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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 1807 A — Press
~~B.P. No.~~ Mis.

Dated 24-5-1877 197 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

24th May 1877, No. 1,807-A.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper :—

No. 489-A. From Lieutenant-Colonel W. S. DREVER, Commissioner of Police, Madras, to J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Additional Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated 14th May 1877, No. 69.

REFERRING to G.O., of 5th May, No. 1,648, on a report by Surgeons-General Gordon and Smith on the Red Hills and Monegar Choultry Relief Camps, I have the honor to point out the following misapprehensions into which those gentlemen have been led and which would probably have been avoided had I been made aware of their intended inspection in time to have accompanied them.

2. *Paragraph* 4.—The paupers at the Red Hills obtain their molusces such as they are in the beds of the nullahs or paddy fields adjoining, but they do not "fish in the lake," nor are they allowed to approach its embankment. The bazaar in the neighborhood of the camp is for the supply of the working paupers, at present numbering 2,300, who are on daily wages, cook for themselves, and occupy Major Murray's old camp. These are not included in my weekly returns as "residents."

3. *Paragraph* 5.—The arrangements for the children at this camp are much

4. *Paragraph* 7.—As means for [illegible]. There is a special nurse, and huts set and is regularly filled by pycotahs with lake water from the supply channel.

5. *Paragraph* 6.—Report on Monegar Choultry Camp, last sentence :—The hut burnt did not belong to this camp but was in the Leper Hospital compound at a considerable distance.

6. *Paragraph* 18, No. 11, Vencategadoo, remarks:—"Breaks out of camp and works outside earning 2 Annas per diem." I am doubtful of this being correct. Men who have been in three months would not be readmitted if in health and they absconded, such persons being now well known.

7. I shall endeavor to introduce the improved dietary at Red Hills and Monegar Choultry Camps as soon as possible, converting them into relief camps proper. But it is essential in the first place to transfer all able-bodied paupers from them or to work of some kind, bringing in the weak and feeble from the other camps in their stead. With this object in view I am converting the Salt Cotaur Depôt into a working camp, will enlarge the Munnalay Camp, and employ the laborers on clearing the canal below the basin. Simultaneous transfers of the able-bodied and weakly are now in progress.

No. 489-B. ORDER THEREON, 24th May 1877, No. 1,807-A.

Miscellaneous.

COMMUNICATED to the Surgeons-General of the British and Indian Medical Services.

(True Extract.)

Additional Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioner of Police.
,, the Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department.
,, the Surgeon-General, British Medical Service.
,, the Board of Revenue.
,, the Financial Department.

Exd. C. Howarth.

Govt. of (1877) 30th
REVENUE.
To
The COMMISSIONER of POLICE
&c, &c,
Dated 4th, 24th.
Read.
G.O. 24th May 1877, No. 1,807
MAY.
Nos. 489-A—489-B.
FAMINE RELIEF, No. 1,168-A
Red Hills and Monegar Choultries Camps—Communicating to the Surgeons of the British and Indian Medical Services from the Commissioner of Police observations on their reports on the —.

No. 69

Commissioner's Office,
Madras Police,
14th May 1877.

From

The COMMISSIONER of POLICE,
MADRAS,

To

Addl.
The [redacted] SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT,
FORT SAINT GEORGE.

Sir,

Referring to G.O. of 5th May No. 1648 on a report by Surgeons General Gordon and Smith on the Red Hills and Poonamallee Chowltry Relief Camps, I have the honor to point out the following misapprehensions into which those Gentlemen have been led and which would probably have been avoided had it been made aware of their intended inspection in time to have accompanied them.

2. Para 4 of the report.

The Paupers at the Red Hills obtain their Rations such as they are, in the beds of the tank, or paddy fields, adjoining, but they do not "fish in the tank" nor are they allowed to approach its embankment. The Bazaar in the neighbourhood of the Camp is for the supply of the working Paupers at present numbering 2300, who are on daily wages

Cork

cook for themselves and occupy Major Murray's old Camp - These are not included in my weekly returns as "Residents"

3 - Para 5. The arrangements for the Children at this Camp are much the same as at the Ameegar Choultry. There is a special house and huts set apart for them also, in the old Camp.

4. Para 7. As means for ablution a special Tank has been excavated and is regularly filled by Pycotahs with Lake water from the supply Channel.

5. Para 6. Report on Ameegar Choultry Camp - last sentence. The Hut burnt did not belong to this Camp but was in the Leper Hospital Compound at a considerable distance

6. Para - 18. Mr Vencatesa does remarks. "Breaks out of Camp and works outside on "earning 2 annas per diem" I am doubtful of this being correct. Men who have been in 3 months would not be readmitted if in health and they absconded, such persons being now well known.

7. I shall endeavour to introduce the improved dietary at Red Hills and Ameegar Choultry

Choultry Camps as soon as possible, converting them into Relief Camps proper - But it is essential in the first place to transfer all able bodied paupers from them on to work of some kind, bringing in the weak and feeble from the other Camps in their stead. With this object in view, I am converting the Salt Cotaur Depôt into a working Camp, will enlarge the Kunnatoy Camp and employ the Labourers on clearing the Canal below the Basin - Semi Gratuitous transfers of the able bodied and weakly are now in progress -

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obt Servant.
W E Brown
Commissr of Police

No 3633

From

The Commissioner of Police,

Madras.

To

The Chief Secretary

to Government,

Fort Saint George.

No.

Dated 11th May 1877.

Received 14

ENCLOSURES.

Offers explanation on the report of Surgeon General Gordon and Smith contained in G. O. No. 1648 of 5th May 1877 on the Red Hills and Manegar Poultry.

With order