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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Ren DEPARTMENT

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

1865

Press
Mis.

Dated

31.5.1877

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1865
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

31st May 1877, No. 1,865.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper:—

No. 622, Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 23rd May 1877,
No. 2,343.

Read the following letter from J. H. MASTER, Esq., Collector of Bellary, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ooravaconda, 15th May 1877, No. 368:—

In forwarding for the information of the Board copy of a letter from Mr. Oldham, No. 72, of the 10th instant, reporting an outbreak of cholera near Adoni, I have the honor to request that the Surgeon-General may be asked, if possible, to detail another medical subordinate direct to Adoni.

2. Those lately ordered to this district (there were four, I think) were only posted by me to different famine relief works a few days ago.

3. I have still many applications for such men.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From W. OLDHAM, Esq., Taluk Officer, to J. H. MASTER, Esq., Collector of Bellary, dated Adoni, 10th May 1877, No. 72.

I HAVE the honor to report that the cholera which, as stated in my fortnightly narratives, has for the last month been hovering about this taluk, has within the week culminated in a devastating outbreak at Tumbal on the Madaveram road and twelve miles north of Adoni. I have some 20,000 laborers on this road which is twenty-eight miles long.

2. Of our working staff one Paymaster and three Maistries with their attendant were carried off in one night. On the 8th instant I received intelligence almost simultaneously that Captain Shortland, R. A., in charge of the road, and Superintendent Tonkyn at Tumbal had been attacked. Captain Shortland managed to reach the railway and was brought in here the same evening and is still in a dangerous state. Dr. Hinde of his regiment is attending him, and now gives good hopes of recovery.

3. I at once (on the night of the 8th) proceeded to the spot with a Hospital Assistant. The road bore almost the appearance of a battle-field; its sides being strewn with the dead, the dying, and those recently attacked. Nearly all the laborers nevertheless still come to the work.

4. After giving medicine and relief as far as was within my power, I had 1,000 of the laborers removed to the Sriguppa road, eight miles distant, and broke up the remainder into detached gangs and scattered them over the length of the road. Fortunately, Lance Corporal Douglas, of Her Majesty's 43rd Light Infantry, had arrived that morning to join me as a Superintendent, and I was enabled to place him in Superintendent Tonkyn's place with an East Indian Assistant. I further arranged for bringing gangs under two of the Madras Sappers, who had just arrived, to look after the disposal of the dead.

I found Superintendent Tonkyn too ill to be moved. The cholera had left him, but he died last night from its effects. He was an excellent hardworking man, and had just been promoted by me. I shall have his wife and family conveyed to their homes as soon as they are ready to leave after his burial, which is to take place here this evening.

The causes of the outbreak were, I believe, partly owing to Mr. Tonkyn having overcrowded his people in order to be able to supervise them more easily near his own head-quarters at Tumbal, and partly owing to the dead from Tumbal itself having been left near the village

not properly buried. Arrangements had been made by Captain Hamilton when he first joined, and trenches dug at different sites along all the works for the reception of the dead, and these had been regularly used by Superintendent for deaths amongst the laborers, but it seems he did not think that he had any power to interfere with or to detach laborers for the proper burial of persons belonging to the villages.

7. I have now made arrangements for the disposal of all dead bodies near the works, and have also warned the Tumbul Reddi on the subject. The outbreak was so sudden and violent, however, as to be some excuse for his breaking down.

8. I take the opportunity to remind you that for the whole taluq I have only two Hospital Assistants at my disposal, and to repeat my application for medical assistance. One of these is a confirmed malingerer, and it was owing to his habits that I was able to make use of him on this occasion, as he had come in from his station at Yemmiganur without leave, and I happened to hear by chance that he had been seen in Adoni.

9. There is no class of men whom I can employ to greater advantage than Medical Assistants. I give them circles of which they are the Inspectors for home relief, and are thus available for any sudden outbreak of sickness.

P.S.—A further report will be made in next narrative on 12th instant.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. H. MASTER,
Collector.

COMMUNICATED to the Surgeon-General with request that he will, if possible, depute another Hospital Assistant to Bellary.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary

No. 623.

ORDER THEREON, 31st May 1877, No. 1,865.

Miscellaneous.

THE Government have perused Mr. Oldham's account of the severe outbreak of cholera in the Adoni Taluq and of the death of Mr. Superintendent Tonkyn with regret. They await the further details promised.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Financial Department.
„ the Sanitary Commissioner.

Ld. A. F. Goodall.

Bellary 3/1865
Revenue Department.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 23rd May 1877.

From, *Read the following:*
The Collector Bellary No. 3/68

To The Secretary to the Board of Revenue
Madras

Sir, In forwarding for the information of the Board, copy of a letter from Mr. Oldham No. 72 of the 10th Inst. ant, reporting an outbreak of cholera near Adoni. I have the honor to request that the Surgeon General may be asked, if possible to detail another medical subordinate ^{direct} to Adoni. Those lately ordered to this District (there were four I think) were only posted by me to different Famine relief. Within a few days ago. I have still many applications for such men.

I have, &c.
Bellary Collector's Office } 13th / 5. 14. Master
15th May 1877 } Collector
Camp Co. Araconda

Govt. of (1877) Madras
REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Secy, Secy, Secy.

Dated May, 31st.

Encl.

G.O., 31st May 1877, No. 1,222.

MAY.
Nos. 622-623.

FAMINE RELIEF, No. 1,222.

Outbreak of Cholera in the Adoni Taluk, Bellary District.—Intimating that the Government have perused Mr. Oldham's account of the sufferings—and of the death of Mr. Tomlyn with regret, and awaiting the further details promised.

Communicated to the Surgeon
General with request that he will
if possible depute another
Hospital Assistant to Bellary.

/Spec Copy and Extract/

/Sd/ A. E. Stokes

Secretary

So

The Surgeon General. S. M. R.

/Spec Copy/

W. R. Stokes

Secretary

So

The additional Secretary to Govt.

Rt

with copy of enclosure

Ld

Copies by

H. Parthasarathy

4
1865

N^o 72

18th May 1877

Adoni

३३

The collector of Bellary

Sir,

I have the honor to report
 that the cholera which, as stated
 in my fortnightly narratives, has
 for the last month been hovering
 about this Valley, has within the
 week culminated in a devastating
 outbreak at Jambhal on the Madhavaram

road and 12 miles north of
Adoni. I have some 20000
laborers on this road which is 28
miles long.

2. Of our working staff one Day:
Master and 3 hair-ties with their
attendant were carried off in one
night. On the 8th instant I
received.

Dec. 1877

72.3857

Proceedings of the

Board of Revenue

29 Dec 1877

Handy 23

car

Communicating to

the Surgeon General

9. No. 10. Letter from the

Collector of Ballantray

Respectfully

that are Hospital

Edward's creek, May, 1891

possible he departed

Call 3/ May 77 No 1855
to 132 May 11 1855

intelligence almost simultaneously
that Captain Shortland R. it.
in charge of the Road and
Superintendent Jonty in at
Sumbal had been attacked.
Captain Shortland managed
to reach the Railway and was
brought in here the same evening
and is still in a dangerous state.

Dr. Skinde of his Regiment is
attending him and now gives good
hopes of recovery.

3. I at once (on the night of the
8th) proceeded to the spot with
a Hospital assistant. The
road bore almost the appearance
of a battle field, its sides being
strewn with the dead, the dying
and those recently attacked.
Nearly

Nearly all the laborers nevertheless
still come to the work.

4. After giving medicine and
relief as far as was within my
power I had 1000 of the laborers
removed to the Singappa road,
8 miles distant, and broke up
the remainder into detached
gangs and scattered them over
the length of the road. Fortunately
Sergeant Corporal Douglas of H. M.
43rd L. I. had arrived that morn-
ing to join me as Superintendent
and I was enabled to place
him in Superintendent Jonty's
place with my East Indian
Assistant. I further arranged
for burying gangs under 2 of
the Indian Sappers who had just
arrived.

arrived to look after the disposal
of the dead.

5. Found superintendent
Touhy too ill to be moved.
The cholera had left him; but
he died last night from its
effects. He was an excellent
hardworking man and had
just been promoted by me. I
shall have his wife and family
conveyed to their homes as soon
as they are ready to leave after
his burial which is to take
place here this evening.

6. The causes of the outbreak
were, I believe, partly owing to
Mr. Touhy's having overcrowded
his people in order to be able
to

to supervise them ^{more} easily, ~~at~~
his own head quarters at
Jambal, and partly owing
to the dead from Jambal
itself having been left near the
village not properly buried.
Arrangements had been made
by Captain Hamilton when
he first joined and trenches
dug at different sites along
all the works for the reception
of the dead and these had been
regularly used by Superintendent
for deaths amongst the laborers;
but it seemed he did not think that
he had ~~any~~ ^{power} former to interfere
with or to ~~prevent~~ ^{prevent} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~proper~~ ^{proper} ~~burial~~ ^{burial} of persons belonging
to

to the villages.

7. I have now made arrangements for the disposal of all dead bodies near the works and have also warned the Sainbal Naddi on the subject.

The outbreak was so sudden and violent, however, as to leave some excuse for his breaking down.

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One of these is a confirmed malingering and it was owing to his habits that I was able to make use

of him on this occasion. He had come in from his station at Zemmigarem without leave, and I happened to hear by chance that he had been seen in Adoni.

9. There is no class of men, whom I can employ to greater advantage than Medical Assistants. I give them circles of which they are the Inspectors for home relief and are thus available for any sudden outbreak of sickness.

I have &c
13/11/1884
Salug Officer.

A further report will be made in next narrative on 12th Inst. / True copy /
15/11/1884
Collector
/ True /

(True copy)

W. W. W.
Secretary

9

1865

de 7.3857

Enclosure in Board's

Proceedings of 23rd

May 1877 at 2.30

So.

The. Hall. Bay. 1877
No.

Recd. 20 May 1877