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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

REY - DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2132-B	Press.
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Dated	27-6-1877	197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

27th June 1877, No. 2,132-B.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper:—

No. 615-C. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 16th June 1877.

Read the following letter from R. W. BARLOW, Esq., Collector of the Chingleput District, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Saidapet, 16th June 1877, No. 443:—

I HAVE the honor to report on the progress of relief-works in this district up to the end of April last.

2. *Chingleput*.—In this taluq the earthwork of the road from Vendalore to Kelambakum has been completed, and the Sub-Collector states that the "work has been very well done, and great credit is due to the Tahsildar of Chingleput and the Deputy Tahsildar of Tripooroor for the care which they have taken in carrying it out." This was the only road-work of any importance in the taluq. A small sum of Rs. 400 was also spent in repairing the old trunk road near Chingleput from the 10th milestone of the Great Southern Trunk Road to the village of Nuttum and P. laveli.

3. A large number of village ponds were taken in hand and completed, especially in the central and eastern parts of the taluq where distress was great, and a fair supply of drinking water was obtained in many villages which were much in want of it. Some large ponds in the town of Chingleput were also cleared, and a great quantity of silt, which had accumulated during years past, has been removed. The repairs of the Palar river channels, as per margin, in the southern part of the taluq were also sanctioned and are in active progress, affording employment to the distressed who were greatly in want of it. A large number of coolies were also

	RS.	A.	P.
Manapakum	1,916	0	0
Vallivarum... ..	1,459	14	0
Godavayalur, Ayapakum, and Kolathunaiyeri	1,508	8	0
Total	4,884	6	0

employed in the construction of the relief-camp at Chingleput.

4. *Madaranthakum*.—The only road undertaken as a relief-work in the Madaranthakum Taluq was that from a point on the Chunambet Road near Madukerai to Vepunjeri, a length of about 18 miles, passing by the villages of Tenampattu, Keralavadi, Paranjur, Kadukapattu, Nelvoypolliem, and Tattampattu. The earth-work has been completed and the whole amount of the estimate spent. The Sub-Collector is of opinion that the work was very well done. In addition to this a few ponds were being deepened here and there to increase the supply of drinking water for men and cattle; and the Cheyaur supply channel to the Utramerur tank, in the northern part of the taluq, which was being cleared of prickly-pear, has given a good deal of employment. The repairs of the Maiyur and Venmani tanks undertaken by the Revenue Department were also in progress; and on the completion of the Vepunjeri Road the removal of prickly-pear from the Parayanacolathur tank bund, sanctioned in G.O., dated 5th July 1876, No. 1,700, Public Works Department, was also taken up.

5. *Conjeeveram*.—The roads from Sankawar Choultry to Maduramangalam, Irulanjeri to Perambakum, and Segundi to Kilcheri, which had been entrusted for execution to the Deputy Tahsildar of Streeparumbathoor, were completed, while the roads from Parandur to Maduramangalam and from Conjeeveram to Magatal were in progress. The number of coolies on these works was, however, small, the low rates of wages, and also because of the Railway works in

sonum to Conjeeveram, to which the Tahsildar had been directed employed in the vicinity. The Sub-Collector states that a great portion of the road from Conjeeveram to Magaral, south of the Palar, was carelessly done, and that he has taken due notice of the neglect of the Tahsildar and the Revenue Inspector who had charge of the work. The Assistant Collector, Mr. Thompson, who had been temporarily deputed to assist Mr. McCarthy, has since inspected the road, and from his report it appears that work was subsequently progressing satisfactorily. The road from Maduramangalam to Parandur, about 6½ miles, will, when completed, form a very useful line and open through communication over a large tract of country between Sankawar Choultry and the Pallar Railway Station.

6. A large number of ponds were deepened in this taluq, particularly in the eastern part, and Mr. McCarthy says: "the works were, with one or two exceptions, carefully carried out, and the sufferings of the people from want of water were to a great extent alleviated and warded off." Great care has also been taken to distribute the works as widely as possible, so as to place relief "within reasonable reach of all villages."

7. The Sub-Collector states that "a great number of irrigation works were being repaired by the Public Works Department, particularly in the Madaranthakum and Conjeeveram Taluqs, and though the numbers employed on each work were small, still on the whole the relief given was very considerable."

8. As regards gratuitous relief to those unable to work, Mr. McCarthy says: "gratuitous relief is availed of to a large extent. I regret I was not until quite recently, to make arrangements for putting up any relief-camps; but a large and commodious one is now under erection near Chingleput, and will be completed in a few days. Of course, in the mean time it has been found absolutely necessary to keep on small relief-houses in a few of the outlying villages, but we will be in a position to stop this very soon, and the gratuitous relief in outlying villages will be confined to such pressing cases as may be brought to notice by the itinerating officers. Very complete arrangements are now in force for succouring the distressed, and all possible endeavours are being made to ward off starvation."

9. *Saidapet*.—The road from Irumbuliyoore to Palaveram has been completed within the estimated amount. I drove over the whole line on the 17th April last, and I am of opinion that the work does great credit to Mr. Jones. We have here 7 miles of good road, metalled and gravelled throughout, and duly marked with furlong and milestones. The difficulty experienced in procuring water greatly retarded progress and prevented the earlier completion of this road. This work and the deepening of eight ponds in the villages lying near the line, which was undertaken to provide water for the construction of the road as well as for drinking purposes, have afforded employment to a large number of people. The road from Saidapet to Puliyoore via Mambalam has also been completed and inspected by me on the 27th April. Speaking of this road, the Deputy Collector in charge of the taluq says: "a good and useful road of two miles has been secured by this outlay (Rupees 3,000), and the expenditure has not been a greater boon to the poor of the neighbourhood than I think the road will be to a large section of those travelling to Madras from St. Thomas' Mount and other places south." The road from Kunnamthoor to Mandugadu was in active progress. The earth and masonry works have been completed, and materials were being collected for graveling.

10. The deepening of ponds, wells, and tanks was in progress in almost every village. In some cases the ground was so hard, and the urgency for the supply of water both for men and cattle so great, that professional well-sinkers

had to be employed to assist in the work; but every effort was made to give employment to the people of the villages as far as possible.

11. As regards relief operations in the taluq generally, Mr. Jones says: "with the opening of so many extensive works in the taluq and its neighbourhood, such as roads, the Junction Canal, the river embankment, and the doubling of the Railway line from Ambathore to Trivellore and Arcunum, and the provision for the few that may be detained in their villages by employment on digging ponds and irrigation works, it is cheering to me to say that the prospects of the people are not altogether so gloomy as they might otherwise be."

12. *Trivellore*.—The earth-work of the road from Tripasore to Ramanjeri has been completed within the amount provided in the estimate, and the masonry works were being constructed. An additional grant of Rupees 7,000 was sanctioned for this road in G.O., dated the 19th April last, No. 1,488-A, to finish the latter and carry out the metalling. The road from Tinnanore Railway Station to Velliyoore is 8 miles, and of this earth-work has been completed over nearly 4 miles, the comparatively small quantity of work done being due to the Railway works in the neighbourhood in connection with the doubling of the line from Ambathore to Arcunum, and to which coolies were sent under G.O., No. 1,233, dated 26th March last. For the same reason the progress of earth-work on the line from Velliyoore to Periapolliem, which is a continuation of the road from Tinnanore, was not great. The ground over which the line passes is hard and low, so the coolies even preferred the Railway works where they obtained better wages. The earth-work of the roads from Oothocottah to Periapolliem and its continuation to Athcepadu on the Northern Trunk Road having been completed by the Public Works Department some years ago, our operations were confined to metal-ling the same. About 7 miles of the former and 4 of the latter were completed, and materials were being collected for finishing the remainder.

13. Ponds and wells were being deepened in various parts of the taluq, especially in the south and east, where the scarcity of water was great. The system of executing works by task has been largely enforced in the repair of ponds, and the result has been very satisfactory, the outturn being 13½ cubic yards per rupee in easy soils.

14. *Ponneri*.—In this taluq the earth-work of the road from Arnee to Periapolliem was completed, and the clearance of ponds and village improvements, such as the levelling of streets and digging of side trenches, were in active progress in various parts of the taluq. I have personally inspected most of the works, and am of opinion that on the whole good work has been turned out for the money spent.

15. The poor-house at Pallachiamunacolum in the Ponneri Taluq has been very much resorted to by the destitute, infirm, and the young of the neighbouring villages; but it has been found necessary to open a camp on a large scale on the banks of the Cortelliar in this taluq to arrest the influx of the destitute who were pouring in in large numbers from the Nellore District and the zemindaries of Venkatagiri, Kalastri, and Karvatynaghur. Arrangements were accordingly made about the end of April to construct huts, &c., for the purpose, and the Tahsildar was directed to feed the poor near Oblapuram and Goomoondypoody on the Northern Trunk Road till the camp was ready to receive them.

16. The Palaveram and Poonamallee (Tirumush) Relief-camps have continued to be of great utility to the distressed population of the neighbourhood and the pauper travellers who would have otherwise sought refuge in Madras and greatly swelled the numbers there. The Poonamallee Camp, after its removal from Korattur to the junction point of the Western Trunk Road leading to Conjeeveram and Streeparumbathoor and the road from Poonamallee to Trivellore, has been even more useful than before in fulfilling the purpose for which it was established, viz., to prevent the destitute ryots and their families rushing into the metropolis in search of employment, or of the gratuitous and somewhat indiscriminate relief afforded by the wealthy merchants. No complaint is made of people now evading the Police stationed on the road to divert them. Both these camps were very healthy, and are in excellent working order. The Tirumush Camp is

Revenue Department, 27th June 1877, No. 2,132-B.

built upon a new plan which Major Murray thus describes: "the sides and ends being moveable shutters which, when let down at nights, form a camp of closed huts, and when raised on bamboo poles during the day make an open pandal, to be used as such by the inmates as a shelter from the heat of the sun."

17. In conclusion, I beg to enclose some statements showing the "measured quantities of work actually done and the rates of cost thence deduced" in different localities. It will be observed that, in the circumstances under which the works were carried out, a very fair amount of work has been done on the whole, and a fair return obtained for the amount expended.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The roads referred to are all useful lines, and will be valuable if finished. The cost of work done, as shown by the statements enclosed, is not, considering the circumstances, heavy.

3. The camps are well placed to intercept wanderers flocking to Madras, but many persons must succeed in evading them.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary.

No. 615-D.

ORDER THEREON, 27th June 1877, No. 2,132-B.

Miscellaneous.

RECORDED.

2. The particulars of work done and outlay should be.

On paragraph 9 the Government would remark that village r confined to passing cases, but to cases which it is not necessary to remove to camp for medical and special relief.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue,
the Financial Department.

Exd. A. F. Goodal.

Revenue Department

2845

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
dated 16th June 1877

Read the following:

No: 443

Sir,

R. W. Barlow Esquire
Collector of the
Chingleput District

To

W. E. Atkins Esquire
Secy: to the Board of Rev.
Maoras.

Sir,

I have the honor to do
report on the progress of
Relief works in this District
up to the end of April last.

2. Chingleput. In this Taluk
the earthwork of the road
from Vandalore to Kelambakam

completed and the Subcollector states that the
 "work has been very well done" —
 and great credit is due to
 the Sahildar of Chingleput
 and the Deputy Sahildar
 of Tripur for the care which
 they ^{have} taken in carrying it
 out. This was the only road
 work of any importance in
 the Saling. A sum of Rs. 400 was also spent
 in repairing the old Trunk
 road near Chingleput from
 the 38th mile stone of the
 Great Southern Trunk road
 to the village of Kuttam, via
 Palaveli.
 3. A large number of village
 ponds

ponds were taken in hand
 and completed, especially
 in the Central and Eastern
 parts of the Saling where dis-
 tress was great, and a fair
 supply of drinking water was
 obtained in many villages
 which were much in want
 of it. Some large ponds in
 the Enn of Chingleput were
 also cleared, and great
 quantity of silt, which
 had accumulated during
 years past, has been removed.
 The repairs of the Palat river
 channels, as per margin
 in the Southern part of the 4th
 Saling

Manupattinam 1916 —
 Callinorum — 1457 — 14 —
 Gudavayalur
 Chyapattinam
 Madhavayalur
 1908 — 8 —
 Rs 4000 — 6 —

Taluk, were also sanctioned and are in active progress, affording employment to the distressed who were greatly in want of it. A large number of coolies were also employed in the construction of the relief camp at Chingleput.

4. Madavaranthakam: The only road undertaken as a relief work in the Madavaranthakam Taluk, was that from a point on the Chumambet road near Madukarai to Vennjeri, a length of about 18 miles, passing

passing by the villages of Jendampattu, Keralavadi, Paranjur, Radukapattu, Kelvypalliam and Jattam-pattu. The earth work has been completed and the whole amount of the estimate spent. The Sub Collector is of opinion that the work is very well done. In addition to this, a few ponds were being deepened here and there to increase the supply of drinking water for men and cattle; and the Cheyar supply channel to the Utrameras Tank, in the northern

northern part of the Salug,
which was being cleared
of prickly pear, has given
a good deal of employment.
The repairs of the Mairur
and Tennani Tanks
undertaken by the Revenue
Department were also in
progress and on the com-
pletion of the Perenjori road,
the removal of prickly pear
from the Parayan canal.
The Tank bund, sanctioned
in G. O. dated 5th July
1876 Number 1700. P. N. S.
taken up.

5. Conjeveram:- The roads
from Sunkawar Choultry
to Maduramangalam,
Irdanjeri to Perambalur
and Sogundi to Kilcheri
which had been entrusted
for execution to the Deputy
Sahildar of Treparum.
Boothoot were completed, &
while the roads from
Parandur to Madura
Mangalam and from
Conjeveram to Nagapattinam
were in progress. The number
of coolies on these works was
however small, partly owing
to

to the low rates of wages,
and also because of the
Railway works in progress
from Arcotum to Coimbatore,
to which the Tahsildar
had been directed to send
all people employed in the
vicinity. The Sub Collector
states that a great portion
of the road from Coimbatore
to Madurai South of
the Palai was carelessly
done and that he has
taken due notice of the
neglect of the Tahsildar
and a Revenue Inspector
who

who had charge of the work.
The Assistant Collector Mr.
Thompson who had been
temporarily deputed to
assist Mr. Mc Carthy
has since inspected the
road and from his report,
it appears that work was
subsequently progressing
satisfactorily. The road
from Maduramangalam
to Parandur, about $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles
will, when completed, form
a very useful line
and open through communi-
cation over a large tract
of

of country between the
Sunkwar Choultry and
the Pullar Railway
Station.

6. A large number of
ponds were deepened in
this July, particularly
in the eastern part, and
Mr. McCarthy says -
"the works were with
one or two exceptions, carefully
carried out and the
sufferings of the people from
want of water were, to
a great extent alleviated
and warded off." Great
care

has also been taken to distri-
bute the works as widely as
possible so as to place relief
"within reasonable reach of
all villages."

7. The Sub Collector states that
"a great number of Irrigation
works were being repaired by
the S. P. W. particularly
in the Madarauthakur
and Banjeeravaram Taluqs,
and though the numbers em-
ployed on each work were small
still on the whole the relief
given was very considerable."

8. As regards gratuitous relief
to those unable to work, Mr.
McCarthy says "gratuitous
relief

relief is available of to a ~
large extent. I regret I was
not able, until quite recently,
to make arrangements
for putting up any relief
camps; but a large and
commodious one is now under
erection near Chingleput
and will be completed in a
few days. Of course, in
the meantime, it has been
found absolutely necessary
to keep on small relief
houses in a few of the
outlying villages, but we will be in a
position to stop these very soon & the gratuitous relief in outlying
villages will be confined to such
"pressing"

"pressing" cases as may
be brought to notice by the itinerating
officers. Very complete arrange-
ments are now in force for
succouring the distressed,
and all possible endeavours
are being made to ward
off starvation."

9. Saidapett :- The road
from Irumbulipoor to the
Pallavaram has been
completed within the esti-
mated amount. I drove
over the whole line on the
17th April last, and I
am of opinion that the
work

work does great credit to
Mr. Jones. We have here 7
miles of good road, metalled
and gravelled throughout
and duly marked with furlong
and mile stones. The difficulty,
experienced in procuring water,
greatly retarded progress
and prevented the earlier
completion of this road.

This work and the deepening
of 8 ponds in the villages,
lying near the line, which
was undertaken to provide
water for the construction
of the road as well as —
for drinking purposes, have

afforded employment to a
large number of people.
The road from Saidapett
to Puliyor via Mambalam
has also been completed and
inspected by me on the 27th
April. Speaking of this road,
the Deputy Collector in —
charge of the Saluk camp —
" a good and useful road
of two miles has been secured
by this outlay (Rupees three
thousand) and the expenditure
has not been a greater
boon to the poor of the —
neighbourhood than I think
the road will be to a large
section

section of those travelling
to Madras from Saint
Thomas mount and other
places south. The road
from Kumbathoor to Madras
-fadu was in active progress.

The earth and masonry
works have been completed
and materials were being
collected for travelling.

10. The deepening of ponds,
wells, and tanks was in
progress in almost every
village. In some cases the
ground was so hard, and the
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12
so great that professional
well sinkers had to be em-
ployed to assist in the work,
but every effort was made to
give employment to the people
of the villages as far as
possible.

11. As regards relief operations
in the Sateeg generally, Mr.
Jones says "With the opening
of so many extensive works
in the Sateeg and its neigh-
-bourhood, such as roads,
the junction canal, the
river embankment and
the doubling of the Railway
line from Subathore to
Trivellore and Arcot and

and the provision for the few
that may be detained in their
villages by employment in spring
pools and irrigation works.
It is cheering to me to say
that the prospects of the people
are not altogether so gloomy
as they might otherwise be."

12. Trinivallur The earthwork
of the road from Srirangapatna
to Ramnagar has been
completed within the amount
provided in the estimate.
and the masonry walls
were being constructed.
An additional grant of
Rs 7000 was sanctioned
for this road in G.O. dated
the

13
the 19th April last at
1488 Rs. to finish the latter
and carry out the metalling.
The road from Jimanore to
Railway station to Vellipoor
is eight miles and of this,
earthwork has been completed
over nearly 4 miles, the com-
paratively small quantity
of work done being due to the
Railway works in the neigh-
bourhood in connection with
the doubling of the line from
Ambathore to Arcanum and
to which books were sent as
under G.O. Number 1233 dated
26th March last. For the same
reason the progress of earthwork
on

on the line from Velliyoor to
Periapalliem, which is a con-
tinuation of the road from
Trincomoree, was not great.
The ground over which the
line passes is hard and
low, so the coolies even preferred
the Railway works where
they obtained better wages.
The earthwork of the roads
from Cothencottah to Peria-
palliem and its continuation
to Cherpada in the Northern
Spunk Road, having been
completed by the S.P.W.
some years ago, our operations
were confined to metalling the
same. About 7 miles of the former

14
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were completed and materials
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13. Ponds and wells were
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parts of the taluk, especially
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where the scarcity of water
was great. The System of
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13 1/2 cubic yards per
Rupee in easy soils.

14. Ponneri: In this #
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the road from Arnee to
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I have personally inspected
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am of opinion that on
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been turned out for the
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15. The time has not yet

15
at Pallachiammanacolam
in the Ponneri Saluk has
been very much resorted
to by the destitute, infirm
and the young of the #
neighbouring villages, but it
has been found necessary
to open a camp on a large
scale on the banks of the
Cortelliar in this Saluk
to arrest the influx of the
destitute who were pouring
in, in large numbers from
the Nellore District and
the Zemindaries of Venkata-
shiri, Kalavri, and its
Karvatynaghar. Arrangements
were accordingly

made about the end of
April to construct huts &c.
for the purpose, and the
Sachildar was directed
to feed the poor near
Oblapuram and Goomoon-
dy poor on the Northern
Grunk road till the
camps was ready to
receive them.

16. The Pallavarum and
Poonamallee (Simmachi)
Relief Camps have continued
to be of great utility
to the distressed population
of

16
of the neighbourhood and
the pauper travellers who
would have otherwise
sought refuge in Madras
and greatly swelled the
numbers there. The Poon-
amallee Camp, after its removal
from Dorattur to the junction
point of the Western Grunk
road leading to Crispavaram
and Stepparamboothur and
the road from Poonamallee
to Tiruvellore, has been even
more useful than before
in fulfilling the purpose
for which it was established.
V.B.

13- to prevent the destitute
ryots and their families
pushing into the metropolis
in search of employment,
or of the gratuitous and

some somewhat in dis-
criminate relief afforded
by the wealthy merchants.
No complaint is made of
people now evading the Police
stationed on the road to direct
them. Both these Camps were
very healthy and are in excellent
working order. The Jrumoochi
Camp is built upon a new
plan which Major Murren

has constant
sneering at his
true charity
knows has had
the most effect
the mind of the
people kept
low respect
I am a
pride that
shall see
in some
fields - poor
as usual
efficiency of
Police - many
of an

describes thus, "the sides and ends
being moveable shutters
which when let
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camp of closed huts and
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the amount expended.

Chingleput & }
Collector's office }
Hyderabad 11th June 1885 }
I have &c
Sd/R. N. Barlow
Collector.

Submitted for the information
of Government.

2. The roads referred to are
all

18

all useful lines and
will be valuable if
if finished. The cost
of work done as
shown by the Statements
enclosed, is not considering
the circumstances heavy.
3. The camps are well
placed to intercept
wanderers flocking to
Madras, but many persons
must succeed in evading
them.

/ True copy & extract

Yours

Secretary

For the addl Secy: B. G. R.
with 4 original Enclosures & 1
returned

Ed
Copies

M. P. R. as per order

Nov 1877
Ching's post
 7 No 4/703

Proceedings of the

Board of Revenue

of 16th June 1877

Jan 1877

B4000

Submitting to Govt

with new coll's letter

from the collector of

Ching's post reporting

on the progress of

relief works in his

district up to the end of

Jan 1877

the following amount
 in Rs 1000 000 00
 has been paid to the
 Board of Revenue
 for the purpose of
 relief works in his
 district up to the end
 of Jan 1877

Remitted.

The following amount

has been paid to the

Board of Revenue

for the purpose of

relief works in his

district up to the end

of Jan 1877

C-22-63/123-6-8-77

and Capt. to the Board of Revenue
 the General Secy
 12 July 1877