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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
Revenue DEPARTMENT

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

1701-A

Press
Mis.

Dated

12-5-

1877
197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

12th May 1877, No. 1,701-A.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper:—

No. 242-A. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 14th April 1877.
Read the following letter from J. D. B. GRIBBLE, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector of Cuddapah, to J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, dated Madanapally, 31st March 1877, No. 698.

I HAVE, in my letter, No. 68-B, dated 13th instant, already reported that I consider the reduced scale of wages to be acting most injuriously on the physique of the coolies.

and 2. ~~then~~ I have had an opportunity of seeing several thousand coolies

3. Here in Madanapally Cusbah gangs I found on my return that the reduction of wages had not taken place, but so large a number (80 per cent.) were in a reduced state, and of these 30 per cent. were dangerously reduced, that after much anxious thought and discussion with Dr. Cornish, I resolved to await your or the Government orders before ordering the reduction.

4. I give one instance that happened the day before yesterday in the gang working on the relief-camp. A man of a fairly strong frame by no means so emaciated as others are worked up to 1 o'clock in the day. He was then purged a couple of times, and on Mr. Money riding out to the camp about 3-30 p.m., he found him lying dead by the side of the road. This was not cholera. It happened in a gang where the payments have been regular, and where supervision has been constant, and where the rate of wages was two annas. The reduced rates have been introduced now all over the division, with the exception of this gang, and have been in force for from two to four weeks. Everywhere I notice the same terrible falling off among the coolies, and simultaneously the increase of the numbers in the relief-houses. When Sir Richard Temple visited this Langerkhana in the beginning of February, there were only about 180 recipients of relief. When Dr. Cornish visited it little more than six weeks afterwards, there were more than 800, 50 per cent. of whom he said must certainly die, and none of whom did he think should be sent away. Now ten days afterwards there are nearly 1,500 and thin wretched creatures keep coming every day.

5. The reduced rates tell in two ways: they are not enough to keep the already reduced coolies in a good state of body; but as they must get food, they work on. These, in a little better state of body, leave the works in disgust only to come back again after a few days or weeks in a greatly reduced state.

6. I would earnestly ask to be allowed at all events to return to the old 2-anna rate, though even that I fear is scarcely sufficient. If we do not, I respectfully beg to say that I am convinced we shall have a terrible number of deaths, and the relief-houses will be filled with recipients of gratuitous relief, who, if they had received a little more pay, might still be turning out some work, small though it might be.

No. 134.

FORWARDED for the information of the Board of Revenue. Mr. Gribble's remarks appear to apply chiefly to the Madanapally Taluq. I cannot divest myself of the impression that there has been mismanagement. I cannot otherwise account, with the prices stated to exist, and the imports shown in Mr. Gribble's fortnightly returns, for the very bad condition of the coolies who have been until very recently ~~in a state of starvation~~ in the district. I am and have always been most strongly opposed to the reduced rate of wages which, apart from other considerations, I consider will ultimately result in no saving to Government. Whilst obeying the orders which I receive, I respectfully adhere to the opinions which I have frequently expressed.

CUDDAPAH,
4th April 1877.

(Signed) J. W. JOHNSTON,
Special Deputy Collector,
for Acting Collector.

SUBMITTED to Government.

2. The fact that the coolies at Madanapally are dangerously reduced seems undoubted, although it is not fully accounted for. That this effect should be so marked in the Madanapally Division surprises the Board. Mr. Gribble does not give the cause of the death of the man reported in paragraph 4. It was not reduction of wages in that case.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary.

No. 242-B. ORDER THEREON, 12th May 1877, No. 1,701-A.

Miscellaneous.

THE Government are aware that Mr. Price is on his way to Madanapally to inspect personally the condition of the work-people, and resolve to await his report before disposing of the Board's Proceedings.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Ed. F. B. Bantleman.

Revenue Department

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
Dated 14th April 1877.

Read the following

BdR No
3654

No. 698

From J.D.B. Gribble Esquire
Ap. Subcollector of Cuddapah

To J.H. Price Esquire
Ap. Collector of Cuddapah

Sir I have in my letter No 68^B dated 13th
instead already reported that I consider
the reduced scale of wages to be acting
most injuriously on the physique of
the Coolies.
2. Since then I have had an opportunity
of seeing several thousand Coolies and
my opinion is strongly confirmed
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reduced

Cost of (1877) Rupees

REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

No. 242-B.

Date May 12th

Recd.

G.O. 12th May 1877. No. 1701-A.

M.A.Y.

No. 242-A--242-B.

PAVING RELIEF, No. 1122-B

Unlawful Obstruction of Carriage on the
G.O. Division. - Resolving to award the
report on his previous inspection of the work
before disposing of the Board's Proceedings
subject.

Reduced State and of these 30 per Cent
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much anxious thought and discussion
with Dr. Carnish I resolved to await
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as others are worked up to 1st Clock in the
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was not Cholera. It happened in a
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1701/2
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Simultaneously the increase of the numbers
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the beginning of February there were
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Dr. Carnish visited it little more than
six weeks afterwards, there were more
than 800, 50 per cent of whom he said
must certainly die and none of whom
did he think should be sent away.
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7. I would earnestly ask to be allowed at all events to return to the old 2 anna rate though even that I fear is scarcely sufficient. If we do not, I respectfully beg to say that I am convinced we shall have a terrible number of deaths and the Relief houses will be filled with recipients of gratuitous relief who if they had received a little more pay might still be turning out some work small though it might be.

Sub
Cuddapah Collectors Office
Madanapally
31st March 1897

I have &c
129 J. G. Gribble
of Sub Collector.

No 134

Forwarded

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expressed.
Cuddapah
4th April 1897

109 J. G. Gribble
Spec. Dy Collector
for C. Collector.

Submitted

submitted to Government.

2. The fact that the Coolies at Madanapalli are dangerously reduced seems undoubted although it is not fully accounted for. That this effect should be so marked in the Madanapalli division surprises the Board. Mr. Gubbie does not give the cause of the death of the man reported in para 4. It was not reduction of wages in that case.

(True Copy & Extract)

Belur

Secretary

To The Additional Secretary, Govt. R.D.

1257-A
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1877

Feb 19/18
The Govt are aware of the
condition of the bridge
and the necessity of repairing it
before the opening of the season
1877

and the Govt are aware of the
condition of the bridge
and the necessity of repairing it
before the opening of the season
1877

Feb 1877
Proceedings of the
Road of the Province
21/11 April 1877
Road of the Province

Instruction to the Govt with
reference to the condition of the
bridge and the necessity of repairing it
before the opening of the season
1877

For order immediate reply is

The Govt are aware of the
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opening of the season 1877
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The Govt are aware of the
condition of the bridge and the
necessity of repairing it before the
opening of the season 1877

21/11/77