

(1) Number of pages 8-
(2) Date of repair 27-9-1973
(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2093B	Press
~~B.P.~~ No.		Mis.
Dated	23-6-1877	197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

82

2093B
1

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

23rd June 1877, No. 2,093-B.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper :—

No. 514-C. Endorsement of the Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, dated Fort St. George, 9th June 1877, No. 361.

Read the following letter from Surgeon-Major Æ. M. ROSS, Zillah Surgeon, to Deputy Surgeon-General W. J. VANSOMEREN, Deputy Surgeon General, Indian Medical Service, Presidency and Northern District, dated 30th May 1877, No. 101.

I HAVE the honor, as the subject is a most interesting one at this season, to enclose a table showing the loss in weight in the case of 11 prisoners placed on a punitive ration (conjee diet=6½ ounces of rice) for three days.

It will be seen that, before being placed on conjee diet, the average weight was 99 lb. 2 oz., that after 24 hours on conjee diet the average weight was 96 lb. 14 oz., the average loss in weight for the first day being 2½ per head.

After 48 hours on conjee diet, the average weight was 95 lb. 20 oz., or a further loss of 1 lb. 12 oz. per head.

After 72 hours on conjee diet, the average weight was 94 lb. 2 oz., or a further loss of 1 lb.,—a total loss in the three days of 5 lb. per head.

The first four on the list, however, were maistries, and the first and second were maistries in the cook-room yard. I had given orders that they should be removed from this position, but, owing to an oversight of the Jailor's, this was not done until after the first day of punishment, when, finding the men had not lost weight, I made inquiries and found they had still been retained at their posts. I ordered them to be sent out with working gangs, where they would be under better surveillance, and the effect is marked. As maistries, they were put to no labor except that of walking with the other prisoners ½ mile to their seat of labor and back.

There is no doubt that during the first day of punishment passed in the cook-room yard, they somehow or other got as much or more than their ordinary rations.

Eliminating this source of error or correcting it, it will be seen that by far the greatest loss in weight takes place in the first twenty-four hours, and that afterwards the loss is slighter and much more gradual.

This will illustrate some of my statements with regard to the coolies examined on relief-works. It was almost impossible for them to lose weight.

I am sorry I did not weigh the prisoners on punitive diet daily for two or three days after they had been restored to the ordinary dietary to note the rapidity of increase in weight, but I will do this in future.

I enclose also a statement of the weights of 100 prisoners admitted into jail in May 1877, and of 100 prisoners admitted in April and May 1876, in order to give an idea on the falling off in the condition of the people generally. It will be seen from this return that the average weight is 1 lb. 7 oz. less in 1877, than for the nearly corresponding period last year.

Revenue Department, 23rd June 1877, No. 2,093-B.

No. 4,572.

Forwarded for information.

MADRAS,
8th June 1877.

(Signed) W. H. HARRIS, M.D., Surgeon Major,
For Deputy Surgeon-General I.M.S.
Presidency and Northern District.

FORWARDED to the Revenue Secretary for submission to Government.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
9th June 1877.

(Signed) G. SMITH, M. D.
Surgeon-General I.M.D.

No. 514-D. ORDER THEREON, 23rd June 1877, No. 2,093-B.

Miscellaneous.

COMMUNICATED to the Sanitary Com-
missioner.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Exd. A. Raitt.

2093B
2

lost of 1 10112 3. per head.

No 101 2093B

Dated 30th May 1877.
Civil Dispensary
Mellor

From
H. M. Roass Esquire
Lillah Surgeon
Mellor

To
The Deputy Surgeon General
I.M.S. Presidency
& Northern District
Madras

Sir I have the honor as the subject
is a most interesting one at this season to en-
close a table showing the loss in weight in
the case of 11 prisoners placed on a punitive
ration (Confec diet = 6 1/2 oz of rice)
for three days.

It will be seen that before
being placed on Confec diet the average weight
was 99 lbs 2 oz. that after 24 hours on Confec
diet the average weight was 96 lbs 14 oz the
average loss in weight for the first day being
2.4 per head.

After 48 hours on Confec diet
the average weight was 95 lbs 20 oz. or a further
loss of 1 lb 12 oz. per head.

Recd. at 14 59 20/11/77
Mellor

Govt. of (1877) 23rd
REVENUE.

THE SANITARY COMMISSIONER,
do, do, do.

Dated June 2nd.

Received in M.S. June 9th.

Printed July 2nd.

Encl.

G.O., 23rd June 1877, No. 2,081-B.

JUNE.

No. 514-C-514-D.

FAMINE RELIEF, No. 1347-B.

Prisoners placed on a punitive Ration at
Mellor.—Communications to the Sanitary Com-
missioner from the Lillah Surgeon of Mellor
reporting the result of above—for three days.

After 72 hours on Conjee diet the average weight was 94-23 or a further loss of 1 lb = a total loss in the three days of 5 lbs per head.

The first four on the list however were Maistries & the first & second were Maistries in the Cook room yard. I had given orders that they should be removed from this position, but owing to an oversight of the Jailors this was not done until after the first day of punishment when finding the men had not lost weight I made enquiries & found they had still been retained at their posts. I ordered them to be sent out with working gangs where they would be under better surveillance & the effect is marked - As Maistries they were put to no labour except that of walking with the other prisoners 1/2 mile to their seat of labour & back.

There is no doubt that during the first day of punishment passed in the Cook room yard they somehow or other got as much or more than their ordinary rations. On correcting it, & eliminating this source of error or correcting it, it will be seen that by far the greatest loss in weight takes place in the first twenty four hours, & that afterwards the loss is slighter & much more gradual.

This will illustrate some of my statements with regard to the Coolies engaged on relief works. It was almost impossible for them to lose weight.

I am sorry I did not weigh the prisoners on punishment diet daily for two or three days after they had been restored to the ordinary dietary to note the rapidity of increase in weight, but I will do this in future.

I enclose also a statement of the weights of 100 prisoners admitted into jail in May 1877 & of 100 prisoners admitted in April & May 1876 in order to give an idea on the falling off in the condition of the people generally - It will be seen from this return that the average weight is 4 lbs 7 oz less in 1877 than for the nearly corresponding period last year.

I have the honor to be
Sir

No 1592

Forwarded for information

J. K. Davis Esq.

Surgeon Major
for the Superintendent
of the Prison

25 Feb 1877

Your Most Obedt Servt
Alexander Ross Surgeon Major
Deputy Surgeon Major

No 361

Committed to the
Department Secretary
for submission to
Government

And with two

European General & his

Staff of 1000

of June 77

21.6.77

21.6.77

21.6.77

21.6.77

21.6.77

No 443. 18.6.77

From 18.6.77

No 444. 18.6.77

The Dy. European General

Mr. G. M. M. M.

Date 30th May 1877

No 101

Enclosure 2

Referring to the result of

11 prisoners placed on a

prisoners' union for three

days

11.6.77

11.6.77

11.6.77

Two Capt. & Lieut. Sandars, Comm. of Forces, 2nd Div. 1st
to the European General, 1st Div. 1st
to the 1st Div. 1st