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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1489-A	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	19. 4. 1877	197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1482A

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

Famine Relief.

No. 476-C. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 10th April 1877, No. 1,597:—

From J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sidhout, 29th March 1877, Extra No. 596.

I HAVE the honor to enclose, for the orders of the Board of Revenue, a copy of a letter received from the Acting Sub-Collector. I transmit also copies of the letter upon which the stringent orders referred to by Mr. Gribble were passed and of the orders themselves.

2. Mr. Gribble has at Royachoty set aside his instructions, and now again at Madanapalli he has done the same and disbursed a rate which was forbidden.

3. He does not seem to pay any attention to what is said to him, and I have had more than once to reprimand him for disregard of my orders.

4. The action which he should have taken is clear enough, viz., pay the rates fixed by Government and move the weakly from the gangs into his relief camps. The truth is that Mr. Gribble seems to think himself entitled to do whatever it occurs to him after conversation with any one in authority, no matter whether his superior or not, would be desirable. For instance, Sir R. Temple's visit resulted in heavy and not altogether well-advised reductions in the number of coolies. Mr. Gribble's trip to Madras led to an alteration opposed to my written instructions touching the formation of relief camps, and the effect of an interview with Dr. Cornish has been that the Acting Sub-Collector rides roughshod over the distinct and strict orders of Government and his immediate superior.

5. I am very loathe to complain of a brother officer who has worked so hard and energetically as Mr. Gribble, but I consider that there is no other course open to me.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From J. D. B. GRIBBLE, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector, to J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, dated Chundooopalli, 13th March 1877, No. 68-B.

WHEN superintending the distribution of pay at Royachoty, I found that Mr. Cotton has assumed the 16 cubic feet of earth as the standard within 25 per cent. of Public Works Department rates, which is to entitle a relief cooly to the higher rate of wages, viz., value of 1 lb. and 1 Anna. In this, I think, he is mistaken. The 16 cubic feet to be turned out by a gang of fifty (twenty men, twenty women, and ten children) is an arbitrary standard laid down by you as the minimum which a gang of relief coolies should turn out. Twenty-five per cent. within the Public Works Department rates would be 26 or 27 cubic feet per diem. As a matter of fact, the gangs paid at the higher rate had for the most part turned out in excess of 16 cubic feet per diem, viz., 17, 18, 19, 20, and as high as 21. Still none of them had turned out as much as 26 feet, which would be about 25 per cent. less than Public Works Department rates.

2. I felt however reluctant to order the reduced rate to be given. I had carefully inspected the coolies (they were those who have for two months been working on the big tank), and I found a number of coolies in an evidently very reduced state. I do not say that all were dangerously reduced, but a very large number were certainly so. Rice was selling at five measures per Rupee, and the higher rate therefore amounted to 1 Anna 11 Pies and the lower rate to 1 Anna 5 Pies for a man.

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

3. We have been ordered to send in constant reports regarding the effect of the reduction in wages. Royachoty has always been the least affected of all my four taluqs, and the people have suffered less. Since the new rates have been introduced, I have not had an opportunity of seeing the coolies of other taluqs, but I saw the Royachoty coolies about two months ago, and I am certain that I noticed a larger number of reduced cases than I have elsewhere. My opinion is that the rates are too low, and that we ought not to give less than the value of 1½ lb. of Pice.

4. The panic which set in last month which led to the enormous reduction of numbers has subsided. There is no doubt that a number of persons who were really in need of work were sent away, but they are now coming back though greatly dissatisfied at the reduced rates. In two taluqs my orders, that in future new coolies should not be admitted without a certificate of indigence, were misunderstood and all coolies were sent away in order to get these certificates. I have now cancelled that order. In Kadiri the reductions were owing to the great delays in payment and the cheating by the taluq officials when pay was distributed. This was almost entirely due to the culpable carelessness of the late Tahsildar. Mr. Swan, however, has visited each work in the last few weeks, has restarted them, and the numbers are according to last return up to 12,000. In Madanapalli there was also a great deal of cheating and arrears, also due to the neglect of the Tahsildar. Messrs. Money and Fricks however have been working very hard to get things right, and the numbers are gradually increasing. The numbers in the Sub-division in the next returns will, I think, amount to about 40,000, and will possibly increase to about 50,000 to 60,000 as the season gets on. There will, I trust, be no "men in Buckram" now that we have better supervision. I hope to finish the inspection of the whole of the Royachoty Taluq by the end of this month; I shall then finish the remaining half of the Madanapalli Taluq which I had to leave when summoned to Madras, and I shall commence the Jamabandi of Voilpaul about the middle of next month.

(True Copy.)

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

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, to J. D. B. GRIBBLE, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector, dated Chitwail, 17th March 1877, Extra No. 370.

REFERRING to your letter, No. 68-B., dated 14th instant, I have the honor to observe that I am not aware that I have anywhere made 16 cubic yards a task for earthwork. Twenty-four cubic yards is the task which I fixed and that is less than half of the usual Public Works Department scale.

2. I do not think that there can be the slightest doubt that Mr. Cotton's view is entirely wrong.

3. The action taken by you was in direct contravention of the orders of Government on the subject, and I must insist upon its not being repeated. My instructions have been, I believe, perfectly clear and distinct, and you and your subordinates must obey them. If you do not I shall be compelled to hand the offender up to Government.

4. The course which you should have followed was, in my opinion, clear enough, i.e., to pay the coolies according to the rates properly due to them, and, as you have full power to give gratuitous relief wherever required, to afford it to those in the gangs who might, as soon as they had spent their wages, appear in need of it.

5. I am not at all astonished, after what I saw and heard at Royachoty, at the coolies appearing more reduced than they did two months ago. I do not think that the lower rates of wages now in force have had much to do with this.

(True Copy.)

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

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

3

ENCLOSURE No. 3.

From J. D. B. GRIBBLE, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector, to J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, dated Madanapalli, 25th March 1877, No. 593.

In my progress report of yesterday's date I informed you that I would not incur the responsibility of keeping up the higher rates (2 Annas) at Madanapalli in spite of Dr. Cornish's opinion that any reduction would be dangerous. I also wrote the enclosed letter to you on the subject.

2. Since then, however, I have most anxiously considered the subject, and have again discussed it with Dr. Cornish. That gentleman has also shown me his minute of inspection of Madanapalli, in which he states that he apprehends that any reduction would result in a disaster. He states that 30 per cent. of the coolies he saw are in an emaciated and dangerous condition, that 50 per cent. are in a very poor state of body, and that only 20 per cent. are in a fair state of body. The effect of the reduction of wages would be to send away the 20 per cent. who are still in a fair condition, whilst the pressure on the remaining 80 per cent. who must work would be so great as, in Dr. Cornish's opinion, to lead to danger, if not disaster. Dr. Cornish strongly recommends me before reducing the rates to solicit your and the Government orders.

3. Under these circumstances, I have determined to incur the great responsibility (in spite of your stringent orders) of deferring the reduction of the wages of the coolies at work here for one more week, so as to enable me to receive an answer from you. If you then order the reduction, your order shall be carried out and the responsibility will rest with you. I would however earnestly beg that before sending me such an order you will refer the correspondence to Government.

I am quite aware of the great risk I am running. I am, however, confident that the desire of Government is to prevent disaster and starvation, and should such occur after the solemn warning of Dr. Cornish (which fully supports my own opinions founded on large experience of the coolies), the Government would blame me for not having been courageous enough to incur a little responsibility. Even if the Government did not blame me, I should not be able to avoid blaming myself.

(True Copy.)

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

From J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sidhout, 29th March 1877, Extra No. 595.

I HAVE the honor to forward a copy of a letter and enclosure received from the Acting Sub-Collector, which appear to be those referred to in his letter, No. 593, dated 25th instant.

2. I must deprecate most strongly Mr. Gribble's acting in the matter of dieting in relief camps upon what he hears from Dr. Cornish. His ignoring my instructions which were based upon the orders of Government marginally noted, and which approved of my applying the Red Hills Camp scale, is fatal to all discipline in the district.

3. I do not cavil at his taking Dr. Cornish's opinion upon a matter connected with the health of the coolies, but I object to his obtaining from that officer, apparently after conversation with him, an official letter conveying a Government order which I have not yet received and acting upon it without my previous sanction, and in the face of my instructions based upon another order of Government.

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

4. I would suggest that, except in cases of emergency, Dr. Cornish should communicate with me and not with my Divisional Officers direct.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From J. D. B. GRIBBLE, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector, to J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, dated Madanapalli, 21st March 1877, No. 588.

With reference to your letter, No. 370, dated 20th March, I have the honor to inform you that I at once despatched a copy of it to Mr. Cotton and directed him to see that your instructions were carried out.

2. Here in Madanapalli Cusbah I find that the new sliding scale has not yet been introduced in spite of my distinct orders. Dr. Cornish, the Sanitary Commissioner, is now here, and he has told me most distinctly, and officially written to me (copy enclosed), that he considers the introduction of a reduced scale of wages highly dangerous.

I should, under ordinary circumstances, have been fully prepared to incur the responsibility of not reducing the rates, as I conceive that whatever the orders of the Government may be, my first duty is to prevent starvation, and if I cannot do so in obeying a Government Order, it is my duty to assume the responsibility of breaking it. I am always willing, and have shown myself willing, to incur responsibility, but in this matter you are so peremptory that I have ordered the reduced rates to be at once brought in.

3. The responsibility of the consequences of course no longer rests upon me.

4. Dr. Cornish has officially sent me a copy of a Government Order directing that 20 oz. of food should in future be given in each relief camp to adults. I have accordingly ordered this rate to be at once introduced throughout the Sub-division in anticipation of receiving a copy of the order from you.

(True Copy.)

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

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From W. R. CORNISH, Esq., r.m.c.s., Sanitary Commissioner, to J. D. B. GRIBBLE, Esq., Sub-Collector of Cuddapah, dated Madanapalli, 24th March 1877, O. No. 1.

In reply to your letter, No. 585, of 24th instant, I have the honor to state that the results of my inspection of the coolies at Madanapalli show apparently a marked diminution in their condition since they were seen by Sir R. Temple in the beginning of February. I find more than 80 per cent. of them to be in bad physical condition from insufficient food, and as a reduction in wages will still further tend to withhold from them a due supply of nourishment, I cannot but regard the contemplated reduction as likely to be dangerous to the health of the people.

2. My views on the general subject of the insufficiency of the reduced wages are already before Government, and I see no reason to modify anything I have already recorded on the subject.

3. I think you will be justified, in consideration of the failing health of the people here, in asking the Government to await my report before ordering the adoption of the scale of reduced wages.

(True Copy.)

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

These letters, in which the Acting Collector of Cuddapah reports disobedience of his orders by Mr. Gribble, the Acting Sub-Collector, will be submitted for the orders of Government.

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

2. The letters forwarded with Mr. Price's No. 595 show that the old scale of wages (2 Annas, 1 Anna 4 Pies, and 10 Pies) was still in force in Madanapalli; that when Mr. Gribble, who had received Mr. Price's orders to introduce the new scale, gave directions to that end, Dr. Cornish, who was at Madanapalli, stated specially his opinion that grave danger was involved in the reduction, as the coolies were not in good health and were already suffering from want of food; and that Mr. Gribble, on the 24th March, resolved to obey his orders, but on the 25th, after further conversation with Dr. Cornish, decided to defer the reduction. Mr. Price also complains that on being shown by Dr. Cornish an order of Government prescribing a scale of diet for relief camps, Mr. Gribble adopted that scale, and not that of the Red Hills Camp which had been ordered by Mr. Price on the strength of G.O., 9th March 1877, No. 1,006.

3. From Mr. Price's No. 596 it appears that the task prescribed by the Collector, which was just less than 50 per cent. of ordinary Public Works Department task, was not executed; that the rates of wages fixed for tasks not less than 75 per cent. of full task were nevertheless paid; but that Mr. Gribble when he became aware of the fact abstained, in the face of clear orders, from directing payment at the lower rates.

4. With regard to Mr. Gribble's conduct both in Madanapalli and Royachoty in refusing to introduce the new scale of wages, the Board are decidedly of opinion that Mr. Price's complaints are just, and that Mr. Gribble should be severely censured for his disobedience. The Board do not think that the emergency in Madanapalli can have been so serious as to necessitate postponement of the orders for reduction, precluding that, as stated by Mr. Price, starvation and disaster could be at once prevented by placing those who were weakly and unfit for work, if there were any such, in relief camps and relief-houses. The remark of Mr. Price that if the coolies in Royachoty are reduced in condition there are other causes than low wages inadequate to account for it is probably equally applicable to Madanapalli. If subordinate officers are to be permitted to act upon the instructions or hints of any but their own immediate superiors there will be an end to all discipline and uniformity of system in the conduct of operations; and it is essential that the authority of the Collector should be supported in the fullest manner, since it is to him that Government look for the enforcement of their orders. The Board recommend that Mr. Gribble be warned that if he continues to disobey the orders given to him by the Collector he will be removed from his appointment.

5. The Board presume that in his reply to Mr. Gribble's letter of the 25th March, Mr. Price has directed that the orders of Government should be carried out. His decision on the point should have been reported.

6. Mr. Gribble's action in regard to the scale of diet in the camps appears a venial offence. He had the authority of a Government order, which he saw and which was doubtless then actually on its way to him, and must have reached him in a few days. It is observed, too, that the Red Hills Camp scale is mentioned in Mr. Price's letter, but not in the order thereon—G.O., dated 9th March 1877, No. 1,006.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary.

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

No. 476-C.

ORDER THEREON, 19th April 1877, No. 1,489-A.

Miscellaneous.

Mr. GRIBBLE must under
disobedience to his Colle
will entail serious conse

2. With the alternative of the relief camps to fall back u
excuse for exceeding the sanctioned scale of wages on relief-works, pending a
ence to the Collector, the brief delay involved in making which would not have
materially affected results.

3. He would have done better to have sent Dr. Cornish's letter to the Collector
for orders before acting on it.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Financial Department.

Extra No. 596.

Cuddipah Collector's
Office. Camp Siddhant.
29th March 1897.
1457/5

From
J. J. Price Esq.
Acting Collector of Cuddipah
To H. B. Spoker Esq.
Secretary to the Board of
Revenue
Madras.

Sir, I have the honor to en-
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COMPLIANCE

RECEIVED

10th April 1897

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Yours
J. H. Price
Collector
(True Copy)

W. H. S. S.
Secretary

No 68 B.

11/8/82

From J. D. H. Little Esq
M. Col. of
Cuddapah

To J. H. Price Esq
M. Col. of
Cuddapah

Sir, When superintending the distribution of pay at Royachody I found that Mr Cotton has ascertained the 16 cw. of ears as the standard within 25 per cent of D. P. Wages which is to entitle a relief cooly to the higher rate of wages, viz value of 1 tt & 1 anna. In this I think he is mistaken.

Enclosure

Wm. & P. Esq

M. Col. of

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11/8/82

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1687/10
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13th March 1777 } As sub foliis

(True battery)

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Wm
Secretary

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Caddopah Collector's Office
Camp Chetwail
Piedmont Salvo
17 March 1877

J. I. Puric Lagrime

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JOB Grubbe Esquire

by Sub Collector of Ludhiana



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Drusus
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1489A
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No 593

From JDB Grubbe Esqr
Aq Collector of Cuddapah

To J. Price Esqr
Aq Collector of Cuddapah.

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Enclosure in
Board's Proceedings
Mr Westaway to
Govt AG Secy
10 April 1877
Rs $\frac{3}{4}$
22376.

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11898/18
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Cuddalore Sub. Collector. I have to
office Madanapalle / SD / S D B Grubbe
25th March 1877 AG Sub Collector

/True Copy/

/SD/ J F Price
AG Collector

/True copy/ Returns
Secretary

Cuddalore Collectors Office
 Camp Redoubt
 29th March 1877
 Extra No 595

From
 J. H. Price Esq
 Acty Collector of Cuddalore

To J. H. Stoke Esq
 Secretary to
 Board of Revenue
 Madras.

Sir, I have the honor to
 forward a copy of a letter
 and enclosure received from
 the Acting Sub Collector, which
 appears to be those referred to
 in his letter No 593 dated
 25th Instant.

I must deprecate
 most strongly Mr. Gribbles
 acting

3

Enclosure to Board
 Proceedings dated
 10th April 1877
 with addl Decree
 to Government R.O.
 No 72376

acting in the matter of dect
ing in Relief Camps upon
what he hears from Cornish.

His ignoring my instructions

which were based upon the

order of Government on 24th

March 1877.

proceeding with Board Pro

cedings 4376 dated 24th

March 1877.

March 1877.

March 1877.

March 1877.

March 1877.

March 1877.

March 1877.

March 1877.

March 1877.

S.O. R. 1006 7
9 March 1877
communicated
with Board Pro
ceedings 4376 dated 24th
March 1877.

3. I do not cavil at
his taking Dr. Cornish's opinion
upon a matter connected with
the health of the cookies, but
I object to his obtaining
from that officer, apparently
after

1688 21
after conversation with him,
an official letter convey-
ing a Government Order which
I have not yet received,
and acting upon it without
my previous sanction, and
in the face of my instruc-
tions based upon another
order of Government.

4. I would suggest
that, except in cases of emer-
gency, Dr. Cornish should
communicate with me and
not with my Divisional
officer direct. March 8.

1877
J. H. Price
Collector
(True copy)
H. D. M.
Secretary

In 7/2376
 9th April 1877
 Mr. C. C. C. C.
 Mr. C. C. C. C.
 Mr. C. C. C. C.
 Mr. C. C. C. C.

No 588

From J. D. B. Gubbie Esq
 Rq subcollector of Cuddalore

To J. F. Price Esq
 Acting Collector of Cuddalore

Sir With reference to your letter
 no 370 dated 20th March
 I have the honor to inform
 you that I at once des-
 patched a copy of it to Mr. Cotton
 and directed him to see that
 your instructions were carried
 out.

2. Here in Madanapalle
 Cusbah I find that the
 new sliding scale has not
 yet been introduced in
 spite

I have accordingly ordered
this rate to be at once in-
troduced throughout sub-
division in anticipation
of receiving a copy of the
order from you.

Cuddapah Subcollector } I have re
Office Madanapalle } (sd) J. D. B. Grubbe
24th March 1897 } A. G. Subcollector

(True Copy)

(sd) J. L. Price
A. G. Collector

(True Copy)

J. L. Price
Secretary

Oct 1.

Office of Sanitary
Commissioner - Madras
24 March 1877. Madras.

From
The Sanitary Commissioner
for Madras

To J. B. D. Gribble Esq
Sub Collector
Madras.

Sir, In reply to your letter
No 585 of 24th Instant, I
have the honor to state that
the results of my inspection
of the coolies at Madras
show apparently a marked
deterioration in their condition
since they were seen by Mr. Temple
in the beginning of February.

18

Enclosure in Board's
Proceedings dated
10th April 1877 &
the addl Secy
to Govt R.O.

in 6
22376

I find more than 30 per Cent
of them to be in bad physical
condition from insufficient
food, and as a reduction
in wages will still further
tend to withhold from them
a due supply of nourish-
ment, I cannot but regard
the contemplated reduction
as likely to be dangerous
to the health of the people.

2. My views on the
general subject of the insuffi-
ciency of the reduced wages
are already before Government
and I see no reason to
modify anything I have
already recorded on the
subject

subject.

3. I think you will
be justified in consideration
of the failing health of the
people here, in asking the
Government to await my
report before ordering the
adoption of the scale of re-
duced wages.

I have &c.
18/ W. R. Cornish D.C.C.
Sanitary Commissioner
for the area.
(True copy)
18/ J. B. Gribble
Asst. Commr.
(True copy)
18/ J. Price
Collector
(True copy)
W. R. Cornish
Secretary.

15

1687/27

He Re B.

April 10th

1877.

FOR ORDERS

Mr. Fribble appears to have

Public must be told delayed to act up to the Col's
 that disobedience to the orders for some time in the
 Col's orders will entail matter of introducing the
 severe consequences & reduce scale of wages at
 it should be pointed out to Humphreys & Rogers both,
 that in the camp, the relief & when D. Cornish arrived
 camp scale. He should have waited about to obey orders.
 the receipt of the G.O. from after talking to D. C. [unclear]
 the collector in receiving from him an official
 & the matter of the Dist. letter in which that officer
 He would have some better pointed out that the collector
 to have sent Cornish's has seriously determined
 the to follow the orders no further continued to disobey
 without otherwise acting the Col's order & in his
 is giving in the shape letter N: 588 of the 24th March
 gratification relief on he distinctly assumes the
 withdrawal from the position which the Govt.
 reproved Messrs. Ministers &
 Ross for not assuming,
 & says that whatever the
 order of Govt. his first

disregard to subordination
to disobey the orders of
Gov. if he cannot present
it otherwise.

280 of March 30th / 77
No. 1274

Gov. distinctly
directed the collector not
to introduce the low rates
without further enquiry
& report.

Mr. Piers was saying
that Gov. No. 1006 of March 9th
authorized him to introduce
the Red Hills Camp rate of
Doll. into his Camp - & Mr.
Gibble cannot be blamed for
acting on a Gov. order which
was though shown him by
S. G. L. & not sent to him
by the Col. W.

If Mr. Gibbs is blamed that
is the consequence of his collecting
order with intent
some consequences I submit
it will appear. DE

that a man might
be moved in the national
to keep the remainder
of the gang from
further suffering -

I do not see what
Gibble did about relief
Camp after his visit to
Harris. Specimens it
does not need
Notice -

Gibble's judgment
is not worth very
much I fear -

By 15/4

Campers that
see far more
temper in Piers
conduct than
I have - Mr. Gibbs
must have been from
the fact that he
has

peremptory hands on Gov.
at the collection hands. - For
doing the reference & for shut
Mr. S. solicited - I do not see
much to be sure - I suppose
he was from way of Mr. Piers
stole told I watch myself
the effect of his orders -
on the Gov. in the matter of relief
Camp - the moment it reached
him - on execution of the
tape & testimony was one
standing - The question was one
of vital importance - Mr. P.
18/4

I am sure in Mr. Piers' hands
Gibble must obey orders. &
the brief delay of Gov. has
shown of reference it has
been materially affected
results - Gov. not showing
his opinion & make that is
one avoids from an existing
distress. Beyond existing in
the district - with the alternative
of the relief Camp, he has
the power for exceeding the
functions of his office

a ship-bills.

I think attention should be drawn by C.O. to the fact that the varied state of the soil must be considered in calculating the task from S.W. data. This ordinary task would not be demanded under the acre! Col. Mullins might give an approximate idea of a reasonable reduction from ordinary S.W. task. & present S.W. task as added by work for fully established laborers. & thus the domestic laborer's task should be calculated from the reduced standard.

I wish Mr. Justice to ascertain by telegr. from Mr. Kennedy. That extra of task & wages they are now carrying out in Boston, Mass.

Jeffers & others don't doubt that an area just paid is containing the 1 lb. + 1/2 lb. weight. I incline to think that the highest rate is now fairly earned in many places. owing to the state of the soil.

FOR ORDERS.

Drop
19-477
order and 11.77
pro:

72.2376

Wm. Justice
Sept
19-477

14898/2 Revenue Department.
Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
Dated 10 April 1877.
No. 1597
Read letters from
the Collector of Cuddapah dated
29 March 1877 Extra Nos 596 & 595

These letters in which the Acting Collector of Cuddapah reports disobedience of his orders by Mr. Gribble the Acting Sub Collector, will be submitted for the orders of Government.

2. The letters forwarded with Mr. Price's No 595 show that the old scale of wages (2as, 1a 4 p + 10 pie) was still in force in Madanapalli; that when Mr. Gribble, who had received Mr. Price's orders to introduce the new scale was about to give directions to that end, D. Cornish who

who was at Madanapalli, stated
& wrote officially his opinion that
some danger was involved in the
reduction as the coolies were not in
good health & were already suffering
from want of food; & that Mr
Gribble on the 24th March resolved
to obey his orders, but on the 25th after
further conversation with Dr Cornish,
decided to defer the reduction -
Mr Price also complains that on
being shown by Dr Cornish an
order of Government prescribing
a scale of diet for relief camps,
Mr Gribble adopted that scale,
& not that of the Red Hills Camp
which had been ordered by
Mr Price on the strength of G.O.

9 March 1877 No 1006. 1085/30
3. From Mr Price No 596 it
appears that the task prescribed
by the Collector, which was just
less than 50 per cent of ordinary
D. P. W. task, was not executed;
that the rates of wages fixed for
tasks not less than 75 per cent of
full task were nevertheless paid;
but that Mr Gribble when he
became aware of the fact abstained,
in the face of clear orders, from
directing payment at the lower rates.
4. With regard to Mr Gribble's
conduct both in Madanapalli
& Rayachoti in refusing to
introduce the new scale of
wages, the Board are decidedly
of

of opinion that Mr Price's Complaints
are just, & that Mr Gribble should
be severely censured for his disobe-
-dience. The Board do not think that
the emergency in Madanapalli can
have been so serious as to necessitate
postponement of the order for reduction
seeing that as stated by Mr Price,
starvation & disaster could be at
once prevented by placing those who
were weakly & unfit for work,
if there were any such in relief camps
& relief houses. The remark of
Mr Price that if the Coolies in
Rayachoti are reduced in condition
there are other causes than low
wages adequate to account for it,
is probably equally applicable to
Madanapalli. If subordinate officers
are to be permitted to act upon the
instructions or hints of any but

1898/91
their own immediate superiors there
will be an end to all discipline and
uniformity of system in the conduct
of operations; and it is essential that
the authority of the Collector should
be supported in the fullest manner,
since it is to him that Government
look for the enforcement of their orders.
The Board recommend that Mr
Gribble be warned that if he con-
-tinues to disobey the orders given
to him by the Collector he will be
removed from his appointment.

5. The Board presume that, in
his reply to Mr Gribble's letter of the
25th March, Mr Price has directed
that the orders of Government should be

be carried out. His decision
on this point should have been reported.

6. Mr. Gribbles' action in regard
to the scale of diet in the camps
appears to be a venial offence. He had
the authority of a Government Order,
which he saw and which was doubt-
less then actually on its way to him,
and must have reached him in a
few days. It is observed too, that
the Red Hills camp scale is mentioned
in Mr. Price's letter, but not in the
order thereon (G.O. 9th March 1877
N^o 1005)

(True Extract)

W. E. Evans

Secretary

To The Additional Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
with copies of Collectors letters & their 5 Encl

C.B.M.

