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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1640	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	20-3-1877	1977

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Military Department,
16th March 1877.*

Special—Famines.

Read the following letter :—

No. 290. From Brigadier-General H. O'CONNELL, Quartermaster-General, to Colonel J. MICHAEL, *c.s.a.*, Secretary to Government, Military Department; dated Fort St. George, 5th February 1877, No. 905.

1. I have the honor, by order, to forward letter, No. 28, dated 15th ultimo, from the Officer Commanding Southern District, with enclosures from the Commandants of the 19th, 32nd and 38th Regiments, Native Infantry, bringing to notice the distress of the sepoys and their families at Trichinopoly from the high price of rice at that station, and to request that the same may be submitted for the consideration and orders of Government.

2. As far as the sepoys themselves are concerned, they receive compensation for dearness of rice, and moreover their circumstances have been improved by the recent alterations in good conduct pay, but notwithstanding this, it still remains a fact that almost every sepoy maintains several members of his family, and that consequently he himself, as well as the members of his family, suffer from the present high price of food.

3. His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief thinks that if relief works in the vicinity of the lines of the Native regiments at Trichinopoly were established, the members of the families of the sepoys who could work might be employed, and thus in a measure alleviate the present distress.

No. 291. ORDER THEREON, 16th March 1877, No. 1584.

His Grace the Governor in Council observes that all ranks of the Native Army are now well paid, and receive besides a liberal rate of money compensation to meet the high price of food. The Government cannot do more.

2. Neither can the Government make special arrangements for relieving the family of the Native soldier. To all his dependents, the relief works started by the Government are open, and they must, like others of the civil population, seek work in times like the present.

(True Extract.)

Colonel,

Secretary to Government.

To the Quartermaster-General, with five enclosures.

„ Controller of Military Accounts.

„ Revenue (Famine) Department. *as att. & 2/10/77*

20 April

18/11/97

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W. B. of M. 20 March/97