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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

DEPARTMENT Revenue

G.O. No. 1167 Press
~~B.P. No.~~ ~~Mis.~~

Dated 20.3.1877 197 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1157

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
20th March 1877.

Famine Relief.

No. 652. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 7th March 1877, No. 1,078 :—

Read the following letters :—

From J. H. MASTER, Esq., Collector, to W. H. GLENNY, Esq., Sub-Collector of Bellary, dated Adoni, 26th February 1877, No. 47.

Seven were Hindus and one a Mussulman. The Mussulman's rates and gangs were without fraud. The seven Hindus, I confidently trust, will be in jail as soon as the Sessions Court has time to try them. Among them they had rated 104 children as adults. Had I only the time I could ensure the conviction of nine-tenths at least of the Hindu maistries in the taluq.

FORWARDED for the information of the Board. The Sub-Collector is doing his best to detect the frauds. Further information will be forwarded as received.

(Signed) J. H. MASTER,
Collector.

26th February 1877.

From W. H. GLENNY, Esq., Sub-Collector, to J. H. MASTER, Esq., Collector of Bellary, dated Adoni, 24th February 1877, No. 47.

THIS week's returns of persons on relief works will show a very considerable diminution, especially in Adoni Taluq.

2. This diminution in taluqs generally will be mainly due to weeding. Nowhere is this process complete as yet. In Gooty Taluq especially a further large decrease must be looked for. Transfers in order to concentration having in many cases brought people to a distance from their homes, have caused numerous desertions. Willingness to work at a distance from home is an excellent test of real want, and we intend to use this test largely except in the case of weakly persons. The reduction of rates has probably driven away some undeserving recipients of relief. In Adoni Taluq alone have I and my superior officers personally made a sufficiently large enumeration to form an idea of the number of fictitious entries. We estimate them at 5 per cent.

FORWARDED to the Board of Revenue in continuation of endorsement on Sub-Collector's letter, dated 26th February 1877.

(Signed) J. H. MASTER,
Collector.

27th February 1877.

SUBMITTED to Government.

2. The excessive numbers in the Adoni and Alur Taluqs are still not satisfactorily explained, but it is evident that there has been much fraud, and the Board think that the supervising staff requires strengthening. The Collector will doubtless be able to provide for this on the arrival of the Bengal officers.

3. The weekly return for the 24th shows a reduction of 20,000 in the Adoni Taluq, but the numbers are still upwards of 67,000.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary.

---

persons too proud or too lazy to work than in any other class in these Madras districts. I believe that the numbers in Adoni are largely added to by numbers of prostitutes, kept women, and wives or concubines, and children abandoned by polygamous men. Many small ryots are on the works, and multitudes of agricultural laborers.

2. ALUR TALUQ.—Here the normal condition of the people is much more favorable. The ryots are more substantial: the urban and artisan [illegible] Alur and Adoni Taluqs during the first [illegible] of laborers on the works in Alur and Adoni Taluqs during the first portion of the year. They understand that no scrutiny was made by Mr. Glenny even after Captain Hamilton's arrival till the 15th February.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Financial Department.

Exd. T. D. Ryan.

ranks on any given day must be attributed. The maistry hardly ever appears till the cool of the afternoon, and often absents himself altogether. The laziness of the Revenue Inspectors and Paymasters is perfectly astounding: the Tahsildars take it quite as a matter of course that the working day of these gentlemen should begin at about 3 P.M. after the post-prandial siesta. As for the maistries I may mention that I examined the gangs of eight maistries. Of these men [illegible] from [illegible], Deputy Collector, [illegible]

Bellary, dated 13th February 1877, No. 444.

THE number of persons on relief works in the Adoni Taluq has amounted to 88,723, *i.e.*, much more than half the population of the taluq.

2. Can you account for such a great number flocking to the works when the harvest that part of the district was better than anywhere else?

3. Will you be good enough to order two or three gangs of men near Adoni to be taken at random and examined as to whether they consist of our own subjects or whether they belong to His Highness the Nizam?

4. An early reply is requested to paragraph 2 of this letter. The information asked for in paragraph 3 can come subsequently.

5. In Alur also the number on the work is more than half the population: please explain this also if possible.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From W. H. GLENNY, Esq., Sub-Collector, to J. H. MASTER, Esq., Collector of Bellary, dated Gooty, 15th February 1877, No. 39.

I HAVE the honor to reply to your letter, No. 444, of the 13th instant.

1. ADONI TALUQ.—There appears to be strong reason to believe that in *the present figures* there must be some error on the side of excess (undetected as yet) on paper. This error* may extend probably to eight or ten thousand. I return to Adoni (where I was yesterday) to-morrow. An actual enumeration of the relief coolies will take place on Saturday. The error, if it exists, will be discovered then, and at once reported. Meanwhile I may observe that there has been a most extraordinary disregard of my orders by the Tahsildar and some of the Superintendents with the result that instead of a reduction from 72,000 there has been (if the accounts are not falsified† enormously) a *real* increase of about 9,000 since the end of last month, exclusive of about 5,000 Adoni coolies transferred by Mr. Sharkey to the Alur lists, dismissed summarily by the Alur Tahsildar according to the Adoni Tahsildar, taken back on the Adoni lists (I had at once ordered the Alur Tahsildar to restore the *status quo*, but probably the coolies had already got back on the Adoni lists) exclusive also of a thousand or two otherwise accounted for.

* *Vide* postscript.

† *Vide* postscript again.

2. So much in regard to the present figures. Allowing for their error, half the population are undoubtedly on the works. As you observe, the harvest was better there than elsewhere. "Bad was the best," however. And we must bear in mind that much more than half the population did not share directly and substantially in the proceeds of the harvest such as it was. The population of the taluq contains in larger proportions than any other of mine the following constituent classes:—

(1.) Urban population.
(2.) Artisans.
(3.) Mussulmans.
(4.) Small ryots.

The urban and artisan communities (the terms are to a large extent convertible) have suffered from the paralysis of trade: the weavers, dyers, leather-workers, &c., have no market for their fabrics: the town coolies and beggars are without employment or alms. Of the beggars many are Mussulmans. This community, as is well known, contains a larger proportion of thriftless people and

No. 653. ORDER THEREON, 20th March 1877, No. 1,167.

Miscellaneous.

RECORDED. The Government consider that these papers disclose a lamentable want of energy and care in scrutinizing the li[redacted] populated is small. The proportion of [redacted]ndoni. On the other hand, as you are aware, the failure of the harvest was total.

3. The number of Hyderabad people on our works up to three weeks ago was not worth mentioning. In view, however, of certain indications that point to the Eummiganúr direction as the possible seat of mischief at present, I am uneasy as to how many of the Nizam's subjects we may *now* have upon our hands. I shall dispose of this question in a letter hereafter.

P.S.—Captain Hamilton has been engaged yesterday and to-day examining gangs and nominal rolls. The result has been that he thinks that by weeding the nominal rolls of the names of children too young to work and of fictitious names a reduction in the total may be made to the amount of perhaps 14,000.

I have all along been prepared for almost anything in the way of trickery on the part of the maistries, the class of men that are far the worst we have to deal with, and yet *the* class we cannot dispense with so long as any writing is a *sine qua non*. We all earnestly wish that every maistry could be dismissed, never to be employed again. This we probably can never fully accomplish but by concentration. I hope to largely reduce the numbers of this class, who are, to a man, dishonest and who have us to a great extent at their mercy.

ADONI,
16th February 1877.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From W. H. GLENNY, Esq., Sub-Collector, to J. H. MASTER, Esq., Collector of Bellary,

dated Adoni, 24th February 1877, No. 45.

WITH reference to my letter, No. 39, dated 15th instant, I have the honor to inform you that Captain Hamilton, Mr. Oldham, and I personally counted (Captain Hamilton was assisted by Mr. Angus) on the 17th, 19th, and 20th instant enough of the relief coolies near Adoni to arrive at a general estimate as to the average falsification of the accounts.

2. The following shows the result of the enumeration:—

Numbers on paper (Maistries' lists)	11,630
Number actually present	9,458
	2,172

3. We think that the proportion of fictitious entries of non-existent persons, though lamentably large, is not so large as the above figures taken alone would indicate. Many gaps in the ranks were, in our opinion, truly accounted for by the following causes:—

(1.) Sickness.
(2.) Deaths.
(3.) Deaths of relatives.
(4.) Transfers of bodies of coolies from one work to another.
(5.) Prevention of occupation of certain night camps about Adoni.
(6.) Habitual irregularity of attendance mainly due to the irregular attendance, indifference, and dishonesty of maistries and paying Revenue Inspectors and Paymasters. We arrived at the conclusion that about 5 per cent. of the entries are absolutely fictitious, and that the above enumerated causes explain the remainder of the difference. Cholera is very prevalent. The transfers are causing many desertions. Still to the misconduct of the maistries many gaps in the

Govt. of (1877) Madras
REVENUE.
To
THE BOARD OF REVENUE,
&c., &c., &c.
Dated March, 20th
Received
G.O., 20th March 1877, No. 1,
MARCH.
Nos. 652-658.
FAMINE RELIEF, No. 792

Number of persons employed on relief works in Adoni and Alur Taluqs, Bellary District.—Recording Board's Proceedings and letter from the Collector regarding the considering that these papers disclose able want of energy and care in scrutin list of laborers on these works dis first portion of the year and that no was made by Mr. Glenny even after Hamilton's arrival till the 15th Februa

No 652 III Read the following

Revenue Department.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue dated 8th March 1877. 1078

Read the following:—

Board's No. 2150. No. 444

To The Sub Collector Bellary

Sir,

The number of persons on relief works in the Adoni Taluq has amounted to 88,723 (i-e) much more than half the population of the taluq.

2. Can you account for such a great number flocking to the works when the harvest that part of the district was better than any

any where else?

3. Will you be good enough to order two or three gangs of men near Adony to be taken at random and examined as to whether they consist of our own subjects, or whether they belong to His Highness the Nizam.

4. An early reply is requested to para 2 of this letter. The inform=ation asked for in para 3 can come subsequently.

5. In Alur also the number on the work is more than half the population: please explain this also if possible.

I have &c
(Sd) J. A. Macleod
Collector.

Collector's office
Bellary
13th February 1839

1839

No. 39.

To
The Collector of
Bellary.

Sir,

I have the honor to reply to your letter, No. 444 of the 13th instant.

1. Adoni Taluq. There appears to be strong reason to believe that in the present figures there must be some error on the side of excess (undetected as yet) on

Vide postscript. paper. × This error may extend probably to eight or ten thousand. I return to Adoni (where I was yesterday) tomorrow. An actual enumeration of the Relief coolies will

2

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The error, if it exists, will be dis=
=covered then, and at once reported.
Meanwhile I may observe that
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disregard of my orders by the Tahsil=
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with the result that instead of a
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(if the accounts are not falsified Vide / aga
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to the Alur lists, dismissed sum=
=marily by the Alur Tahsildar
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taken

Bellary
13th February 1877

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=stantially in the proceeds of the
harvest

3

harvest such as it was. The population of the Taluq contains in larger pro=portions than any other of mine the four following constituent classes:—

1. Urban population.
2. Artisans.
3. Mussalmans.
4. Small ryots.

The urban and artisan communities (the terms are to a large extend con=vertible) have suffered from the paralysis of trade: the weavers, dyers, leatherworkers &c have no market for their fabrics: the town Coolies and beggars are without employment or alms. Of the beggars many

many are Mussalmans. This community as is well known, contains a larger proportion of thriftless people and persons too proud or too lazy to work than in any other class in these Madras Districts. I believe that the numbers in Adoni are largely added to by numbers of prostitutes, kept women, and wives or concubines and children abandoned by polygamous men. Many small ryots, are on the works and multitudes of agricultural laborers.

2. Alúr Taluq. Here the normal condition of the people is much more favorable. The ryots are more substantial: the urban and artisan population

taken

population is small. The proportion of Mussalmans in the Taluq is smaller than in Adoni. On the other hand, as you are aware, the failure of the harvest was total.

3. The number of Hyderabad people on our works up to three weeks ago was not worth men=tioning. In view, however, of certain indications that point to the Ummigaunir direction as the possible seat of mischief at present, I am uneasy as to how many of the Nizam's subjects we may now have upon our hands. I shall

I shall dispose of this question in a letter hereafter.

I have &c.
(Sd) W. H. Glenny
Sub Collector.

Sub Collector's Office
Gooty
15th February 1877

Postscript. Adoni 16th February

Captain Hamilton has been engaged yesterday and today examin=ing gangs and nominal rolls. The result has been that he thinks that by weeding the nominal rolls of the names of children too young to work and of fictitious names a reduction in the total may be made to the amount of perhaps 4000.

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(Sd) W. H. Glenny.

—

№ 45

To J. B. Master Esquire,
Collector, Bellary.

Sir,

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1162/9

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2. Deaths. } Nos can thus explain
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Cholera is very prevalent. The transfers are causing many desertions. Still to the misconduct of the maistries many gaps in the ranks on any given day must be attributed. The maistry hardly ever appears till the cool of the afternoon, and often absents himself altogether. The laziness of the Revenue Inspectors and paymasters is perfectly astounding: the Sahebs take it quite as a matter of course that the working day of these gentle- =men should begin at about 3 P.M. after the post prandial siesta.

What matters pen Tab

As for the maistries, I may mention that I examined the gangs of eight maistries

maistries. Of these men seven were Hindoos and one a Musalman. The Musalman's lists and gangs were without flaw. The seven Hindoos, I confidently trust, will be in jail as soon as the Session Court has time to try them. Among them they had rated 104 children as adults. Had I only the time I could ensure the conviction of nine-tenths at least of the Hindoo maistries in the Talug.

I have &c.
(Sd) W. H. Glenny
Sub Collector.

Sub Collector's Office,
Adoni,
24th February 1877.

(True Copies)

Forwarded for the information of the Board. The Sub Collector is doing his best to detect the frauds. Further information will be forwarded as received.

(Signed) J. H. Master
Collector.

26-2-77.

Board's No. 2149. No. 47.

From

W. H. Glenny Esquire
Sub Collector of
Bellary.

To

J. H. Master Esquire
Collector of Bellary.

Sir,

This week's returns of persons on Relief works will shew a very considerable diminution, especially in Adoni Talug.

This diminution in Talugs generally will be mainly due to weeding

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Sub Collector's Office,
Dated 24th February 1877.
Adoni

(Signed) W. W. Glenny
Sub Collector.

True Copy forwarded to the Board of Revenue in continuation of endorsement on Sub Collector's letter dated 26-2-77.

(Signed) J. W. Master
27-2-77. Collector

Submitted to Government.

2. The excessive numbers in the Adoni and Alur talukas are still not satisfactorily explained but it

it is evident that there has been much fraud, and the Board think that the supervising staff requires strengthening. The Collector will doubtless be able to provide for this on the arrival of the Bengal officers.

3. The weekly return for the 24th shows a reduction of 20,000 in the Adoni taluk, but the numbers are still upwards of 67,000.

(True Copies & Extract)

W Lushington
Secretary.

To
The Addl Secretary to Govt R.D.

14

Rev. 1877 Dept

No. 1300

Proceedings of the

Board of Revenue

Dated 8th March 1877.

Despd 8 — —

Recd 9 — —

Submitting to Govt. letters from Collector of Bellary regarding number of persons employed on Relief works in Adoni & Alur Taluks, and stating Board's use thereon.

G.O. 20 March/77 No. 1167

No. 1167

Recorded. [illegible]

20/3/77

[illegible]

20 March 1877

C 12-3-77 Recd 19-3-77

Recd 7th 1300

~~Ga Ward 77 No 1175~~

20 Ward 77 No 1267

Dis

Rep

U 27

For order.

Joe Kain a friend of mine asked me [illegible] to put the instructing clerk in [illegible] assigned to him

1400 Mil

Samuel in the attempt to [illegible] by Hill Myers & others, of accepting the position as [illegible] Commissioner. [illegible]

In reading the proceedings I add that they disclose a [illegible] unselfish energy & care in [illegible] the Courts during the 1st portion of the year. The Clerk understands that Mr Fleming made no sorting. [illegible] [illegible] attempted no alteration until [illegible]