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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 1657-A Press
B.P. No. Mis.

Dated 7-8-1877 ~~19~~.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

7th May 1877, No. 1,657-A.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper:—

No. 133-A. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 26th April 1877.

Read the following letter from A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 18th April 1877, No. 131.

I HAVE the honor to address Government, through the Board of Revenue, in favor of the non-reduction of wages. I have recently made an inspection of work in Sattiamangalam Taluq, and am inclined to take a more favorable view of the work done than is shewn in Mr. Martin-dale's report lately submitted.*

* With letter, No. 110, of 31st March 1877.

2. Although it seems that the people were on the second scale, they were doing within 25 per cent. of local rates.

3. The objection I have to a reduction of wage as the increase of expense to the State. All the people I have seen—and I have seen a good many in Sattiamangalam Taluq,—can work up to within 25 per cent. of the full scale, and when work has been commenced sufficiently early, as has been the case in this district, there is no reason to adopt any other than the highest scale.

4. The effect of the lower scale, and accepting work within 50 per cent. under local rates, is that the wage,—a pound of grain *plus* half an anna,—is only sufficient for the idle worker, and must be supplemented by a subsistence allowance to his children, and allowing two children under working age to each adult or head of a family at, say, 3 pies per head, the result is that the man gets 2 annas for doing half work. Whereas by the full scale, which I can confidently adopt in this district after having inspected thousands of its population on the works, enables a man to support the inefficient members of his family.

5. I am the more anxious that this policy should be carried out, for I foresee considerable danger in the payment of subsistence for children to alleged parents. It is very difficult to check fraud. Mr. J. H. Cook, who is one of my most active subordinates, has just reported a case in the work department, which has the advantage of a visible check in work to be measured; whereas in the gratuitous distribution of food, or of subsistence allowances, much dependence must be placed on subordinates.

6. A case lately occurred when two brothers represented to the Assistant Superintendent of Police that they had each six children; whereas the truth was that one had four and the other two, or six between them. Such mistakes of arithmetic are apt to be common when productive of advantage.

7. In a recent inspection of a relief-house, I found persons who were able-bodied and could work crowded in with the vociferous professional beggar and some deplorable cases. The management of relief-houses is even more difficult than that of relief-works, and it is an object that relief should be more in work wages than in gratuitous distribution.

8. It is far less demoralising, and being easier checked is more deserving of adoption than the plan of low wages and supplementary relief.

9. I trust to have soon all the work in this district in the higher class, and that no wages will be needed of a lower description, owing to inability to perform a proper task.

10. The old and emaciated and the young children, who form the only classes worthy of gratuitous relief, are incapable of any work whatever.

Submitted to Government.

2. The Board observe that when people do work not less than 75 per cent. of ordinary task, the Collector is at liberty to pay the higher scale of wages, and that such higher wages being considered only sufficient for the subsistence of the individual workers, the allowances for children are to be given in addition.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary.

No. 133-B. Order thereon, 7th May 1877, No. 1,657-A.

Miscellaneous.

The Board's explanation is approved.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
" the Financial Department.
" the Sanitary Commissioner.

Encl. F. R. Bartleman.

Revenue Department

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

dated 26th April 1877

Read the following

No 131

Letter from A Hedgeland Esqre

Collector of Cawnpore

to

W Ewbank Esqre

Secretary to the Board of Revenue

Sir

I have the honor to address you

upon the subject of the Income-Tax assessed

on the Salaries of Native Officers

employed by this Department, and

in reply to your letter, No 1331 dated

the 20th instant to state that the

Income-Tax is assessed on the Salaries

of Native Officers drawing Rupees

Dated 26th April 1877

Received 28th April 1877

2. Although it is true that the Income-Tax is assessed on the Salaries, they are drawn by

[illegible] 25 per Cent of local rates

3.— The objection I have to a coal duty of course, is the increase of expense to the State all the people I have been [illegible] I have seen a good many pits [illegible] Salt, Earthenware, Salt, Earthenware [illegible] to the extent 25 per Cent of the coal [illegible] which has been consumed during the last year, and I have no doubt that it would then be necessary to add [illegible] other than Parliamentary taxes.—

4.— The effect of the Income Tax, and exempting a profit under 50 per Cent under Schedule D, is that the income of a person of from £1 to £2 a year, is only sufficient for the idle worker — and must be supplemented by a Subscription a Clergyman to his Children and also 2 Children, under working age to such a Child or Head of a Family of

at any 3 pie per head — there would be that the sum 50 £ 2 annum for being half-work—

I have by Pitchfield Scale, which I am confident, adopted on Electrical, after having employed Macaroni Scale Paper, and the Iron, and the Steel Scale the most efficient machine after [illegible]

5.— I am [illegible] of the Income Tax Schedule D for 3 years Continuance for which [illegible] — I am very difficult to check, [illegible] — By Pitchfield, which one of my Manufactures subordinates has just resigned to Coal — the work department, which has a Drawing of a Double Check-in work to be measured — Wheels, in the Fractions distribution of Food, or of Subsistence Allowance, much dependence must be placed

Proceedings to be ordained

6. And whereas by reason of the scattered
situation of Cities, that they had each
of them, the Authority and Jurisdiction
over the other two or three between them—
such matters of difficulty as ought to
be common to them all respectively—

7. No Act, Record or Precedent of former Ages,
Decrees, Sentences or Records of Courts
held and Celebrated in Cities, Towns
Boroughs or Corporations, or Courts
Leet or Courts Baron of Lords of Manors
or Private Persons, or Corporations
and Bodies Politick and Corporate
and Courts Ecclesiastical, Courts
Marshall and Courts of Admiralty
and Courts of Conscience, and all
other Courts whatsoever, shall be
removed by Certiorari or otherwise
into any of His Majesties Courts of
Record at Westminster, but all Actions
Suits Causes Matters and Things
depending in any of the said Courts
shall be heard, tried, determined
and adjudged in the said Courts
respectively where the same are
depending, and Execution thereupon
duly awarded and had, in such manner
as they might have been if this Act
had not been made—

8. And for the more speedy and
effectual Recovery of the Rates
and Assessments hereby granted,
and for the more easie Collection
thereof, Be it further Enacted by the
Authority aforesaid, That the Collector
or Collectors of the said Rates and
Assessments, or any of them, shall
have full Power and Authority to
Levy and Distrain the Goods and
Chattels of any Person or Persons
refusing or neglecting to pay his
or their Rates or Assessments, or
any part thereof, by Warrant under
the Hand and Seal of any one of the
Commissioners for the Execution of
this Act, directed to the Collector
or Collectors of the said Rates and
Assessments, or any of them, for
the Parish, Precinct or Place where
such Distress is to be made, which
Warrant the said Commissioner is
hereby required to grant upon Oath
made before him of the Refusal or
Neglect of the Party to pay the
said Rates or Assessments, or any
part thereof, and the said Collector
or Collectors, or any of them, shall
and may by Virtue of such Warrant
enter into the House of such Person
or Persons refusing or neglecting
to pay the said Rates or Assessments,
or any part thereof, and Distrain
the Goods and Chattels of such
Person or Persons, and the same
Distress to Keep for the Space of
Five Days, and if the said Rates
or Assessments, or any part thereof,
shall not be paid within the said
Five Days, then to Sell the said
Goods and Chattels, rendring the
Overplus to the Owner thereof—

of Commissioners and Collectors
Relief—

9. And be it Enacted that all the Workmen
that are desirous and the Masters
shall not be obliged to be molested
Vexations, Suits, Troubles, Expenses
or Prosecutions—

10. That all and every Person and Persons
Having Children, to be sent to the next
Class most worthy of Encouragement as Scholars
and not capable of every Work Whatsoever—

Commissioners & Collectors Names
15th April 1697

Names of
the Persons Excluded
from
Collector.

Submitted to Consideration.

2. That there Scholars that which People
do work not less than 75 per Cent of
ordinary Work, the Collector at liberty
to pay the higher Scale of Wages; and that
such higher Wages being Considered only
sufficient for the Subsistence of the

industrious Co

in Division Courts, the allowances
for celebrating the Solemnities &c
additional

(True Copy & Extract)

J. Carter
Secretary

To the additional Secretary to Govt 1820