

(1) Number of pages 30

(2) Date of repair 6-2-73

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 1611A
B.P. No. _____

Press
Mis.

Dated 1-5-1877

197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

16118
1

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1st May 1877, No. 1,611-A.

Famine Relief.

No. 23-A. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 24th April 1877.

No. 1,869:—

Read the following letter from J. H. M. COX, Esq., Special Deputy Collector in charge of Budwail Taluq, to J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, dated Budwail, 12th April 1877, No. 291-139.

I HAVE the honor to report on famine relief operations under my supervision in the Budwail Taluq and the Hoblam valley of Sidhout during the month of March.

2. *General Supervision.*—I had opportunities at different times of looking up the work at every one of the four roads which are in progress, and I was very glad to find myself reinforced about the middle of the month by the arrival of Mr. Horden and the Overseer and Maistry sent up from Madras. All these having had some experience in road-making I was glad to put them to look more immediately after the direction of work on the Kalasapaud road which required some professional direction, and Mr. Horden has at the same time been able to look a little after the work on the Cumbum road, as well as keeping an eye on the relief camp at Porumamilla. He also superintended the laying out of the new camp there, the earthwork of which was pretty well finished by the end of the month under report; six sheds had been put up, but a few more things remained to be done before they could be occupied.

3. Mr. Horden has for the present established himself in a central position which enables him pretty easily to supervise the above three works with the assistance of the above-mentioned Overseer and Maistry from Madras, and two

This is good work. Mr. Cox moves about and is patient and careful in his inquiries and arrangements.

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

Sappers whom I have placed under his orders. It has been a great relief to my mind to be thus in a measure released from the supervision of the said two roads. This has given me more

time to look up the villages, with a view to seeing that the needy poor in them are properly cared for, and all who can leave their villages sent to the nearest relief camp. I may mention that I visited about fifty villages including hamlets during the month, some of them two or three times.

4. *Village Supervision.*—As explained in my letter of the 24th ultimo, No. 193-100, I have divided the taluq into five ranges with an Inspecting Gumastah to each, whose duty it is to go round from one village to another, looking up the poor as well as checking minor works, administering medicine where necessary, seeing to the cleansing of the villages, and recommending any improvements that might be made. But little has been done as yet

The first requisite is wells and to this I find that Mr. Cox has been looking.

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

under the last-named head as our attention has hitherto been devoted more particularly to the work of wells to meet the more immediate wants of the people. Besides the Inspecting Gumastahs, the Revenue Inspectors are also required

to see that the wants of the poor are duly provided for, and all have to send in weekly reports of their doings.

5. In the month under report advances were made for forty-five works in this taluq and twenty in the Hoblam valley of Sidhout, where I have also an Inspecting Gumastah; but the number of works sanctioned was altogether about 200. The reason why all do not appear in the returns is that reports had not yet been received of contracts having been passed, so that the amounts might be properly entered.

6. A beginning was made with a relief house at Budwail about the middle of the month, and

I have inspected the Budwail relief house. There is no one there who should not be. The relief camp is in progress and will be finished, I hope, sufficiently next week, to allow of paupers being put into it. It is impossible in the existing relief house to prevent those coming to it from wandering away into the town and begging elsewhere. What could be done, has been done, and no improvement can be looked for until the camp is opened. I shall see during the course of next week into the matter of the children on the Kalasapaud and Cumbum road, with regard to which I share Mr. Cox's suspicions.

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

up to the 30th, the number receiving help had risen to 110, while at Porumamilla it was as high as 280. The number of children belonging to the coolies employed on the roads receiving gratuitous relief amounted on the same day to no less than 3,093, but I regret that great doubts are entertained about the correctness of the figures in the Cumbum and Kalasapaud roads where the proportion of children to adults working is unduly high. Mr. Horden has already noticed this, and he is engaged in applying some check which will, I hope, bring those who may be acting dishonestly to account with a view to their being suitably punished.

7. *Road Works.*—I now proceed to give some account of the work performed on the several roads.

The Nellore road east of Budwail was completed, and a beginning made with that part of it,

This is an expensive work and it is owing in a great measure to the distance which material has to be carried. This has, however, been done in accordance with the wishes of the Public.

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

On the Mydekur road the outturn was 1,230½ cubic yards of metal and 1,063 of gravel, also with long leads costing Rupees 1,786-8-8½. Finishing touches were put to the Cumbum road north of Jillella, or rather I should say the small quantities of metal and gravel still required were made up and the party moved down towards Porumamilla, taking up only metal work as doubts were entertained as to the quantity of the gravel procurable within easy lead being suitable, and so this work was delayed until the Engineer could visit the place. It was also decided that what little earthwork remained to be done should not be undertaken until it was proposed to make the road properly, as it was found that much of this work carried on to the north with no little trouble and expense had been rendered next to useless in many places by being cut up by the large number of handies passing along that route with grain for Cumbum. It was found impossible to keep them off the line even where the old road passed some distance away at the sides. The quantities of metal and gravel collected on this road was 5,708 and 843 cubic yards respectively, costing Rupees 7,759-13-1 including contingencies. The metal had to be carried great distances, some times more than a mile; hence the expensiveness of the work.

The Kalasapaud road, considering that there is no expensive metalling work, is rather costly; but this is owing to the work being very stiff clay, and often difficult of measurement. Some of the cuttings were through very stiff clay, and others requiring the removal of large blocks of stones. A few hands were employed for few days in affording the necessary assistance to the Sub-Divisional Officer when marking out a line for the continuation of the road up to the Cumbum Taluk boundary.

The outturn of work is given as follows:—

1,301½ cubic yards of earthwork.
6,673½ " " gravel.
275 " " Running yards of gravel spread.

The increase has been heavy, but from Monday next measures to decrease numbers will be taken. A large proportion of the gangs about Budwail consist of the Pariah class which is at present without work. The East Coast Canal is unpopular on the score of alleged unhealthiness and those who have returned from it say much which hinders recruiting. Every effort to induce the people to go will, however, be made during next week.

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

Roads.

Road	Head Coolies.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Nellore	41	670	848	264	1,823
Mydekur	20	340	411	170	952
Cumbum	67	1,289	1,588	349	3,293
Kalasapaud	52	785	1,096	413	2,346
Total	180	3,084	3,946	1,205	8,415

9. General Health.

The general health of the coolies has been good. There were a few cases of cholera on the Cumbum road and small-pox has broken out in the neighborhood of Budwail, but it does not seem to have been of a bad type. Cholera has been rather bad in the western side of the taluq.

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

10. *Condition of the Coolies.*—The coolies appear on the whole to be in fair condition, though many are decidedly failing in strength and are feeling the effects of the hot weather. It is unaccountable how many of them will keep away in their villages because the works they saw are too far away from their villages while they have no ostensible means of livelihood, some come and go, the works as they take them without apparently being any the worse for it. Payments have been made once a week, those for the first week being fixed upon the selling grain at 4½ seers per rupee, and the second at 4½, while 5 seers were taken for the second fortnight.

This is correct. The Pariahs are, generally speaking, in very fair condition. I have carefully gone over above 2,000 coolies, and the cases of emaciation discovered were very few. A detailed report will be sent to the Board after the inspection of the taluq is completed. If the people can go away from the works on the ground that they are not well enough to their villages they cannot be in very bad circumstances. Payments will in future be made more frequently than once a week. They cannot until the machinery for doing this is got into order be effected daily, and I do not think them necessary.

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

Rice was taken as being the grain that is most plentiful in the taluq.

11. *Rain-fall.*—There was a nice fall of rain in the northern and western part of the taluq at the end of the month, which brought a good supply of water into some of the smaller tanks and a pretty good fresh down the river Saggilair. This set the people ploughing in these parts and jonna has been sown in some places for fodder for the cattle, lands under wells have also been ploughed up again here and there and similarly sown.

There have been showers since the period to which this refers. Along the Saggilair there is plenty of water. The rain elsewhere has not added materially to the water supply, though it has caused a little grass to appear.

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

12. *Advances under Land Improvement Act.*—Applications have continued to come in for advances under the Land Improvement Act, and a sum of Rupees 3,180 was paid during the month under report for this purpose in twenty-two cases, while thirty-nine applications had to be rejected either for want of security or because the advances did not really seem required for the purposes mentioned.

This is an improvement. There is, I fear, a tendency to ask for advances in order to pay debts. This can be successfully encountered only by great care in inquiring into each application. This seems to have been observed.

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

One of the Sappers had to put himself under medical treatment at the beginning of March in the dispensary here, but he was soon discharged cured. The other lost his wife from cholera on the 19th. In other respects they both seemed to have fared well. As already mentioned in paragraph 3, I have now put them to work under Mr. Horden who reports favorably of them thus far, as also of Overseer Appasawmy Moodelliar and Maistry Vijiarangum Naidu, who were sent up from Madras.

EXTRA No. 757.

FORWARDED for the information of the Board of Revenue. Mr. Cox has been working energetically and carefully and has, I believe, made every provision for the supply of drinking-water and the relief of the indigent amongst the village population.

He has, however, omitted to mention the general state of the people and cattle. That of the former I believe, from what I have seen, to be fair. The ploughing cattle are, generally speaking, cared for; but the others, as elsewhere, are in a wretched state. Feeding with prickly-pear has not taken the hold that it should upon public opinion, and the only means of making it successful is compulsion. It is, I consider, better to use this than to allow the animals to starve.

Mr. Cox has, perhaps, been a little too easy in allowing people to come on to relief works, not in the matter of taking on those who should not be, but in respect to not hunting his numbers in view to inducing emigration to the canal. On Monday, however, a change in this direction will take place. People from the Adoni Taluq came to the works yesterday, and stated that they had been refused work there and at Bellary, and had wandered here in hope of finding employment. They were told that they would not be taken on, but might enter for Nellore; they were in very fair condition.

BUDWAIL,
14th April 1877.

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

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

2. The report is satisfactory. Mr. Cox is showing much care and attention, and has his work well in hand; the influx of people from Adoni is very curious.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary.

4

Revenue Department, 1st May 1877, No. 1,611-A.

No. 23-B.

ORDER THEREON, 1st May 1877, No. 1,611-A.

Miscellaneous.

The report is satisfactory and shows
that Mr. Cox is supervising the relief
works in his taluq with care.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue,
the Financial Department.

Exd. W. H. French.

No. 1569. ~~1611~~ Revenue Department
Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Sir,

I have the honor to report on
Famine Relief operations under
my supervision in the Budwan
Taluq and the Kollam Taluq
of Sidhant during the month

of March.

2. I had opportunities at different times of looking up the work at every one of the 4 roads which are in progress and I was very glad to find myself reinforced about the middle of the month by the arrival of Mr. Horden and the Overseer and Maistry sent up from Madras. All these having had some experience in road making I was glad to put them to look more immediately after the direction of work on the Kalasajand road which required some professional direction and

General
Supervision

Mr Horden has at the same time been able to look a little after the work on the Cumbur road as well as keeping an eye on the Relief Camp at Porumanilla. He also superintended the laying out of the new Camp there, the earth work of which was pretty well finished by the end of the month under report. 6 sheds had been put up but a few more things remained to be done before they could be occupied.

3. Mr. Horden has for the present established himself in a central position which enables him pretty easily

to supervise the above 3
works with the assistance
of the above mentioned Overseer
and Mistry from Madras.
And I suppose whom I
have placed under his order.
It has been a great relief
to my mind to be thus in a
measure released from the
supervision of the
said two roads. This has
given me more time to look
up the villages with a view
to seeing that the needy
poor in them are properly
cared for and all who can
leave their villages
sent to the nearest Relief Camp.
I

16th A / 6 3
This is good work. I may mention that I visited
Mr Cox more or less
and is patient and
careful in his
enquiries and
arrangements. hamlets during the month
of J. F. P.
as Collector. Some of them two or three times

Village Super-
vision 4. As explained in my letter
of the 24th ultimo No. 123/100. I have
divided the Taluk into 5 ranges
with an Inspecting Gunastah
beach whose duty it is to
go round from one village to
another looking up the poor
as well as checking minor
works, administering medicine
where necessary; seeing to
the cleansing of the villages
and recommending any
improvements that might
be made. But little has

been done as yet under the last named head as our attention has hitherto been devoted more particularly to the work of wells to meet the more immediate wants of the people. Besides the Inspecting Gumastahs the Revenue Inspectors are also required to see that the wants of the poor are duly provided for and all have to send in weekly reports of their doings.

5. In the month under report advances were made

The first request
is wells and to
this I find the
Mr. Cox has been
looking.
Sd. J. F. P.
Ap. Colm.

1611A
for 45 works in this taluk
and 20 in the Nohlam valley
of Sidhoub where I have
also an inspecting gumastah,
but the number of works
sanctioned was altogether
about 200. The reason why
all do not appear in the
Returns is that Reports had
not yet been received of
Contracts having been pass-
ed, so that the amounts
might be properly entered.

6. A beginning was made
with a Relief house at
Budwail about the middle
of the month and up to
the 30th the number receiving

I have inspected
the Budwail Relief
House. There is no
one there who should
not be. The Relief
Camp is in progress
and will be finished
I hope sufficiently
next week, to allow
of paupers being

help had risen to 110 while put into it. It is impossible in at Porumamilla it was as the existing Relief House to high as 280. The number of prevent those children belonging to the coming bit from wandering away into the town and begging elsewhere. What could be done has been done. Cookies employed on the roads receiving gratuitous relief amounted on the same day to no less than 3093 but I regret that great doubts are entertained about the correctness of the figures in the Cumbum and Kalasapana roads where the proportion of children to adults working is undoubtedly high. Mr. Horden has already noticed this and he is engaged in applying

and no improvement can be looked for until the Camp is opened. I shall see during the course of next week into the matter of the children on the Kalasapana and Cumbum road with regard to which I have Mr. Cox's suspicions
S. J. P. D.
as Col.

1894/6
some check which will I hope bring those who may be acting dishonestly to account with a view to their being suitably punished.

Road Works. I now proceed to give some account of the work performed on the several roads.

The Vellore Road, east of Budwail was completed and a beginning made with that part of it to the West extending towards Chennampalle and on to the Kottamadugu Pass. The

This is an expensive work and it is owing in a great measure to the distance which material has to be carried. Quantity of metal and gravel collected and

to the north with no
little trouble and —
expense had been rendered
next to useless in many
places by being cut up
by the large number
of bandies passing along
that route with grain
for Cumbum. It was
found impossible to
keep them off the line
even where the old road
passed some distance
away at the sides. The
quantities of metal and
gravel collected on
this road was 5708 and

16114/10
843 cubic yards respectively
Costing Rs. 7759-13-1 including
Contingencies. The metal
had to be carried great
distances, sometimes more
than a mile hence the
expensiveness of the work.

The Kalasapand Road
Considering that there is
no expensive metallurgy
work is rather costly but
this is owing to the work
being very scattered, of
a complex nature and
often difficult of measure-
ment. Some of the cuttings
were through very stiff clay
and others requiring the
removal of large blocks of

stones. A few hands were employed for few days in affording the necessary assistance to the Sub Divisional Officer when marking out a line for the continuation of the road upto the Cumbum Taluk frontier preparatory to his drawing up an estimate for the same.

The outturn of work is given as follows

1301 $\frac{1}{4}$ Cubic yds of earth work	} Cost in all Rapes
6673 $\frac{3}{4}$ " " gravel	
275 Running yds of	} 3770-11-7 $\frac{1}{2}$ including contingencies
00 - - spread	

8. There has been a pretty steady increase in the numbers employed

16/11/11 8

The increase has been heavy but from Monday next measures to decrease numbers will be taken. A large proportion of the gang about Budinail consist of the Pariah class which is at present without work. The East Coast Canal is unpopulated on the score of alleged unhealthiness and those who have returned from it say much which hinders recruiting.

number of coolies on the different works during the month the figure on the last Friday / 30th Instant standing as follows:-

Roads	Head Coolies	Men	Women	Child ren	Total
Kellere Road	41	670	848	264	1823
Indekun Road	20	340	414	179	953
Cumbum Road	67	1289	588	349	3293
Kalasagum Road	52	785	1096	413	2346
Total	180	3084	3946	1205	8415

Every effort to induce the General Health:-

people of obill 9. The general health of the people has been good. There have been a few cases of Cholera

of J. F. D. on the Cumbum road and a few cases of small pox has broken out

the public health appears good and excepting in the neighbourhood of mild type

Bad mail but it does
not seem to have been of
a bad type. Cholera has
been rather bad in the
Western side of the Talug.

of small pox no
other disease seems
to be in any way
prevalent.
S. J. S.
As. Collector

10. The Coolies appear on the whole to be in fair condition

Condition of the
Coolies

though many are decidedly
failing in strength. And
are feeling the effects of
the hot weather. It is
unaccountable how many
of them will keep away
in their villages because
the works they saw
are too far away from
their villages while they

This is correct.
The pariahs are
generally speaking
in very fair condition.
I have carefully
gone over about
2000 coolies and
the cases of malari-
ation discovered
were very few.
A detailed report
will be sent to the
Board after the
inspection of the
Talug is completed.
If the people can
go away from
the works on the
ground that they
are not heat-
enough & their
villages they can
not be in very
bad circumstances.
Payments will in
future be made
more frequently
than once a week.

16114/12/9
have no ostensible means of
the machinery in this
its order. go to the works as fancy
do not take them without apparently
being any the worse for it.
S. J. S.
of Coll. Payments have been made
once a week, those for the
first week being fixed
upon the selling grain at
4 1/2 seers per Rupee and the
second at 4 1/4 while 5 seers
were taken for the second
fortnight. Rice was taken
as being the grain that
is most plentiful in the
Talug.

Rain fall 11. There was a nice fall
of rain in the Northern and

Western part of the Taluk
at the end of the month
which brought a good
supply of water into some
of the smaller tanks and
a pretty good fresh down
the river Saffilair. This

There have been
showers since the
period to which
this refers. Along
the Saffilair there
is plenty of water.
The rain elsewhere
has not added
materially to
the water supply
though it has
caused a little
grass to appear
S. J. F. P.
of Collector

Set the people ploughing
in these parts and Janna
has been sown in some
places for fodder for the
cattle. Lands under seeds
have also been ploughed
up again here and there
and similarly sown.

12. Applications have

Advances
under Land
Improvement Act

Continued to come in for
advances under the Land
Improvement Act and a
sum of Rs 3180 was paid

This is an improve-
ment. There is a
fear a tendency to
ask for advances
in order to pay debts

during the month under
report for this purpose in
22 cases while 39 applications
had been rejected either for
want of security or because
the advances did not
really seem required for
the purposes mentioned.

This can be success-
fully encountered
only by great
care in enquiring
into each appli-
cation. This seems
to have been
observed.

S. J. F. P.
of Colr.

13. As stated in my last
Report one of the Sappers
had to put himself under
medical treatment at the
beginning of March in
the Dispensary here but he
was soon discharged cured.

The other lost his wife from
Cholera on the 19th. In
other respects they both
seemed to be faring well.
As already mentioned in
para 3 I have now put
them to work under Mr.
Horden who reports favorably
of them thus far as also
of Overseer Appaswamy,
Moodalliar and Maistry
Vijayarangum Naidu who
were sent up from Madras.

I have recd.
Camp, Budwail }
12th April 1877 } Spl. Dy. Collector

/True Copy/

Extra No. 757.

Forwarded for the Inform-
ation

1602/16 //
ation of the Board of Revenue.
Mr. Cox has been working
energetically and carefully
and has I believe made way
provision for the supply of
drinking water and the
relief of the indigent amongst
the village population.

He has however omitted
to mention the general state
of the people and cattle.
That of the former I believe,
from what I have seen to be
fair. The ploughing cattle
are, generally speaking, cared
for but the others, as elsewhere,
are in a wretched state.
Feeding with prickly pear
has not taken the hold

that it should upon public opinion and the only means of making it successful is compulsion. It is, I consider, better to use ^{this} than to allow the animals to starve.

Mr. Cox has perhaps been a little too easy in allowing people to come on to Relief works not in the matter of taking on those who should not be, but in respect to not hunting his numbers in view to inducing emigration to the Canal. On Monday however a change in this direction will take place. People from the Adoni Taluk came to the

works yesterday and stated that they had been refused work there and at Bellary and had wandered here in hope of finding employment. They were told that they would not be taken on but might enter for Bellary. They were in very fair condition.

Cuddapah (Collectors Office Camp Budwail 14th April 1877)

Sd/- J. Fredouk P. R. Collector

Submitted for the information of Government

2. The report is satisfactory. Mr. Cox is showing much care & attention and has his work well in hand; the influx of people from Adoni is very curious (True Copy & Extract)

W. D. S. Secretary to Government

To The Additional Secretary to Government P. D.

