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 (3) Initials of the Referencer

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.
B.P. No.

1675

Press
Mis.

Dated

8. 5. 1877-197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

A4

B5

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

8th May 1877, No. 1,675.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper:—

No. 168. From Colonel W. S. DREVER, Commissioner of Police, Madras, to J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Additional Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort St. George, dated 17th April 1877, No. 56.

With reference to the enclosed letter from Dr. Thompson, in medical charge of Town Famine Relief-camps, and the G.O., 20th March 1877, No. 1,159. G.Os. marginally noted, I have the honor to report that I have not felt justified in reducing the scale of diet now in use as directed by Government.

2. In the critical state of health of the greater proportion of the paupers it would, it appears to me, be a very hazardous experiment to lower the amount of cooked rice even four ounces, and, as a matter of policy in deterring moribund villagers from seeking relief in the town, I do not think it would have the slightest effect.

3. Up to the 14th of April the total deaths have amounted to 2,718, present approved dietary and highly efficient medical attendance notwithstanding. I feel confident the Government, with Dr. Thompson's letter before them, will not approve of any measure likely to add to this appalling mortality.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From Surgeon D. R. THOMPSON, M.D., Surgeon, 1st District, to Colonel W. S. DREVER, Commissioner of Police, Madras, dated 7th April 1877.

I have the honor to inform you that I have carefully considered the suggestions made by the Sanitary Commissioner, in his letter to the Chief Secretary to Government, No. 1, dated Vellore, 16th March 1877, which you have sent to me for my opinion, and to state that I do not consider it advisable nor safe to reduce the quantity of rice which is now daily distributed to the paupers in the famine relief-camps.

2. The Sanitary Commissioner, in paragraph 8 of his letter, admits that the diet scale of Madras fulfils the two essentials which have been considered by him required in arranging a diet scale for the pauper population of the Presidency, and, further, also admits in paragraph 11 of the same letter that this scale was well considered before it was brought into use.

3. Under these circumstances, and from the Sanitary Commissioner's experience in regard to the actual necessities of the paupers in these camps, and his knowledge that this food did not prevent a very heavy mortality which he particularly points out in his letter, paragraph 8, I would have assumed that the Sanitary Commissioner would have recommended the scale of diet at Madras be made the standard, and all other scales raised thereto.

4. In the interest of the paupers in the Madras Camps, with whose state of health I have much experience, I beg to call attention that it appears to me the Sanitary Commissioner, in recommending the reduction in the quantity of rice, has very probably lost sight of two important points—

1st.—That in recommending the fixed standard of 20 ounces of cereal grain, he did not take into consideration that the cereal in use at Madras was rice, the lowest of the cereals in nutritious qualities, deficient in nitrogenous element, fat, and even in the necessary quantity of salts.

It is suggested that the quantity of rice should be increased.

Revenue Department, 8th May 1877, No. 1,675.

2nd.—That in taking as a precedent the scale of the non-working paupers in jails, the Sanitary Commissioner has not taken cognizance, as far as I can remember, of the articles which are added to the rics in jail diet.

5. From the constant attention I have paid to the state of the paupers in the camp, I beg respectfully to assure you, for the information of His Grace in Council, that I consider the Madras diet scale of the famine relief camp just sufficient in quality (a reduction in quantity being attended with a reduction in quality) to sustain life under other very favorable sanitary conditions, and with almost entire freedom from labor: if labor be exacted, the diet must be supplemented by a more liberal scale in the proportion of the materials now in use, or at least in the quantity of mutton, vegetables, and dhal which is now given.

6. You will remember that at your last visit I showed you that although a large number of the paupers who have been for some time in camp were round and well-looking, but their muscles were soft and flabby, their eyelids pale and bloodless, and that in proportion to this state of the eyelids their tongues were pale, raw or sore-looking—indications of a very low state of vitality and liability to attacks of disease under exposure to the slightest exciting causes, of which my hospital experience can bear witness.

No. 169.

ORDER THEREON, 8th May 1877, No. 1,675.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded with reference to G.O.
of the 5th May 1877, No. 1,648.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Commissioner of Police,
the Board of Revenue,
the Financial Department.

Edw. A. F. Goodall

his knowledge that this fact did not prevent a

No. 2663

Dated 17. April 1877

FOR ORDERS

FOR ORDERS.

Went up for
 2/20/14.

2/20/14.

Received of Mr. Jones
the sum of \$100.00
for this - 1870

FOR ORDERS.

C 9-4-77 1226-4-77

Mr.

Made as 7th April 1877.

From

Major D. R. Thompson Esq.

Brigade 1st District

To

Colonel W. Dwyer

Commissioner of Police

Madras

Sir

I have the honor to inform you that I have carefully considered the suggestions made by the Sanitary Commissioner in his letter to the Chief Secretary to Government No. 1 dated Bellary 10th March 1877 which you have sent to me for my opinion and to state that I do not consider it advisable nor safe to reduce the quantity of Rice which is now daily distributed to the paupers in the Famine Relief Camps.

The Sanitary Commissioner in para 8 of his letter admits that the diet scale of Madras fulfils the two essentials which have been considered by him required in arranging a diet scale for the pauper population of the Presidency and further also admits in para 11 of the same letter that this scale was well considered before it was brought into use.

Under these circumstances and from the Sanitary Commissioner's experience in regard to the actual necessities of the paupers in these camps and his knowledge that this food did not prevent as

Ex. 56

COMMUNITY'S OFFICE

STAIRS POOL.

17th April - 1877.

REF ID: A6

THE COMMISSIONER of POLICE,

MORIS

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Abdulla C.
THE ~~SECRETARY~~ SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

FORT SAINT GEORGE

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Promus Repet. Feminis.

With reference to the enclosed
Letter from Doctor Thompson in Medical
Charge of Town Sanitary Relief Camps and
the G. A. marginally noted, I have the
honour to report that I have not felt justified
in reducing the scale of dish now in use,
as directed by Government.

2. In the critical state of health of the greater proportion of the Paupers it would it appears to me, be a very hazardous experiment to lower the amount of Cooked rice even four ounces, and as a matter of policy in deterring Profligate Villagers from seeking relief in the Town, I do not think it would have the slightest effect.

3. Up to the 1stth of April the total deaths have amounted to 2718, percent approved Dietary and highly efficient medical

Ad. (male)

2111078

6. 6. 20th March 1971
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To grow

Younger D. A. H. Youngman

Youngman & Co. 1st Nat.

To
Col. W. J. Warner
Commissioner of
Public
Roads

informing that
he would not advise
a reduction in the
scale of distribution
upon the grounds
that the Government
needed his land

attendance notwithstanding. I feel confident
the Government with Doctor Thompson's letters
before them, will not approve of any measures
likely to add to this appalling mortality.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your most Obedt. Servant

W. D. Draper
Commissioner of Boston

8
1675

1877-1878

Received of the
Commissioner of Police
for the sum of \$100.00
March 1877

Received of the
Commissioner of Police
for the sum of \$100.00
March 1877

1877-1878
241-245-

From

The Commissioner of Police.

Shades.

To

The Chief Secretary

to Government.

Fort Saint George

No.

April 17, 1877

Received

Presenting that the

see to go check some in
see with the Marine
some they can go to
not present.