

(1) Number of pages 22
(2) Date of repair 26-3-73
(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

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

1703 A

Press
Mis.

Dated

12 May 1977
197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1703-1
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

12th May 1877, No. 1,703-A.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper:—

No. 246-A. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 30th April 1877.

Read the following letter from J. H. MASTER, Esq., Collector of Bellary, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Pennacondah, 19th April 1877, No. 287:—

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the Proceedings of the Board, Miscellaneous No. 5,073, dated the 6th instant; just before its receipt I had received a report from Mr. Oldham on the subject of the assistance afforded to the weavers.

2. I beg therefore to enclose a copy of it for the present information of Government. The amount of advances made will be reported hereafter.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From W. B. OLDHAM, Esq., B.C.S., on Special Famine Duty, in charge of Adoni Taluq, to J. H. MASTER, Esq., Collector of Bellary, dated 9th April 1877, No. 34.

With reference to your order of the 28th March 1877 forwarding Government Proceedings, No. 502, of 15th March 1877 (received by me on the 4th April 1877), I have the honor to report as follows.

2. An analogous system to that now directed by Government for the relief of weavers has already been put in force by me for the relief of distressed gosha women and other proper recipients in Adoni by spinning. I am now extending it to the weavers. The allowance is 20 seers of grain and 4 Annas in cash to each adult per month for a full return of work. This was the allowance I gave in Behar in 1874 for similar work and found it the best to work with. There is a small surplus of grain generally which the recipients can barter for condiments, &c. I have yet to find by experiment what a proper return of work is.

3. I have now started this system in compliance with the positive orders of Government, but in doing so find the following difficulties which do not appear to have been noticed. Pending orders regarding them I am pursuing this sort of relief to a very limited extent and have fixed 200 families as the limit to which it will be given, though it is doubtful if I can extend it to more than fifty.

(1). It is likely to interfere with my recruiting for Nellore, a task of no small delicacy, but which so far has been very successfully carried out here.

(2). I find that absolutely none of the weavers here who are proper objects for relief have working materials of their own. Their practice is to work as journeymen. For therefore the small number I am relieving I have to make separate arrangements by borrowing or hiring in each case. But even on its present small scale this leaves openings for relief being given to persons not actually in need of it, and if extended would entail more trouble and expense than it is worth. So that the only satisfactory way of carrying out the system is to build or hire sheds and in them assemble our weavers at bought or hired looms precisely in fact as is done in jails. But is the Government prepared to sanction the expense which this would entail? Judging by what has been paid to the Railway for their grain sheds here to shelter 200 weavers at work and provide them with instruments would cost Rupees 5,000.

(3). To meet the possible retort that other officers in other districts find no such difficulty, I would distinctly state that I contemplate only persons who are proper objects for relief; a necessary qualification with me is that the family or some member of it had already been working on the roads.

(4). The last aspect of the case is of a different nature, but as it does not appear to have been taken into consideration, I venture to respectfully urge it on the notice of Government. In the district of Midnapore in Bengal there are some large villages inhabited by weavers who were once thriving, but for the last thirty years have become more and more depressed so as to be in continual want owing to their occupation being lost because of the influx of English goods. Their villages suffered so exceedingly in the cyclone of 1874 that measures for their relief had to be taken at once, and then the pressure drove them on to the roads and they learned to handle the spade and pick. The consequence has been a pure gain to them, as whereas they were lingering on in their old class feeling, unwilling to dig, and starving on what little they could earn by weaving. Many of them have now been converted into capital agriculturists or at all events persons who are able to sustain themselves by daily labor, while the pressure in the weaving class has been relieved. It appears to me that the weavers of Adoni are much in the same position and that harm rather than good will follow any efforts to prop up a declining and overcrowded profession.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. H. MASTER,
Collector.

MR. OLDHAM must necessarily be allowed considerable discretion in working the system of relief to weavers at Adoni, and as to the persons to be admitted to relief. His suggestion however to gather the weavers into large sheds where they are to work together must be disallowed, as it is, in the Board's opinion, an essential part of the system that they should be relieved in their own homes. There must be some master-weavers who employ the journeymen; and Mr. Oldham will probably be able to arrange with such men for the employment of certain numbers of the journeymen on advances.

2. The Board think Mr. Oldham is mistaken in his estimate of the condition of the Adoni weaving trade. Up to the commencement of the present distress the weavers were a thriving class, and one branch of the trade, the carpet weaving, was, the Board believe, very lively.

3. There appears to have been considerable delay in communicating the orders of Government to Mr. Oldham, and the Board resolve to send copy of these Proceedings to him direct as the Collector is on circuit.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary.

No. 246-B.

ORDER THEREON, 12th May 1877, No. 1,703-A.

Miscellaneous.

RECRUITING in the Bellary District for the East Coast Canal having been authorized to be discontinued by the Government, this duty will no longer interfere with Mr. Oldham's attention to the weavers.

2. The Government do not consider it essential that a weaver or some member of his family should have worked on the roads in order that he or his relatives should be provided with work at his trade by Government. The intention of Government is that the sole test of admission be a state of distress requiring relief.

3. The particular tests, however, by which that point of distress is to be ascertained the Government leave to Mr. Oldham to determine, and it may be that the test of willingness to labor on the roads is the most practical one.

4. The Government do not think the number needing relief in their trade so great as to call for the erection of sheds or the provision of looms; but consider that Mr. Oldham will be able to hire the use of looms for those who have them not, or make arrangements by which a small part of the produce shall go to the loom-owner.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Financial Department.
„ the Accountant-General.

Edw. A. F. Goodall.

Revenue Department.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
Dated 5th April 1877.

Read the following.

No. 287.

From

The Collector

Bellary.

To

The Secretary to the

Board of Revenue

Madras

Sir,

I have the honor to acknow-
- ledge the Proceedings of the Board,
Miscellaneous No. 5073 dated
the 5th Instant, just before its
receipt I had received a report
from Mr. Chobham on the subject
of the assistance afforded to the
measures.

I beg therefore to enclose a
copy of it for the present information
of

Cost of 1877	
REVENUE.	
The BOARD OF REVENUE.	
Dated May, 12th	
1877	
G.O., 12th May 1877, No. 1703-A	
M.A.Y.	
Nos. 240-A-249-B	
FACSIMILE REHEAR, No. 1228-D	

If notice is being given in consequence of the receipt of the Past Court Order has been discontinued, the order in consequence with it will no longer interfere with Mr. Chobham's attention to the same, and indicating the point to be attended to.

of government. The amount of
advances made will be reported
hereafter.

Bellary Dealers Office }
19th April 1877 }
Panna Kenda }
Shane }
1st J. H. Master }
Collector. }

Enclosure.

No. 34.

From

W B Oldham Esq. B.C. &
now Special Revenue Deputy
in charge of Adami Taluk.

To

The Collector
of Bellary.

His

With reference to your order
of the 28th March 1877 forward-
ing Government proceedings
No 502

an amount of Rs 502 of 15th March 1877 (re-
ceived by me on the 4th April 1877)
I have the honor to report as
follows:-

An analogous system to
that now directed by government
for the relief of weavers has
already been put in force by
me for the relief of distressed
gosha women and other proper
recipients in Adami Taluk.
-ing. I am now extending
it to the weavers. The allowance
is 20 Seers of grain and 4 annas
in cash to each adult per
month for a full return of
work. This was the allowance
S -

I gave in Behar in 1874 for
similar work and found it the
best to work with. There is a
small surplus of grain generally
which the recipients can barter
for condiments &c. I have
yet to find by experiment what
a proper return of work is.

I have now started this
system in compliance with
the positive orders of government,
but in doing so find the
following difficulties which
do not appear to have been
noticed - Pursuing orders
regarding them I am pursuing
this sort of relief to a
very

very limited extent and have
fixed 200 families as the limit
to which it will be given,
though it is doubtful if
I can extend it to more than
50.

1st It is likely to interfere
with my recruiting for Tellico,
a task of no small delicacy,
but which so far has been
very successfully carried out
here.

2nd I find that absolutely
none of the weavers here who
are proper objects for relief
have working materials of
their own - Their practice
is

is to work as journey men.
Now, therefore, the small
numbers I am referring I
have to make separate
arrangements, by borrowing or
hiring in each case. But even
on its present small scale
this leaves openings for relief
being given to persons not
actually in need of it, and,
if extended, would entail
more trouble and expense
than it is worth. So that
the only satisfactory way
of carrying out the system
is to build or hire wheels
and

And in the case of ¹⁰³¹⁸weavers at bought or hired
looms, precisely in fact as is
done in jails - But is the
Government prepared to sustain
the expense which this would
entail? Judging by what
has been paid to the Railway
for their grain sheds here
to shelter 200 weavers at
work and provide them
with instruments would
cost Rs 5000 -

322 To meet the possible
rebut that other officers in
other Districts find no such
difficulty I would distinctly
state

state that I contemplate only
persons who are proper objects
for Relief - a necessary quali-
-fication with me is that
the family or some member
of it had already been working
on the roads.

^{1st} The last aspect of the
case is of a different nature,
but as it does not appear
to have been taken into
consideration I venture to
respectfully urge it on the
notice of Government. In
the district of Midnapore
in Bengal there are some
large

1703
large villages inhabited by
weavers who were once thriving
but for the last 30 years,
have become more and more
depressed so as to be in con-
-tinual want owing to their
occupation being lost because
of the influx of English goods.
These villages suffered so
exceedingly in the cyclone of 1874
that measures for their relief
had to be taken at once and
then the pressure drove them
on to the roads, and they
learned to handle the spade
and pick. The consequence
has been a poor gain to
them as whereas they
were

lingering on in their old slaps
feeling - unwilling to dig - and
starving on what little they
could earn by weaving - many
of them have now been con-
- verted into Capital agri-
- culturists or at all events
persons who are able to
sustain themselves by
daily labour, while the
pressure in the weaving
class has been relieved.
It appears to me that the
weavers of Adoni are
much in the same position
and

and that harm rather than good
will follow any efforts to
prop up a declining and
uneconomical profession.

9th April 1877. [M^r W. Oldham
Our special Hamin
Lenthy in charge
Adoni. Talang-
[True copy]

[M^r J. H. Master
Collector

M^r Oldham must necessarily
be allowed considerable
discretion in working the
system of relief to weavers
at Adoni, and as to the
persons to be admitted
to

to relief. His suggestions how-
- ever to gather the weavers
into large sheds, where they
are to work together, must
be disallowed; as it is, in
the Board's opinion an
essential part of the system
that they should be retained
in their own homes. There
must be some masterweavers
who employ the journey men,
and Mr. Oldham will
probably be able to arrange
with such men for the
employment of certain numbers
of the journey men on advances.

2 The

2 The Board think Mr. Oldham
is mistaken in his estimate
of the connection of the Adam
weaving trade. It is a
consequence of the present
distress the weavers were a thriving
class, and one branch of the
trade, the carpet weaving, was
the Board believe very lively.

3 There appears to have been
considerable delay in communicat-
- ing the orders of Government
to Mr. Oldham and the Board
resolve to send a copy of their
Proceedings to him direct as the
Collector is on circuit.

True copies sent to
1/2 of Mr. C. Parker
Secretary
Mr. B. Oldham Esq. B. C. G. on
1/2 of Mr. C. Parker
1/2 of Mr. C. Parker
1/2 of Mr. C. Parker
1/2 of Mr. C. Parker

1/2 of Mr. C. Parker
1/2 of Mr. C. Parker
1/2 of Mr. C. Parker
1/2 of Mr. C. Parker
1/2 of Mr. C. Parker

not sent

G. O.

C. 1. The Reception of the British in the East Indies in 1818 and 1819 and 1820 and 1821 and 1822 and 1823 and 1824 and 1825 and 1826 and 1827 and 1828 and 1829 and 1830 and 1831 and 1832 and 1833 and 1834 and 1835 and 1836 and 1837 and 1838 and 1839 and 1840 and 1841 and 1842 and 1843 and 1844 and 1845 and 1846 and 1847 and 1848 and 1849 and 1850 and 1851 and 1852 and 1853 and 1854 and 1855 and 1856 and 1857 and 1858 and 1859 and 1860 and 1861 and 1862 and 1863 and 1864 and 1865 and 1866 and 1867 and 1868 and 1869 and 1870 and 1871 and 1872 and 1873 and 1874 and 1875 and 1876 and 1877 and 1878 and 1879 and 1880 and 1881 and 1882 and 1883 and 1884 and 1885 and 1886 and 1887 and 1888 and 1889 and 1890 and 1891 and 1892 and 1893 and 1894 and 1895 and 1896 and 1897 and 1898 and 1899 and 1900 and 1901 and 1902 and 1903 and 1904 and 1905 and 1906 and 1907 and 1908 and 1909 and 1910 and 1911 and 1912 and 1913 and 1914 and 1915 and 1916 and 1917 and 1918 and 1919 and 1920 and 1921 and 1922 and 1923 and 1924 and 1925 and 1926 and 1927 and 1928 and 1929 and 1930 and 1931 and 1932 and 1933 and 1934 and 1935 and 1936 and 1937 and 1938 and 1939 and 1940 and 1941 and 1942 and 1943 and 1944 and 1945 and 1946 and 1947 and 1948 and 1949 and 1950 and 1951 and 1952 and 1953 and 1954 and 1955 and 1956 and 1957 and 1958 and 1959 and 1960 and 1961 and 1962 and 1963 and 1964 and 1965 and 1966 and 1967 and 1968 and 1969 and 1970 and 1971 and 1972 and 1973 and 1974 and 1975 and 1976 and 1977 and 1978 and 1979 and 1980 and 1981 and 1982 and 1983 and 1984 and 1985 and 1986 and 1987 and 1988 and 1989 and 1990 and 1991 and 1992 and 1993 and 1994 and 1995 and 1996 and 1997 and 1998 and 1999 and 2000 and 2001 and 2002 and 2003 and 2004 and 2005 and 2006 and 2007 and 2008 and 2009 and 2010 and 2011 and 2012 and 2013 and 2014 and 2015 and 2016 and 2017 and 2018 and 2019 and 2020 and 2021 and 2022 and 2023 and 2024 and 2025 and 2026 and 2027 and 2028 and 2029 and 2030 and 2031 and 2032 and 2033 and 2034 and 2035 and 2036 and 2037 and 2038 and 2039 and 2040 and 2041 and 2042 and 2043 and 2044 and 2045 and 2046 and 2047 and 2048 and 2049 and 2050 and 2051 and 2052 and 2053 and 2

If Mr. Oldham's duties in connection with the forwarding of coolies to the East Coast Canal interfere with his controlling the distribution of relief on the system laid down by Government, to 200 persons of the weaver caste, he had better be relieved of the former duty. The necessity for forwarding laborers to the canal from Bellary not being, however, great, now that the Bellary - Hubli Railway works are ready to absorb all the proposed emigrant labor, that duty might well be subordinated to

[illegible]

The O. with the same number as the O. with the
 same number is written in the O. with the
 same number.

to the task of providing em-
ployment for the weavers.

2. The Government do not
approve of the test set up by
Mr. Oldham, of qualifica-
tion for admission to relief
for weavers. It is not ne-
cessary that a weaver or

some member of his family
should have worked on
the roads in order that
he or his relatives should
be provided with work by
Government. On the con-

trary it was because such
people cannot be expected
to work with ^{the} spade or pick,
and because the forcing them
to do so tended to kill their
handicraft that it was
proposed to work them at
their own trade. Mr. Oldham

will therefore understand
that the sole test of ad-
mission is reduction to a
state

That is

3. The particular test ^{to be ascertained} ~~to be ascertained~~
is to be ascertained ^{the test} ~~the test~~
and it may be that the test
of willingness to labour ^{on} ~~on~~
roads is a most ^{practical} ~~practical~~
one.

4. The test ^{is not} ~~is not~~
the number ^{of} ~~of~~
in their trade so great ^{as} ~~as~~
call for ^{the} ~~the
provision of ^{the} ~~the
consider ^{that} ~~that
all the ^{the} ~~the
of ^{the} ~~the
have ^{the} ~~the
arrangement ^{to} ~~to
small part ^{of} ~~of
shall be ^{to} ~~to~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

100
6

state of distress requiring
relief.

3. Nor is the plan of sheds
and hired looms approved.
Advances ^{of materials} ~~of materials~~
should be made
to loom-owners ^{and contracts made with them} ~~and contracts made with them~~
to work up
~~such~~ ^{certain} ~~certain~~ a quantity of material
in ~~such~~ ^{such} a time as will em-
ploy all the ^{weavers} ~~weavers~~ working
employment and it should
be a condition of the advances
that they should be so em-
ployed.

J. H. P.

And Cap. 9. of the Poor Law Amendment Act 1834
5 the Finance Act 1834
6 the Accountant General

J. H. P.
12 May 1817

King To Wm
in Bellamy's letter