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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

DEPARTMENT

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

1861A

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Mis.

Dated

196

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

30th May 1877, No. 1,861-A.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper:—

No. 615-A. Endorsement of the Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated 29th May 1877, No. 1,152.

Read the following letter from Surgeon G. L. WALKER, M.D., Acting Zillah Surgeon, Chittoor, to Deputy Surgeon-General W. J. VANSOMEREN, Indian Medical Service, Presidency and Northern Districts, Madras, dated 14th May 1877, No. 74.

WITH reference to your memorandum, No. 1,745, dated 6th March 1877, I have the honor to report to Government, through your office, on the physical condition of the coolies employed on the relief-works of this taluq.

2. On the 11th instant and 10th instant I reported to Government that I specially examined 700, one by one. This body of 700 people comprised 350 men, 260 women, and 90 children. Of the men, I consider 30 per cent. to be anæmic, of the women 24 per cent., and of the children 20 per cent. Many of those who are anæmic do not appear to have lost flesh, though their health has undoubtedly deteriorated, and daily numbers present themselves at the hospital, suffering from dropsy, unable to continue longer on the works from this cause. Many also (about 100 I am informed) have been unable, during the past couple of weeks, to complete their task-work on account of weakness; they have been fined 1 or 2 Pies in consequence, which further reduces their ration.

3. The relief-camp is now opened, and those who, on account of weakness, emaciation, or sickness, are unable to work, are admitted.

4. I enclose lists of weights of seven gangs of coolies. From the aggregate of these lists it may be seen that during the week, from May 4th to May 11th, 39 coolies decreased in weight $46\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. and 17 coolies increased 18 lbs., showing a decrease of $28\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. in 56 coolies in a week; and that during the fortnight, from April 27th to May 11th, 35 coolies decreased in weight $68\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. and 13 coolies increased $19\frac{1}{2}$ lbs., showing a decrease of 49 lbs. in 48 coolies in a fortnight.

No. 4,079.

This is a specific, and consequently a valuable report.

2. The statements are very serious.

3. Deterioration of health, diminution of strength, and loss of weight, all prove, beyond contradiction, the operation of very unfavorable circumstances in which laborers in and about Chittoor are placed.

MADRAS,
16th May 1877.

(Signed) W. J. VANSOMEREN,
Deputy Surgeon-General, I.M.S.,
Presidency and Northern Districts.

Revenue Department, 30th May 1877, No. 1,861-A.

No. 314.

FORWARDED to the Chief Secretary for submission to Government, with reference to their Proceedings in the Financial Department, No. 757, dated 1st March 1877.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
19th May 1877.

(Signed) G. SMITH, M.D.,
Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department.

COMMUNICATED to the Revenue (Famine) Department.

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Officiating Chief Secretary.

No. 615-B.

ORDER THEREON, 30th May 1877, No. 1,861-A.

Miscellaneous.

COMMUNICATED to the Collector of North Arcot, whose attention is drawn to the serious state of affairs reported by Dr. Walker as existing in the head-quarters taluq of the district.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Collector of North Arcot.
„ the Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department.
„ the Board of Revenue.
„ the Sanitary Commissioner.
„ the Financial Department.

Exd. A. F. Goodall.

Health has undoubtedly deteriorated,
and daily numbers present themselves
at the hospital, suffering from dropsy,
unable to continue longer on the works
from this cause. Many also, (about one
hundred, I am informed) have been unable,
during the past couple of weeks, to complete
their task work, on account of weakness,
they have been fined 1 or 2 pice, in consequence,
which further reduces their ration.

3. The Relief Camp is more opened and
there, who on account of weakness, emaciation,
or sickness are unable to work, are admitted.

4. I enclose lists of weights of 7 gangs
of coolies. From the aggregate of these lists
it may be seen that during the week
from Monday 4th to May 11th, 39 coolies decreased
in weight $46\frac{1}{2}$ lbs, and 17 coolies increased
18 lbs; showing a decrease of $28\frac{1}{2}$ lbs
in 56 coolies, in a week; and that during
the fortnight from April 27th to May 11th,
35 coolies decreased in weight $68\frac{1}{2}$ lbs,
and 13 coolies increased $19\frac{1}{2}$ lbs; showing

a decrease of $49\frac{1}{2}$ lbs in 48 coolies in a
fortnight.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedient Servant

J. H. Walker Esq

Surgeon

J. J. Walker Esq

Glutton

11th May 1872

N^o 4079

This is a specific, and consequently a valu-
able report.

1. The statements are very serious.
2. Deterioration of health, diminution of strength,
and loss of weight - all prove, beyond contradiction, the
operation of very unfavorable circumstances, in which
labors in and about Glutton are placed.

Madras J.
16th May
1872

H. J. van Bommel Esq

Deputy Surgeon General,
J. M. S., Secy. G. H. B. H.

No 314

Forwarded to the Chief
Deputy for the Comptroller's
Office with reference
to their proceedings in the
Financial Department No
317 dated 1 March 1877

Adm. Secy. and
Gen. Secy. of the

19 May 1877

1/15/77
Com. & Secy.
Revenue (Revenue)

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No. 18610

Com. in the Col. of N. Aust. whom
attention is drawn to the same state of affairs
reported by D. Walker in existing in the land
master's duty of the Dr.

30/5/77
26/9
30 May 1877

Ind. Cap. to the Col. of N. Aust. whom
10 P. 10/10/77
5 the Surgeon General's Office
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