase
them gangs to 400⁺ instead of 150
coolies. Their qualifications as
accountants being very poor
they felt themselves quite unequal
to the extra work thus thrown
on them and it was some time
before I could get things at all
into anything like order. This
detained me in that neighbourhood
till almost the end of the month
when I moved up to look after
the Cumbum Road.

3. On both the Helson and Mydukur
Road the introduction of the
system of Taskwork caused
a strike among the coolies
but they have since begun to
come back again and work seems
going on satisfactorily though
though in most cases the full amount

I thought to be: it is
in all conscience
light enough.

Sd J. F. Price
ag Collector

of work is not turned out.

4. The new line of Road between Pommamilla and Kalaspaud was opened out soon after the middle of the month under report with a view to providing work to some of the coolies who were increasing very fast on the Cumbum Road.

Was this on an estimate and under sanction or not?

Sd J. F. Price
ag. Secy

5. The number of coolies working on each of the above Relief works with the No. of the miles when operations progressed during the month the number of coolies at work on the 31st January and the particulars of work done are given in the following statement.

The amount of work turned out is not stated.

Have no measure - wants yet been made?

Sd J. F. Price
ag. Secy

	Roads	Miles operated on	Total number of coolies engaged	Particulars of work performed
1.	Badavil Shireen	26 to 40	1486	Collecting material & gravel
2.	Pommamilla to Hyderabad	48 to 45 6 to 10	1949	Clearing away bushes, excavating side channels raising earth work and collecting material
3.	do to Cumbum	60 to 64	3782	do do do gravel
4.	do to Kalaspaud	at 2	2460	Clearing away bushes, excavating side channel & collecting boulders for masonry

The reduced numbers on the first 2 weeks was owing to the distress mentioned in para 3.

6. Besides the above I had 8 gamestake in this Taluk and in the Hobbar valley of Sidhant visiting the villages and sending in a report regarding the condition of the people and cattle and furnishing me with the lists of different minor Relief works which they thought might be undertaken in each village. These were

people are to water the work during and during wells and no longer to be. A fairly minute estimate order to be as soon as this entered an account is required.
Sd J. F. Price
ag. Secy

which were under consideration at the end of the month, some having been referred for the Tahsildars opinion so that beyond the minor works that were in progress in the Hobbar valley of Sidhant in the previous month (December) no fresh ones were taken in hand in January.

7. The report showed that the supply of water was in most places very low and to remedy this our first attention will

deepen nothing soon can be looked to afterwards
Sd J. F. Price
ag. Secy

will be given to the clearing out
and deepening of the wells. The condition
of the people is generally poor
a large number of them being
reduced to eating leaves and
roots when they cannot afford to
buy grain. Numbers go long
distances to the Road works. but
these exhibit a decided objection
to leaving their villages. The cattle
too are in many places reduced
to great straits being fed on
dry grass got from the hills
and leaves of all kinds including
those of the date tree. My Gunastahs
have been doing what they could
to get the ryots to feed their cattle
on the Pichley leaves for w. s. s.
In fact they were each furnished
with a set of instruments for
extracting the thorns. It is only
in parts however of this Taluk

How is this when
plenty of work is provided
if the coolies can strike
because task work is
introduced, they cannot
be so very badly off.
Is there any difficulty
in regard to obtaining
grain? What is the rate
per Rupee? It is strange
that this objection to leaving
villages does not hold
in other parts of the
district.

Sd J. F. Price
Asst. Secy

They are if they get
even dry grass far
better off than the ryots.

If the subdivisions which
have nothing. If it is
possible to make the
people use quickly
less I can give funds.

The experiment
being made in this Taluk
appears to be succeeding.

The Taluk people
have been made to

make blake an
interest in their work.

Gunastahs going
about & showing that
feeding with Pichley
leaves is possible
will do no good.

Sd J. F. Price
Asst. Secy

that this plant is found and
although any man were able to
prove practically to the villages
that the cattle would be got to
eat the leaves I have not yet
heard of a single instance where
the people have taken at all to
adopting this article as fodder.
Large numbers of cattle are taken
to the Tallamala hills where
there appears to be still a fair
amount of pasturage.

8. I regret the delay that has taken
place in sending in this Report
which has been lying by for
some days for want of different
information. I have not yet received
any form of maps to be submitted
each month showing progress
of work.

Camp Zulela }
Budwail Taluk }
23rd February 1871

Shamete
Sd J. M. Cox
Asst. Dy. Secy
Tuesdays

No 100

Forwarded for the information of the
Board of Revenue.

Cassopolis Mississippi }
3rd March 1877 }
J. M. Johnston
Special Agent
for Agt. McKee

Submitted for information
of Government.

Mr. Con has experienced the usual
difficulty in introducing task
work but with perseverance
he will succeed.

The state of affairs described
in para 7 is such as to give
cause for much anxiety.
If, with work to be had and
the negroes supplied people
are falling into a low state
and eating leaves, it is clear
either that the rates are too
low or that some fraud is going on.
Mrs

1148/7
Mr. Price will report the result
of his further enquiries
True copy and Extract

J. E. McKee
Secretary

To
The Asst Secy to Govt
New Department.

Ch.
E. H. G.

7⁹⁰ 1425-

Dec 12 - March 22
Nov 18 -
Sept 7 -

Submitting to you
letters from Emily
Cassatah regarding
one from the Dry Creek
in charge of the Indian
Agency regarding the
progress of the future
for August 1877

16.3.77 (14.3.77)

19 Nov 1879

4/5/77

July

Ms. A. 9. 2. 11. 48
The Govt. would then call on Mr. Davis
for his opinion on the subject of
the formation of the people in the Territory

8.50 11.06 9.28 8.21 7.00