

- (1) Number of pages 4
(2) Date of repair _____
(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1475	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	14-3-1877	197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1475
1

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

27th February 1877, No. 741.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper:—

No. 468. *From Surgeon-General G. SMITH, M.D., Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Fort St. George, 20th February 1877, No. 113.*

I have the honor to forward, herewith, for the information of His Grace the Governor in Council, copy of a letter from Surgeon O'Hara regarding the working of the Camps and Hospitals connected with the Relief Works, East Coast Canal, Nellore.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From Surgeon W. O'HARA, in Medical charge, Famine Relief Works, East Coast Canal, to the Secretary to the Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, dated Iskapully, 11th February 1877, No. 49.

In continuation of my letter, No. 42, dated 6th February 1877, I have the honor to state for the information of the Surgeon-General, that since my last report I have been able to witness the practical working of some of the Camps and Hospitals connected with the Relief Work.

2. Besides those at Iskapully, I have visited the camps at Kurru and the camps and hospital at Ramatheerthum. The former camp has been rather unhealthy lately. Its site is however well chosen, and the huts and surroundings cleanly. The water is from wells and is of fair quality.

3. At Ramatheerthum there are five camps—three northern and two southern. These are constructed after the fashion of the District Engineer's plan, and apparently answer very well. Each family occupies a separate hut and the inhabitants appear to bestow considerable care upon the maintenance of its cleanliness. Up to the present time the conservancy arrangements, as far as latrines are concerned, can scarcely be regarded as a success.

4. All that can with certainty be insisted on is that neither the camp nor its immediate surroundings be fouled.

5. The canal excavation works have progressed very rapidly at Ramatheerthum. Five thousand, nine hundred and thirty-seven coolies are employed on them. The general health there is remarkably good. No epidemic disease; two cases of slight surgical injury in hospital.

6. The situations of the hospitals have been very happily chosen, the buildings are comfortable and commodious, and the general arrangements are satisfactory.

7. There are five villages between Iskapully and Ramatheerthum, all of which I visited. For the most part they excel the average of native villages in the construction of the buildings, cleanliness, and industry of the inhabitants. Epidemic disease has not been severe in any of them. Their water-supply, though deficient, has not yet failed; each village supports a few acres of wet cultivation. The pasturage all along this part of the country is failing rapidly. Cattle are dying, and if we are not early favored with rain, I am very much afraid none of them will survive.

8. Several hundreds of coolies have come in from Bellary. They are, as a rule, of superior physical development to the locals, but they are extremely indolent and are very indifferent work people. Most of them profess Mahomedanism. The executive officers do not regard them as acquisition.

9. There have been four deaths from cholera since my last report with twenty-four admissions. Towards these latter Kurraoor Hospital has contributed seventeen and Iskapully seven. There has been no local outbreak at Iskapully, but being a hospital station the cases occurring at Kurra are transported here and kept under treatment. It has been ruled that every hut in which cholera occurs be razed, the leaves burnt on the floor, and the floor itself dug up. The cost of each hut is under Rupees 2.

10. The price of the grain in the adjacent villages is not exorbitant, the Government rates of distribution seem to exercise a healthy influence on this matter.

11. I regret that the District Engineer's office has delayed sending the plans I promised to forward. I hope to be able to enclose them in my next bi-weekly report.

12. You will be pleased to hear that Dr. Hammond Smith is rapidly recovering. I heard this morning that "he is so well as to be allowed out in front of his room to enjoy the fresh air of an evening."

No. 469.

ORDER THEREON, 27th February 1877, No. 741.

Communicated to the Sanitary Commissioner.

2. Copy to Revenue (Famine) Department and Public Works Department.
3. The report is very satisfactory.

(True Extract.)

Chambers
Chief Secretary.

To the Sanitary Commissioner.

.. Revenue (Famine) Department.

.. Public Works Department.

.. Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

14975
2

Rec. 1877 245.
78. 1477

Obbt. of 118771 3000000.

FINANCIAL.

THE SANITARY COMMISSIONER,

Ac. 1. 80. 80.

Date February 21st.

13/3

Rec. 14/3.

14/3.

1877-78, 1878-79, 1879-80, 1880-81.

7. 1. 1877-78, 1878-79, 1879-80, 1880-81.

FEBRUARY.
Nos. 463-469.

Private Duty - Communicable report on the
working of the Camp and Hospitals connected
with the Relief Work of the Canal, Nelson.

12/12/76

14. 1877-78