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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1674 A	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.

Dated	8-5-1877	197
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Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

8th May 1877, No. 1,674-A.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper:—

No. 167-A. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 26th April 1877, No. 1,963.

Read the following letter from J. H. MASTER, Esq., Collector of Gollary, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Pennakondah, 19th April 1877, No. 288.

The late reports upon the condition of laborers as required in paragraph 6 of G.O., Financial No. 329, dated the 31st January last are as follow:—

2. The Sub-Collector writes on the 7th instant:

"No deterioration is apparent. The Alor coolies look *rather thinner perhaps*, but even in their case there is no approach to emaciation, their condition is decidedly good."

3. The Head Assistant writes on the 9th instant:

"No general deterioration observable."

4. Mr. Howe, in charge of the Bellary Taluk, writes:

"There has been no visible deterioration in our efficient gangs, but a *slight* deterioration in the condition of the laborers."

He goes on however:

"But there are a great many persons in the villages who ought to be employed on our works as inefficient gangs. These (unlike the vast crowds of able-bodied men) are really fit objects of State relief. They are not sufficiently weak to be admitted in our camps, for they still can, and are anxious to, work. It is much to be feared that persons of this class have been systematically kept off our works by combinations which it is most difficult to discover and suppress."

"It is persons of this class who (kept from our works) go wandering about the country in search of work and food. These are a source of real danger. In a very short time they become emaciated and reduced, so that they are fit only for relief-camps. For some time past I have been making strenuous efforts to bring all such persons to our works, where they are formed into inefficient gangs, and to dismiss the able-bodied who either have means or can do useful work where it is required."

"The result has been satisfactory. A great many able-bodied have been turned off, and in their places these wandering and half-starved people are taken. Our roads, therefore, at present do not show so well as far as the physical condition of the laborers is concerned; but this, in fact, is due not to deterioration on the part of those who have frequented the works since the commencement of the famine, but because a weaker and more emaciated (and therefore more deserving class) which hitherto has been kept away, has now been brought on our works."

Thus, within the last week about 11,000 able-bodied persons have been turned off the works, and in their places gangs of emaciated and enfeebled persons (in fewer numbers of course) have been substituted. Careful inquiries have been made as to what happens to the able-bodied after leaving the works, and the result has always been to show that the majority have some means and settle down quietly in their villages, while others go to the new railway line, and a few volunteer for Nellore.

5. Mr. Oldham, in charge of the Adoni Taluk, writes:

"I see no difference in the condition of the general laborers, but already a marked improvement in that of the efficient (inefficient ?) gangs."

6. The Deputy Collector of the Bellary Division writes:

"I have, in my foot-notes on the Kudlighi Tahsildar's Arzees, already brought to your notice, the insufficiency of nourishment available to the relief laborers consequent on the smallness of wages allowed and that the process of wastage had shown itself by external symptoms of its commencement in the case of several coolies in Kudlighi, where several gangs came under my observation."

7. The Deputy Collector of Anantapore writes:

"The Tahsildar of Durmaveram reports that no change has taken place in the physical condition of the coolies in his taluq, while the Tahsildar of Anantapore states that the present wages are sufficient for maintaining the strength of the coolies, but that he has found some of the coolies reduced in weight, attributing the same to the effect of the hot season."

8. Raghava Rao, Temporary Deputy Collector in charge of relief-works in the Harpalahally Taluq, writes in his diary:

"From my inspection of the gangs, I think that the coolies are falling off in size and strength, and that they do not appear half as healthy as they were."

The italicising is in each case mine.

9. It will thus be seen that in many instances the condition of the laborers on relief-works is deteriorating, to whatever cause it may be attributable.

10. I have addressed those officers who state to this effect, pointing out that under G.O., Revenue Department, No. 1,088, dated the 16th ultimo, the remedy is in their own hands.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

11. Mr. Howe's report is very remarkable and seems to show that in the extensive woodings which took place the wrong people were turned off the works.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary.

No. 167-B. ORDER THEREON, 8th May 1877, No. 1,674-A.

Miscellaneous.

The Government agree with the Board and consider that the reports indicate great cause for increased vigilance and application of the remedies placed in the hands of district and divisional officers.

2. They wish to know whether the Sunday wage is regularly given.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
.. the Financial Department.
.. the Public Works Department.

Ext. F. R. Bantleman.

RECEIVED
JULY 1877
No. 1000-10000

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

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REVENUE DEPARTMENT

No. 3094

From: Pres. Board of Revenue

Dated: 28th April 1877

FOR ORDERS.

1000

Allegations of the
the Board of Revenue
the Board of Revenue

Revenue Department

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
Dated 20 April 1877.

Read the following

M. C. A. Jones

1224

11. *Phragmites australis* (Cav.) Trin. ex Steud.

The Collection

Adams

The Secretary to the

Edward Everett

Chickadee

The late report upon the condition of laborers as required in Para 6 of Govt. order, ^{Ministerial} ~~Ministerial~~ dated the 31st January last are as follows.

2. The SubCollector writes on the 9th instant, "No deterioration is apparent. The Alor Coolies look rather thinner perhaps, but even in this case there is no approach to emaciation; their condition is decidedly good."

3. The Head Assistant writes on the 9th instruction.

"No general determination observable"

[Handwritten signature]

FOR ORDERS.

4 - Mr. Home, in charge of the Bellary
Taluk writes: "There has been no visible
deterioration in our able-bodied gangs
who form the large majority of labourers."

He goes on however -

"But there are a great many persons
in the villages who ought to be employed
on our works as inefficient gangs. These
(unlike the vast crowds of able-bodied
men) are really fit objects of State
relief. They are not sufficiently
weak to be admitted in our camps
for they still can and are anxious
to work. It is much to be feared
that persons of this class have been
systematically kept off our works
by combinations which it is most
difficult to discover & suppress."

It is persons of this class who

(kept from our works) go wandering
about the country in search of work
and food. These are a source of real
danger. In a very short time they
become emaciated and reduced so
that they are fit only for relief camps.
For some time past I have been
making strenuous efforts to bring
all such persons to our works where
they are formed into inefficient gangs
and to diminish the able-bodied who
at this time means we can do useful
work where it is required."

The result has been satisfactory.
A great many able-bodied have been
turned off & in their places these wan-
dering and half-starved people are
taken & our roads therefore at present
do not show so well as far as the
physical condition of the labourers

is concerned, but this, in fact is due
not to deterioration on the part of those
who have frequented the works since
the commencement of the famine,
but because a weaker and more
emaciated (& therefore more deserving
class) which hitherto has been
kept away, has now been brought
on our works.

Since within the last week about
~~one~~ ~~with~~ ~~some~~ persons have been turned
off the works, and in their places gangs
of emaciated & enfeebled persons (in
fewer numbers of course) have been
substituted. Careful inquiries have
been made as to what happens to the
able bodied after leaving the works &
the result has always been to show
that the majority have some means to
settle down quietly in their villages,

while there go to the New Railway line
and a few volunteers for a fellow.

5. Mr Oldham in charge of the
Adoni taluk writes—

I see no difference in the condition
of the general laborers, but already
a marked improvement in that of
the efficient (Lucy inefficient?)
gangs.

6. The Deputy Collector of the Bellary
Division writes—

I have in my portfolio on the
Fudligi & Kuldai Arzoo already
brought to your notice the insufficiency
of nourishment available to the relief
laborers consequent on the smallness of
rations allowed and that the process of
wastage had shown itself by external
symptoms of its commencement in the
case of several coolies in Fudligi where
several gangs came under my obser-
-vation."

The

7. The Deputy Collector of Amantapore writes —

"The Tahsildar of Dharmavaram reports that no change has taken place in the physical condition of the coolies in his district, while the Tahsildar of Amantapore states that the present wages are sufficient for maintaining the strength of the coolies, but that he has found some of the coolies reduced in flesh attributing the same to the effect of the hot season"

8. Bakhari Rao, Temporary Deputy Collector in charge of relief works in the Harpachally Taluk writes in his diary —

"From my inspection of the gangs I think that the coolies are falling off in size and strength & that they do not

not appear half as healthy as they were"

The underling is in such case mine —

9. It will thus be seen that in many instances the condition of the laborer on relief works is deteriorating to whatever cause it may be attributable.

I have addressed those officers who state to this effect pointing out that under G.O. No. 1088, dated the 15th ultimo, the remedy is in their own hands —

Bellary (the officer) } I have &c
dated 19th April 17 } Sd/- J. H. Master
Camp Sinnakondah. } Collector.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. Mr. Howie's report is very

remarkable & seems to show that in the
extensive meetings which took place
the wrong people were turned off
the work.

1/3 True copy & correct

Wm. L. G.

Secretary

To
The Additional Secretary to
Government for Dept

1877-78

1877-78

1877-78

Proceedings of the

Board of Directors

Date 28 April 1877

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Submissions for the

information of the

Board of Directors

relating to the

proposed condition

of the laborers employed

on the West coast of

No 1674 C

I am for- agree with the Bd. & decide to let
the report indicate that cases for assumed
repitance & application of the same, placed
in the hands of Dis. and Dis. Officer.
I shall wish to know whether the entry page
is repeated or not.

7/5/77

Ad. C.

8 Aug 1877

2. Sec. of the (1) 2nd of Dec 1877
350 E. 2nd St. New York
5th Floor
W. H. (1870-71)