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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Rev. DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	<u>2013-A</u>	Press
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Not to be folded or roughly handled

20/11

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

16th June 1877, No. 2,013-A.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper:—

No. 836-A. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 5th June 1877, No. 2600
Read the following letter from J. H. M. COX, Esq., Special Deputy Collector,
to J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, dated Adrapalle,
17th May 1877, No. 448-212:—

I HAVE the honor to report on famine relief operations under my supervision in
the Budwail Taluq and the Hoblam Valley of Sidhout during the month of April.

2. *General supervision.*—A good deal of my attention during the month under
report was devoted to the preparation of the relief-camp at Budwail and erection of
the necessary sheds for the accommodation of the coolies going to the East Coast Canal
while Mr. Horden pushed on the completion of the relief-camp at Porumamilla into
which the paupers were moved the beginning of the month. Work at Budwail was a

There was such a demand for mats for relief
and Nellore cooly camps, that they could not
be supplied fast enough.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE.

Every thing in the camps in Budwail is now in
good order.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE.

3. The early part of the month I had an opportunity of looking up some of the
villages in the Hoblam Valley and showed the Inspecting Gumastah how to set about
getting the villagers to move all dung
Mr. Cox has been most careful in this respect,
and the arrangements made to clean the
villages, look after the destitute, and clear
the wells, are highly creditable to him.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE.

been completed. In most cases I found that the villages had been cleaned out or
were being cleaned out, and I impressed upon the villagers the importance of keeping
them so. Where necessary, I propose
Quite right, but all necessary work should be
done first.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE.

villages, but at present I am encouraging the villagers to do as much of this work as
they can themselves.

4. I also began in the early part of the month to organize a small establishment
in Budwail to prepare prickly-pear leaves for feeding cattle, the particulars of which
will be referred to further on.

5. I need hardly refer to the time spent with you in inspecting the coolies on
the four road-works and the paupers in the two relief-camps, if indeed the one at
Budwail could at that time be truly called a camp.

6. Mr. Horden moved his camp to Porumamilla about the middle of the month to
be near the relief-camp there, as it required
Mr. Horden appears to be working well and
steadily.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE.

some more supervision until a proper
Superintendent can be found to put in
charge of it.

and erection of the necessary
sheds

7. *Village supervision.*—The Inspecting Gunastahs have been doing their duty pretty well, though I have had to take some of them to task for not moving about more, as an incentive to this I have already applied to you for permission to grant them the usual horse allowance which I see is granted in other taluqs, and I hope I shall soon hear from you on the subject.

Under correspondence Mr. Cox's proposals were not quite clear.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE.

8. *Minor village works.*—The village works are still almost entirely confined to improving the water-supply on which a very large sum has already been spent on this taluq, and still applications continue to come forward. In some cases it has been found that the original estimates were not enough, and they have had to go down to a greater depth to get water. One hundred and eighty-three new works were sanctioned during the month under this head, including ten in the Hoblam Valley.

9. *Road-works.*—Work on the *Kalsapad road* was stopped on the 16th of the month. The outturn for the half month being 793 cubic yards of earth-work (some of it though hard rock), 5,837 cubic yards of gravel excavated and 14,242 running yards spread, costing Rupees 4,227-10-11 with contingent expenses.

High. Contingent charges and actual cost of labor should be shown separately. 3-pie children appear from the pay return to have been charged to the road. They should be debited to gratuitous relief.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE.

10. The coolies on the line of *Nellore road*, west of Budwail, were withdrawn in the early part of the month, partly on account of the scarcity of water in the neighborhood of where the work lay and partly with a view to having them working near Budwail when you came in order to facilitate inspection. A few gangs were also detached to do work at the relief-camp in excavating the trench, raising the basement of the sheds, collecting and putting down prickly-pear all round, &c. This party has since been employed on the southern section of the Cumbum road about Budwail and will be moved out to complete the Nellore line as soon as possible after there has been a fall of rain. The amount of work turned out by it during the month under report is as follows:—

	Breaking Metal.	Excavating and storing Gravel.	Earthwork.	Sundry Work.
	CUBIC YARDS.	CUBIC YARDS.	CUBIC YARDS.	RS.
Nellore road	704½	201½	...	...
Cumbum road (Southern Section) ...	1,610½	...	...	...
Budwail relief-camp	...	...	293½	1,480
Filling up hollows, &c., in Budwail Fort	...	...	721½	...
Total	2,315	201½	2,714½	1,480

Expensive.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE.

11. The particulars of work done on the *Mydekur road* is given below:—

Expensive.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE.

The cost of the above amounted to Rs. 4,338-12-2½ including contingencies.

Clearing bushes, about 1 furlong.
Breaking metal, 1,543 cubic yards.
Excavating and storing gravel, 374½ cubic yards.
Earth-work (since this hard rock), 102 do.

Besides other odd work such as filling up gaps in the metal heaps arranged along the side of the road. The total expenditure was Rupees 2,016-14-10½.

12. The outturn on the *Cumbum road* amounted to 6,015½ cubic yards of metal besides some odd work at the *Perumamilla relief-camp*, costing Rupees 7,451-10-6½ including contingencies.

13. *Numbers employed on works.*—There was a steady increase in the numbers coming to the works until orders were passed in the middle of the month to disperse with the services of the more able-bodied with a view to their being drafted East Coast Canal. The effect of this was to reduce the numbers on the different works at the end of the month to 4,968 as follows:—

Roads.	Head Coolies.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
1. Cumbum Road (Southern Section)	41	625	848	292	1,806
2. Cumbum Road (Northern Section)	57	971	1,302	327	2,657
3. Mydekur Road	12	116	320	106	554
Total	110	1,712	2,470	725	4,968

14. The above coolies being all below the average, the rate of task was reduced as agreed upon with you personally, and this has tended to raise the cost of the work turned out. Previous to this we had also formed separate gangs of the more weakly hands in accordance with the instructions contained in G.O. of the 15th March 1877, No. 1,088.

15. *Condition of coolies.*—As stated above, the condition of the coolies on the works during the latter half of the month was below the average; but, considering that they were for the most part old and sickly men and women as well as weak children, they may be considered in fair condition. Care has been taken to send into the relief-camps any that appeared too weak to work. Bi-weekly payments were introduced during the month, and when the paymasters get more into the work, I propose trying to see if it will not be possible to distribute pay every other day, but this will be no easy matter as time has to be allowed for making up and closing accounts after every payment.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE.

Bi-weekly payments appear to me all that is necessary. Daily payments will be very difficult on any works excepting those close to the taluq head-quarters.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE.

16. *General health.*—The general health of the coolies and villagers has been good, though cholera and small-pox has been prevalent in parts of the taluq. Small-pox seems to be chiefly confined to the children, and is not altogether of a bad type.

17. *Coolies drafted to the East Coast Canal.*—The number of coolies despatched to the East Coast Canal from this taluq up to the end of the month under report was about 2,500, and batta was paid to some 7,000 more from other taluqs which passed through Budwail on their way to Nellore.

and erection of the necessary sheds

18. *Rainfall.*—There was a slight fall of rain on the 11th but was very partial, being for the most part confined to the northern and western side of the taluq. Four or five minor tanks received a small supply of water, and there was a slight fresh down the Suggilair.

19. *Advances made under Land Improvement Act.*—The number of cases disposed of under this head in this month was 133, of which 75 had to be rejected, and Rupees 3,680 were advanced on account of the remaining 58. The inspecting Gumastahs as well as the Revenue Inspectors are required to satisfy themselves that these advances are being employed for the purpose for which they are granted, and the Tahsildar and myself also make

(Signed) J. F. PRICE.

similar inquiries in our visits to the different villages.

20. *Feeding cattle with prickly-pear.*—As stated in paragraph 4, I started a small establishment early in the month to prepare prickly-pear leaves, to see whether I would not make a beginning of the sort in Budwail itself, but it was very up-hill work as the relief coolies whom I employed complained of the thorns getting into their fingers and legs, and said they would rather do without work than be put on this. There was great difficulty too experienced in securing the cattle to be fed on the leaves. By the end of the month, however, there was a daily attendance of from 15 to 20 buffaloes, and 20 coolies were at work.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE.

21. The villagers have begun to see that their cattle are taking kindly to the diet, and are none the worse for it, so that I have been able to get more animals together during the current month, and since you have made me the special allowance of Rupees 150 under this head, I have yet further strengthened the establishment on this work. I propose also utilizing the services of some of the paupers in the relief-camp for the same purpose.

(Signed) J. H. M. Cox.

22. *Gratuitous relief.*—According to the returns received for the last Friday in the month (27th), the total number of persons receiving gratuitous relief in the taluq amounted to 2,717 as shown below:—

In relief camps (Budwail and Porumamilla)	966
In village relief-houses	361
Children of coolies on relief-works receiving subsistence allowance	1,390
Total	2,717

23. The proportion of children to adults on the Cumbum and Kalsapad roads still continued high, and on checking them, Mr. Horden tells me that he found that the number charged for were really being paid for. He is going to try and satisfy himself by further inquiry that the children do bona fide belong to the coolies who bring them.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE.

24. Mr. Horden reports favorably of the conduct of the two Sappers who are working under him. Their health has been good during the month under report.

Extra No. 1, 1877.

FORWARDED for information of the Board of Revenue.

GURRAMKONDA,
23rd May 1877.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Acting Collector.

SUBMITTED to Government.

2. Mr. Price's reports of inspection of coolies in the Budwail Taluq were forwarded with Board's Proceedings, dated 5th May 1877, No. 2,039.

3. A reference has been made to Government on the subject of bi-weekly payments in Board's Proceedings, dated 4th June 1877, No. 2,552.

4. The Board note the difficulty experienced in preventing and as regards 3-pie children (paragraph 23).

5. Mr. Cox's report is a good one, and shows that he is a careful and judicious relief officer.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary.

No. 336-B.

ORDER THEREON, 16th June 1877, No. 2,013-A.

Miscellaneous.

RECORDED. The Government concur in the Board's estimation of Mr. Cox's report and of his services as a relief officer.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Exd. C. Howarth.

and erection of ... shed

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 5th June 187.

Read the following—

No. 448
2nd

From, J. H. Mr. Cox Esquire
Sp. by: Collector Budwail
Salug.

To J. J. Price Esquire
ag: Collector of Cussapet

Sir, I have the honor to report
on Famine relief operations
under my supervision in the
Budwail Salug and the
Stollam valley of Sidhout during
the month of April.

Supervision. 2. A good deal of my attention
during the month under report
was devoted to the preparation
of the relief camp at Budwail
and erection of the necessary
sheds.

REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated June 16th.
Issued in MS. 21st.
Printed 28th.

Printed by G. O. 16th June 187, No. 2013-A.

JUNE
Nos. 336-A-836-B.

FAMINE RELIEF, No. 1305-A.

Report on progress of relief on Rs. 10 Lakhs
Taxes and the Famine relief of Sidhout, On
April 16th. — By the Special Report
of Revenue, submitted by the Special Report
Collector, and commencing in the Board
Secretary, Mr. Cox's report and of his service
as a relief officer.

sheds for the accommodation of
the coolies going to the East.
Coast Canal while Mr. Staden
pushed on the completion
of the relief camp at Poru:
manilla into which the
paupers were moved the
beginning of the month.

Work at Bwaib was a good
deal delayed for want of the
necessary mats to cover on the
sheds and the same want
was also a good deal felt
at Perumamilla where the
paupers had temporarily to
be admitted into the front sheds
and were altogether rather

crowded together but this was
deemed preferable to letting
^{them go} ~~things~~ out and being about as the

numbers were increasing but

There was such a
demand for mats
for relief and
hollows relief camps
that they could
not be supplied

fast enough.

S/ J. F. P.

Every thing in the
camps is held:
wait is now in
good order

S/ J. F. P.

My cot has been
most careful in this
respect and the
arrangements made
to clean the villages,
look after the desti:
tute and clear the
wells are highly
credit able to him.

S/ J. F. P.

Quite right, but all
necessary work
should be done
first.

S/ J. F. P.

3. The early part of the month
I had an opportunity of looking
up some of the villages in the
Hollam valley and showed
the Suspecting Guma to
how to set about getting the
villagers to remove all dung
heaps ~~see~~ beyond the village
site. The number of villages
that I was able to look up at
different times during the month
was 36 in some of which I inspected
the wells that were being deepened
or had been completed. In most
cases I found that the villages
had been cleaned out or were
being cleaned out, and I im-
pressed upon the villagers the
importance of keeping them so.

Where necessary I propose by
sanctioning the filling up
of hollows where rain water
would

would stand and otherwise
improving the drainage of
the villages but at present I
am encouraging the villagers
to do as much of this work as
they can themselves.

4. I also began in the early
part of the month to organize
a small establishment in
Budwail to prepare prickly
pear leaves for feeding cattle
the particulars of which will
be referred to further on.

5. I need hardly refer to the
time spent with you in inspecting
the coolies on the 4 road works
and the paupers in the 2 relief
camps; if indeed the one at
Budwail could at that time
be truly called a camp.

6. Mr. Harden moved his
camp to Poremanilla about

Mr. Harden appears
to be working
well and clearly.

S/J. F. P.

Village Supervision to put in charge of it.

under correspon-
dence. Mr. Cox's
proposals were not
quite clear.

S/J. F. P.

Minor Village
works.

The subject of water
supply especially
for the pariahs who are
generally very badly off
has been well attended to.
S/J. F. P.

about the middle of the month
to be near the relief camp
there as it required some more
supervision until a proper
Superintendent can be found

7. The Inspecting Gunistas
have been doing their duty
pretty well though I have had
to take some of them to task
for not moving about more
as an incentive to this. I
have already applied to you
for permission to grant them
the usual horse allowance which
I see is granted in other taluqs
and I hope I shall soon hear
from you on the subject.

8. The village works are still
almost entirely confined to
improving the water supply
on which a very large sum has
already

already been spent on this survey
and still applications continue
to come forward. In some
cases it has been found that
the original estimates were
not enough and they have
had to go down to a greater
depth to get water. 183 new
works were sanctioned during
the month under this head
including 10 in the Kollum
Valley.

9: Work on the Kalasapad Road works
road was stopped on the 16th of the month. The outturn
for the half month being 793 1/2 pie childrens
5837 1/2 pie yards of gravel excavated and 14242 running
yards spread - costing Rs 4227-10-11- with contingent expenses.

High contingent charges and actual cost of labor should be shown separately. 3 pie childrens pay return to have been charged to the road. They should be debited to Govt. distress relief.

S. J. J. P.

10. The coolies on the line of
Kellore road west of Buduail
were withdrawn in the early
part of the month, partly on
account of the scarcity of water
in the neighbourhood of where
the work lay and partly with
a view to having them working
near Buduail when you come
in order to facilitate inspection.
A few gangs were also detached
to do work at the relief camp
in excavating the trench, raising
the basement of the sheds,
collecting and putting down
prickly pear all round the
line. This party has since been employed
on the Southern section of the Kollum
road about Buduail and will
be moved out to complete the
Kellore line as soon as possible
after there has been a fall of rain.
The amount of work turned out
by

by it during the month under
report is as follows:-

	Breaking metal C. yds.	Heaving + storing C. yds.	Earth work C. yds.	Summary work
Milner Road	704 $\frac{3}{4}$	201 $\frac{1}{4}$	"	"
Gumbum Road	1610 $\frac{1}{4}$	-	-	-
Southern Section				
Budwail Relief Camp	-	-	993 $\frac{1}{2}$	1480
Filling up hollows & filling Budwail Fort	-	-	72 $\frac{1}{4}$	-
Total - 2315 - 201 $\frac{1}{4}$ - 274 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 1480 -				

The cost of the above amounted
to Rupees 4338-12-2 $\frac{1}{4}$ including
contingencies.

11. The particulars of work done
on the Drydeker Road is given
below

Expensive.
S. J. J. P.

below.

Clearing bushes about 1 furlong.
Breaking metal - 1543 C. yards.
Heaving and storing gravel
374 $\frac{1}{2}$ ss - 9

Expensive.

S. J. J. P.

Earth work (since this hard rock) 132 ss.
Besides other odd works such
as filling up gaps in the metal
heaps arranged along the sides
of the road. The total expenditure
was Rupees 216-14-10 $\frac{1}{2}$.

very expensive.

more than a rupee
a yard. There must
be some mistake. C. yards of metal
have 3 pie children
been included in
amount stated?

S. J. J. P.

12. The outturn on the Gumbum
Road amounted to 60 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ -
C. yards of metal besides some
odd work at the Poruramilla
Relief Camp costing Rupees 748-
10-6 $\frac{1}{2}$ including contingencies.

Numbers employed
played on works

13. There was a steady increase
in the numbers coming to the
works

works until orders were passed
in the middle of the month

to dispense with the services of the
more able bodied with a view
to their being drafted to the

East Coast Canal. The effect

of this was to reduce the
numbers in the different works at
the end of the month to 4968
as follows:-

Roads	Head coolies	men	Women	Children	Total
1. Cumbum road (Southern Section)	41	625	848	292	1806
2. L.R. (Southern Section)	57	971	1302	327	2657
3. Indur road	12	116	320	106	554
Total	110	1712	2470	725	4968

14. The above coolies being
all

This was after my
inspection, as I
examined over 5500
coolies.

S. J. P.

all below the average the rate
of task was reduced as agreed
upon with you personally and
and this has tended to raise
the cost of the work turned
out. Previous to this we had also

recruiting having
stopped, and able
bodied who remain
having been again
admitted, the
regular task had
been expected from all
capable of performing it.

S. J. P.

formed separate gangs of
the more needy hands in
accordance with the instructions
contained in G.O. of the 15th
March 1877 No. 1088

Condition of coolies 15. As stated above the con-
dition of the coolies in the works
this was not the case during the latter half of the month, or
when I saw them, except on the gang at Razerpallu which was below the average but con-
sidering that they were for the most part old & sickly men
and women as well as much children they may be considered
in fairly fair condition. Care has been taken to send into the relief
deterioration has already been taken to send into the relief

locumps any that appeared ^{been before}
 too weak to work. Bi-weekly
 payments were introduced during
 the month and when the paymasters
 get more into the work I
 propose trying to see if it
 will not be possible to dis-
 tribute pay every other day, but
 this will be no easy matter as
 time has to be allowed for
 making up and closing accounts
 after every payment.

16. The general health of the
 coolies and villagers has been
 good though Cholera and
 small pox has been prevalent
 in parts of the Valley. Small
 pox seems to be chiefly confined
 to the children and is not

been before
 S. J. P.
 Bi-weekly
 payments
 to me all that is
 necessary. Health
 payments will be
 very difficult on any
 works excepting
 those close to the
 Valley Head Quar-
 ters. S. J. P.

General Health.

Coolies drafted
 to the East Coast
 Canal

altogether of a bad type.

17. The number of coolies
 despatched to the East Coast Canal
 from this Valley up to the end of
 the month under report was
 about 2500 and but a very
 paid to some 7000 more from
 other Valleys which passed
 through Mowcul on their way
 to railway.

Rain fall

18. There was a slight fall of
 rain on the 11th but it was very
 partial being for the most part
 confined to the northern and
 western side of the Valley. 4 or
 5 minor tanks received a
 small supply of water and
 there was a slight fresh down
 the Suggit air.

Advances made
 under Land improve-
 ment Act.

19.

The number of cases disposed
 of

of under this head in this
month was 133 of which 5
had to be rejected and
Rupees 3,680 were advanced
on account of the remaining
58. The Inspecting Mamastas
as well as the Revenue Inspectors
are required to satisfy them-
selves that these advances
are being employed for the
purpose for which they are
granted and the Tahsildar
and myself also make similar
enquiries in our visits to the
different villages.

20. As stated in para 4 I
started a small establishment
early in the month to

prepare prickly pear leaves
to see whether I would not make

care should be
taken that en-
quiries are not
shuffled off by
the Tahsildar. They
should not be en-
trusted to Revenue
Inspectors and
underlings &c.
unless the Tah-
sildars are brightened
up wonderfully
after I left Rudraail
he could hardly have
made all the
necessary enquiries
& inspection him-
self. S. J. P.

Feeding cattle
with prickly
pear.

This, I am afraid
has been a failure.
However the heavy
fall of rain that
we have had
will allow of the
discontinuance
of the experi-
ment.

S. J. P.

20/3/11
beginning of the sort
in Rudraail itself but
it was very up hill work
as the relief coolies whom
I employed complained
of the thorns getting into
their fingers and legs
and said they would
rather do without work
than be put on this.

There was great difficulty
too experienced in securing
the cattle to be fed
on the leaves. By the
end of the month however
there was a daily

attendance of from 15
to 20 buffaloes and 20
coolies were at work.

21. The villagers have

begin to see that their
cattle are taking
kindly to the dist

and are none the worse
for it so that I have
been able to get more

animals together + they still seem
to have some
scruples about
trusting their
bullocks —
made me to
the

on this point and
with but one solitary
exception all the
animals I have
are buffaloes.

J. H. M. B. P.

Gratuitous
relief —

22. According to the returns
received for the last Friday
in the month (27th) the
total number of persons receiving
gratuitous relief in the
Taluk amounted to 775 as shown
below.

In relief camps (Dandwail &
Perumavilla) 966.
In Village Relief Houses. 261
Children of coolies in
relief works receiving sub-
sistence allowances — } 1290

Total 27/7

23 The proportion of children to adults on the Cumbrun and Kalaspaud roads still continued high and on checking them Mr. Gordon tells me that he found that the number charged for were really being paid for. He is going to try and satisfy himself by further enquiry that the children do bona-fide belong to the coolies who bring them.

24 Mr. Gordon reports favorably of the conduct of

The numbers as shown in the last return seen by me are too high. I am certain that fraud is going on. Very possibly children are entered twice over.
sd/ J.H.

of the two rappers who are working under him. Their health has been good during the month under report.

Camp Sandrapallee } Have
Sidhant Salug } 13/ J.H. M. Esq.
17th May 1885 } Special Dy Collector.

/True copy/

Ex tra no: 1211.

Forwarded for the information of the Board of Revenue.

Cudrapak Collecting office }
Camp Guram Kundra. } 13/ Frederick Price
Kodpaud Salug. } agt Collector
23 May 1885

Submitted to Government.
2. Mr. Price's reports of

of inspection of Coolies in the
Andamail Salug were for-
warded with Board's Proc
dated 5th May 1877 No. 2089.

3. A reference has been made
to Government on the subject
of bi-weekly payments
in Board's Proceedings
dated 4th June 1877. No. 2552.

4. The Board note the
difficulty experienced in
preventing fraud as regards
3 pie children. (para 23).

5. Mr. Cox's report is a
good one and shows that
he is a careful and
judicious

judicious relief officer.

/ True copy & Extract

W. H. Wms
Secretary

To

The additional Secretary
to Government
Revenue Dept.

