

(1) Number of pages 12
 (2) Date of repair _____
 (3) Initials of the Referencer 7.4.78

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2185-13.	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	2. 7. 1877	197 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

2nd July 1877, No. 2,185-B.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper:—

No. 35-C. Endorsement of the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Fort St. George, 26th June 1877, No. 1,322.

Read the following letter from Apothecary J. BORNSHIN, in Medical charge of Relief-works, to A. W. HEMANS, Esq., Assistant Engineer, South Indian Railway Company, in charge of Famine Relief-works, dated Chingleput, 8th June 1877, No. 1.

I BEG to report, for your information, that yesterday afternoon, immediately after my arrival by the 8 A.M. train, I proceeded to inspect the coolies employed on the relief-works at the eastern extremity of the town, and in No. 13 gang I discovered a child suffering from dentitive diarrhoea; the camp is apparently otherwise healthy, and free from the epidemic of small-pox and cholera. This morning I proceeded to inspect the coolies employed westward of the town, and I am glad to state that they too enjoy an immunity from disease at the present time.

As regards suggestions you desired me to forward conducive to the health of the coolies, I can only recommend, for your kind consideration, that temporary sheds might be erected for them in some suitable place, convenient to their respective portions of work, for them to repose in at night after their day's toil and labor, as due repose is essentially necessary for the due preservation of health and strength; and if it can be arranged that rice be sold to them at 2 Annas per Madras measure, as is done in the relief-camp, Chepauk, it would certainly be an advantage to them, for they would have enough to spare from their daily hire to provide themselves with substantial food, which is required for the due wants of the system, and to enable them to work with greater alacrity than they do at present.

From the same Officer, No. 2.

I AM induced to alter my suggestion proposing, for your kind consideration, that temporary sheds might be erected for the coolies employed on the line in their respective portions of work, finding that the soil on which the line is being laid approaches the cotton soil in its nature, and would, I fear, from this cause prove an inevitable swamp, and the brook that intersects it from north to south would render the locality in wet and monsoonish weather altogether uninhabitable.

Under these circumstances, I sincerely trust that my suggestion on this point might be set aside for the present until I gain a little more experience of the country and find out if there is any high or table land southward that can be selected for this purpose.

The health of the coolies, scattered as they are through the length and breadth of the city, continues fair. Their chief cry is for food and their wages, which they solicit to be adjusted daily—not an easy matter I understand that can be accomplished by one cash-keeper employed for the payment of 6,000 coolies.

From the same Officer, No. 3.

I BEG most respectfully to bring to your notice that on the high road, Chingleput, north and opposite the westerly entrance to the fort, and near the place where the coolies are working, and make their ingress and egress, is exposed for sale articles made up of crude and rank materials, such as cakes, &c., which I consider unwholesome and unfit for consumption. The removal of this exposition from this site would be the means of preventing sickness amongst the coolies, particularly indigestion and its consequences.

I have no doubt the occurrence of cholera in the man who was removed to hospital the other day was probably owing to this cause.

From the same Officer, No. 4.

I BEG to inform you that Mr. Inspector Wate had only informed me yesterday that the coolies peremptorily refused to convey their sick to hospital unless they receive an extra ticket in addition to that granted them for their cool labor, as they consider that the extra work that devolves

uninhabitable.

on them requires extra payment. Their exaction in this respect is similar to the exaction of the coolies employed on the relief-works at Chepauk, and which was accorded to them by their respective Superintendents and sanctioned by the Heads of Departments; but at Chinnamapett, where I was last employed by the Madras Railway Company on the relief-works on their double line of construction from Arcotum to Trivellore, there was no hospital, but a cholera shed was erected half a mile distant from the camp, and to it were attached a staff of servants, viz., one cook, one attendant, and a waterman, who were paid 2 Annas daily as long as cholera lasted, and two conservancy peons were employed on a salary of Rs. 7 per mensem for to attend to the general conservancy of the camp, and to see that the excreta is removed by the toties engaged for this purpose and deposited half a mile distant from the shed; besides these there was a staff of six men selected from the gang coolies for the purpose of burying the dead at a distance of a mile from the camp, and who were to ~~attend to the dead~~ ^{be work on no work, and for their important duty} received each 4 Annas per diem; they cannot be considered ordinary coolies, ^{as} having specific duties to perform, they were deserving of the fee conferred on them.

I need scarcely add that dead bodies when exposed in this weather before interment soon become decomposed and emit emanations that pollute the atmosphere and thus propagate cholera.

These arrangements were sanctioned and approved of by Mr. Boulton, the Resident Engineer, 1st Division, South-West Line, Madras Railway Company, at the suggestion of my predecessor, during the prevalence of cholera at Chinnamapett, and worked satisfactorily.

Under these circumstances, it remains for me to recommend their adoption during an outbreak of cholera in this camp.

The prevalence of sickness amongst the coolies is owing to non-payment of their hire for five and six days consecutively, and hence they are driven to the necessity of eating anything they can pick up by way of appeasing hunger; and I fear if payment is not facilitated, the mortality amongst them will be great from sheer starvation; and from this cause they are suffering materially and are compelled, from sheer want, to mortgage their tickets in the bazaar for provisions at an exorbitant rate of discount exacted on them by the bazaar-men, viz., 6 and 9 Pies respectively, and it would be utterly impossible for them to eke anything like an existence from the balance of their tickets, viz., 15 Pies.

To prevent the tickets being tampered with in the market, it would be necessary to proclaim by the bearing of testimonials that no person or persons be allowed to take them under any consideration, and a fine be inflicted on such who may be found with such tickets; and unless this precaution is adopted, the coolies will continue as heretofore to deposit their tickets in the bazaar.

Forwarded to the Chief Secretary for submission to Government.

(Signed) G. SMITH, M.D.
Saggon General, Indian Med. Dept.

For the Secy.
2nd July 1877.

Transmitted to the Revenue (Finance) Department.

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Chief Secretary

No. 2,185-B

Order thereon, 2nd July 1877, No. 2,185-B.

Miscellaneous.

Communicated to the Consulting Engineer for Railways with a view to such steps being taken as may be necessary to ensure the more regular payment of the coolies employed.

(True Extract.) J. H. GARSTIN,
Additional Secretary to Government.

To the Consulting Engineer for Railways
.. the Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department.
.. the Sanitary Commissioner.
.. the Board of Revenue.
.. the Financial Department.
.. the Collector of Chingleput.
Edw. A. P. Goodall.

uninhabitable

№ 1

Camp Chingleput 3 June 1861

To

A. W. Hemans Esquire
 Protestant Episcopal D. D. C.
 in Charge of Tarwin Relief Soc

Sir
 I beg to report for your information, that yesterday afternoon immediately after my arrival by the S. A. I proceeded to inspect the cooler employed on the Relief at the Eastern extremity of the town, and in No 13 gun, discovered a child suffering from dentitive diarrhea. The Camp is apparently otherwise healthy, and free from the epidemic small pox & Cholera. This morning I provided to inspect the cooler employed west of the town, and I am glad to state that they all enjoy an immunity from disease at the present time.

As regards suggestions you desired me to forward conducive to the health of the cooler, I only recommend for your kind consideration that temporary sheds might be erected for them in some suitable place convenient to their respective portions of work for them to repose in at intervals of exertion and labor, as due repose, health and strength, and if it can be arranged that Rice be sold to them at 2 1/2 cts, as is done on the Relief Camp, it would certainly be an advantage to them. They would have enough to spare from their rice to provide themselves with substantial food which is required for the due wants of the system, and to enable them to work with greater alacrity, than they do at present. I have

I have

Barnackin Apothecy in New
12 Relief Works

2142

Sir, I am reduced to attending suggestions for
leasing for your land consideration that temporary
sheds might be erected for the cooler employed on
land on their respective portions of work, pending the
the soil on which the line is being laid again after
the cotton seed is mature, and would fear from
cause from an inevitable swamp, and the brook
interests it from North to South would render
locally in wet and more or less weather, altogether
uninhabitable.

With these circumstances in mind, it must be that any
action on this point might be set aside for the pre-
sent, until I gain a little more experience of the country,
and find out of how he might be able to contribute
and that can be decided for this purpose.
The health of the coolies is altered as they are
not the length and breadth of the City comfortably, continuous
air. Their chief cry is for food & then wages, which they
think to be a neglected duty, not an easy matter I
understand that can be accomplished by one cash-
letter for the payment of 6000 coolies.

They
J. B. Brinsford
H. B. Brinsford, Esq. Ch. J. R. 1872

No 3
Sir
They most respectfully to bring to your notice
that on the high road Chingput North, and opposite
the westerly entrance to the Fort, and near the place
where the coolies are working, and make their ingress and
egress is exposed for sale articles made up of crude and
unk in articles such as cakes & which I consider un-
wholesome and unfit for consumption - the removal
of this exposition from this site would be the means
of preventing sickness amongst the coolies. I particularly
deprecate and doubt the convenience of having
these articles removed to hospital the other
day, as is probably owing to this cause.

X X
J. B. Brinsford

No 4
Sir
They to inform you that Mr. Inspector Wall
had only informed me yesterday that the coolies
had abruptly refused to convey their sick to hospital, un-
less they receive an extra ticket - an addition to that granted
them for their coolie labour, as they consider that the extra
that involves in them requires extra payment.
In expectation in this respect is similar to the expec-
tation of the coolies employed on the Relief Works at Che-
nak and which was accorded to them by their respective
superintendents, & sanctioned by the Heads of Departments.
at Chinnamangal where I was last employed
the Medical Officer on the Relief Works on their double line of
instruction from the Commission to Travelling. There was no
disturbance from Cholera and was he did 1/2 a mile
out from the camp, & to it were attacked & a Waterman
wounded, one coolie, one attended and Cholera lasted
and was paid 2 shillings daily as long as

and a consequence, I am now employed on a
of the 7th Regiment for to attend to the general and
of the Camp, and to see that the barracks is am-
bly the lot of the coolies for this purpose and deposited
of a small distance from the shed - besides there
was a staff of 1000 coolies selected from the Gang coolies for
the purpose of burying the dead at a distance of a
mile from the Camp, and who were in constant atten-
dant whether they be work or no work, and for their
important duty as coolies & having special
not be considered ordinary coolies & having special
duties to perform they were deserving of the free confer-
ence on them.

I need scarcely add that dead bodies were
exposed in this weather before interment & the
decomposition & emit emanations of the
atmosphere, & thus propagate Cholera
of the 7th Regiment who are sent to the
at the suggestion of Mr. Brinsford & Mr. Wall
during Cholera and Chinnamangal.

I under these circumstances it remains
outbreak of Cholera in the "strip"
the prevalence of sickness amongst the
coolies is owing to non-payment of their hire for 5
and 6 days consecutively & hence they are driven
to the necessity of eating anything they can get a
way of appeasing hunger & I fear if pay-
ment is not facilitated the mortality amongst them
would be great from sheer starvation, and for
this cause they are suffering materially and are
pelled from sheer want to mortgage their tickets
for the bazaar for provisions at an exorbitant re-
of discount - and on them by the bazaar even a
6, & 9 pie respectively, and it is said to be a dis-
-ble for them to take anything like an existence from
the balance of their tickets being tampered with
to prevent the necessity of proclaim-
in the market it would be necessary to per-
the heating of tom tom, that no person or person
allowed to take them under any consideration
a fine inflicted on any who may be found
bought tickets & unless this precaution is adopted
coolies will continue as heretofore to deposit
tickets in the bazaar.

J. B. Brinsford

Finan. No. 4820.

9. Name:
In name

I like the enclosed
has been sent to
the Col. in view to
his army more

practical pay in
of present the bank
of 1000 tickets.

14/6/11

I have the only
copy in present
of the 1st of the
of the 1st of the
of the 1st of the

18/6/11

Don't mention
the 1st of the
of the 1st of the
of the 1st of the

My name is not
in the list of
the 1st of the

The 1st of the
the 1st of the
the 1st of the

No 302

conceded to the

Chief Secretary for

the Indian to the

the 1st of the

the 1st of the

the 1st of the

the 1st of the

the 1st of the

the 1st of the

the 1st of the

the 1st of the

the 1st of the

the 1st of the

the 1st of the

the 1st of the

the 1st of the

the 1st of the

the 1st of the

the 1st of the

the 1st of the

the 1st of the

the 1st of the

the 1st of the

A 2185B

Communicate with
Committee Enquiry for
Bridges, with view to
steps being taken to prevent
the more regular payment
of the Indian employees.

27.7. 2 July 1877

Mr. Committee Enquiry for Bridges
50
Lancashire Enquiry
Bonds of River
50
Mel. Dept.
College of Chap. 16

C27-6-77 R2-7-77