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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2401—A	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	30.7.1877	197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Archives I—5,806—24-2-78.

GOVERNMENT
REVENUE DEPARTMENT

30th July 1877, No. 2,401-A.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper:—

No. 55-A. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 13th July 1877, No. 3,287.

Read the following letter from H. S. THOMAS, Esq., Collector of Tanjore, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Point Calimere, 2nd July 1877, No. 2,234:—

NOTWITHSTANDING the arrangement reported in my letter, No. 4,411, dated 30th November 1876, and modified by G.O., dated 14th December 1876, No. 2,035, by which only one day's food was to be given to travellers, large numbers of people come from the surrounding districts and keep travelling about this district from chuttrum to chuttrum, spreading disease, crime, and all the annoyances of unfortunate pauperism. The number of private chuttrums over which I have no manner of control and the managers of which revolt against European ideas of discrimination in almsgiving is so great that the distance from chuttrum to chuttrum is not a march sufficiently long to be deterrently inconvenient. Beside the disease, pauperism, and crime thus spread, another result is that all the charitable institutions of this district are being overtaxed, and, if a remedy be not speedily applied, must be bankrupt.

2. The people who thus live by begging from chuttrum to chuttrum are people who have refused work in the relief-camps of their own districts. Wandering beggars who will not work are vagabonds, and I think the proper way to deal with them is to treat them as such.

3. I propose to deport every one of them straight back to their own districts.

4. Tanjore charitable institutions will then be able to provide for their own poor.

5. I propose that every one found begging and not belonging to this district shall be refused food at all chuttrums which I can command or influence, and shall be marched back in batches to their own districts under just as much Police supervision as may be found unavoidable, and that those who cannot feed themselves by the way be maintained by the Police from Famine Funds till handed over to the authorities of their own districts.

6. I deprecate their being provided for in this district by relief-camps or relief-works started for the purpose, because they ought to be provided for in their own districts; letting them come here is only letting the sore spread, and this populous district has already enough of disease and crime, and what we should get would be the idlest of the idle, the cream of the vagabonds of all surrounding districts congregated in one district, and, thus congregated, they would be doubly difficult to deal with, and we have had no practical experience of relief arrangements, while other districts have got into regular working order.

7. I have the honor to request the Government will be pleased to instruct me at their earliest convenience if they approve of this proposal for meeting the present and future position.

Revenue Department
Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
Dated 13 July 1877

is of R. N.

1834

Read the following

No. 2234

From

H. S. Thomas Esquire

Collector & President of
Tanjore

To

H. E. Stokes Esquire

Secretary to the Board of Revenue
Chepauk Madras

Sir

Notwithstanding the
arrangement reported in my letter
No. 4411 dated 30th November 1876
and modified by G. O. dated
14th December 1876 No. 2035
by

of which only one days food was
to be given to travellers, large
numbers of people come from
the surrounding Districts and
keep travelling about this District
from Chatram to Chatram spread-
ing disease crime and all.

the annoyances of unfortunate
pauperism. The number of

private Chatrams over which
I have no manner of control
and the managers of which
revolt against Europeans -

ideas of discrimination in
alms giving is so great that
the distance from Chatram to
Chatram is not a march -

Having paid
for food
and
other
expenses

much trouble in
then not
will. The
C.M. has
to provide
of grain

sufficiently

When the Law
gives us right
to life - then
the right to
it rises, then
it may be
sufficiently long to be deterrently
inconvenient. Beside the
disease pauperism and crime
thus spread another result is
that all the charitable insti-
tutions of this District are being
overtaxed and if a remedy
be not speedily applied must
be bankrupt.

2. The people who thus live
by begging from Chatram to Chatram
are people who have refused
to work in the Relief camps
of their own Districts. Wander-
ing beggars who will not
work are vagabonds and
I think the proper way to deal
with them is to treat them as
such.

No ground
this as sample

Poor creature

and
means
a life
etc.

3. I propose to deport every one of them straight back to their own Districts. ^{There is no similar}

4. Tanjore Charitable institutions will then be able to <sup>& maintaining them by sum-
tall provisions
from the
& maintain for</sup> provide for their own poor.

5. I propose that everyone found begging and not belong-
ing to the Districts shall be
refused food at all Chattrams
which I can command or
influence and shall be marched
back in batches to their own
Districts under just as much
Police supervision as may
be found unavoidable and
that those who cannot feed
themselves

themselves by the way be
maintained by the Police
from Famine Funds till
handed over to the authorities
of their own Districts.

6. I dep^{re}cate their being
provided for in this District
by relief camps or relief works
started for the purpose because
they ought to be provided for in
their own Districts letting
them come here is only letting
the sore spread and this popu-
-lous District has already
enough of disease and crime,
and what we should get would
be ^{the} idlest of the idle, the cream
of the vagabonds of all surrounding
Districts

Yes! But then
no been is
provided

Districts congregated in one District; and thus congregated they would be doubly difficult to deal with, and we have no practical experience of relief arrangements while other Districts have got into regular working order.

7. I have the honor to request the Government will be pleased to instruct me at their earliest convenience if they approve of this proposal for meeting the present and future position.

8. As regards the past I have the honor to enclose a Proceedings of the Local Fund Board of Tanjore - requesting

requesting the Government to be pleased to refund the amount (Rs 25000) by which the Chattram have been unduly charged with the maintenance of the poor of other Districts.

9. It seems needless to add that consideration will as heretofore be shown to the sick and helpless.

I have &c
Tanjore Collectors Office Port Blair Calamier 2nd July 1877 } (Sd) H. S. Thomas
Collector & President

Enclosure

Extract from the Proceedings of the Local Fund Board of the Tanjore Circle at their meeting

Head Sheristadar - Do -

Submitted for the orders of
Government.

2. The number of wandering poor and vagrants in Tanjore is such that some remedy is absolutely necessary and the orders of Government are requested as to whether Mr. Thomas' plan of general deportation should be carried out or whether two or three camps for the reception of people of the above classes should be established. In their order of the 5th March/77 # 935 the Government expressed disapproval of the transfer of persons applying for relief from

from one Madras district
to another and on a reference
similar to the present from
the Collector of Malabar
instructions were issued
in accordance with the
order just quoted the
Government remarking that
the Vagrants, if able to work
should be made to do so
something in return for the
subsistence given them - Under
these orders the Collector
must establish camps at
points suitable for inter-
cepting those entering
from the neighboring districts,
all wanderers must be sent
to

G. O
8th May
1877
No: 1673

to such camps work being
provided for those able to render
it and the relief dispensed

at the Chuttnams must be
restricted to the local poor.

There is some force however,
in the Collector's objections to
this measure and the Board
are inclined to think that
it will be more satisfactory
and not more costly to send
these paupers back to their
own districts. The Collector
does not say whence they
have come but no doubt
chiefly from Madras,
Trichinopoly & Pondicherry,
the Board are not aware
whether

Better system
when food is
in process

whether any measures of
relief have been adopted
in Pudukottah.

2. ask for
Alipatti

3. In regard to the claim
of the Local Fund Board
to a refund of the extra
cost entailed on Lokutrum
funds by the maintenance
of paupers from other
districts the excess above
ordinary charges for
distressing sick in the
Madampally and Chittoor
L.F. dispensaries has been
admitted as a charge
against famine relief
and the cases are somewhat
analogous

analogous. An account
showing how the sum of
Rupees 25000 has been
arrived at must be sub-
mitted if the Government
are prepared to consider
the claim.

/ True copy & by order

W. C. S.
Ag: Secretary

To The Ad: Secretary to
Government P.O.

Ch

F. No. 5525

From Revenue Board No. 3284

Dated 13th July 1877.

FOR ORDERS.

Mr. Thomas complains of the great numbers of beggars from other Districts now in Tanjore who are devouring the income of the Chattrams in that District and proposes to deport them.

He gives a copy of a Resolution passed by the Tanjore Local Fund Board in which they resolve to ask Government to pay them 25000 Rupees being the extra expenditure incurred up to date in feeding paupers from other Districts but he omits to notice that the Local Fund Board further resolved "that the collector be requested to start relief works as soon as possible to lessen the pressure on the Chattram Funds."

Mr.

Mr. Grant the
Superior acc't
I have the all
Superior the
where there
enacted

Dec. 1877 24th

76.5525

Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue

in Tanjore.

Dated 13th July 1877.

Regarding order of
Grant as to whether collector's
plan of general deportation
of wandering poor and
vagrants in Tanjore Dist.
should be carried out
or whether two or three
camps for their reception
should be established.

Received
18/7/77

N. 5525

Mr Thomas wants to turn out
all foreign beggars by means of
of the Police.

No doubt they are a great
nuisance but they would be wan-
dering beggars wherever they were
and it is therefore better that they
should be in a land of comparan-
tively ^{plenty} than in less favored spots.
If Government feel disposed to
entertain the claim for compen-
sation put forward by the Tanjore
Local Fund Board the accounts
of expenditure will have to be
called for and the Board must
show how they make out that
the large sum they claim was
spent exclusively on foreign,
and not on local, beggars. but
I do not see how the Board
can make any claim of the kind
unless indeed the expenditure
has been so great as to exhaust
all the income, and to cause an
inroad on the Capital of the
Chattram Funds, which
are, I presume, charitable
endowments

I think so. I am
inclined to keep
Lalem wandering
I don't see how
we can turn
them out -

Do not think I would
want her made
them depend for life
on charity but this
term "beggars" is a
appropriate

I do not see any right to the
enclosure of the Chattram
Funds -
on a few camps -
with the same result -
Camps being closed -
Pol. 24/11

endowments of which the Local
Fund Board are trustees.

The Revenue Board quote
the cases of the Madanpalli and
Shitto or Dispensaries which are
probably also endowed institutions
to which allotments from the
General Funds of the Circles
which they ^{belong} are annually made
to meet current expenses, and if
in their cases they have been
driven to spend part of their
capital to meet the extra charges
thrown on them by the famine there
might be some analogy between
them and the Chattrams in Tanjore
and the latter might reasonably
expect a grant from Famine
Funds to make good the sum
so spent.

I presume Mr Thomas' plan
of deporting the wanderers will not
be approved and that he should
be ordered to start some camps for
them - In this case beggars who
refused to work have been ordered to be deported
off the place -
Orders are requested

L.H.P

FOR ORDERS.

75325

I think the Govt. does
 not rightly appreciate
 the position. The Rajah
 Chattrams has believed
 is situated for the good
 of pilgrims primarily.
 I don't think they have
 any claim to the expense
 expended here for taking the
 train & etc. But if
 this income is exhausted
 I consider to claim
 a grant in aid on
 the detailed in form.
 The Govt. should start
 the necessary camps
 & where the districts
 in poor banders. &
 a unit persons for
 work for those capable
 work. arranging for
 returning to their homes
 then fit to travel. coming
 to the Govt. concerned
 It is not reasonable to
 pay much money for
 the unrepaid expenses
 of the Chattrams. It is
 what has done that
 caused the Govt. to

The Coll. letter is of 1 Aug. Mr. R. S. D.
 are the same

The State of Mysore
 seems to necessitate the
 real measures - and I
 will authorize collection of their
 own Ast. on a large scale
 - No doubt the great suc-
 cess will be achieved

The Coll. doh & work
 Seekers for home & foreign
 doh stopped & telegraph
 and able bodied persons
 shall not be relieved as a
 rule - unless accompanied by
 women & children in a deter-
 mined state & then need of
 old be relieved

In the present state
 will more or less be -

hours on restored, works
which have been sanc-
tioned in the ordinary
course. It is under-
taken - but prepara-
tions made in case
wider employment be
come unavoidable
especially in Patta
Cottah - The Cedar
River Canal & L
pushed on & com-
pletion.

Thank Mr. Thomas
much for further
European aid &
we endeavor to live
at home. B.D. B.D.

I am greatly in
debt to that kind
Relief which was
kind in the St.

There is of course
a objection to
proceeding to the
 utmost at all times
a toward books in
the St. & there can
be no objection in
rejecting the able
Lodick & Co.

which for some
years, among
returning to the
then fit to travel
to the (old)
It is not true
that much more
of the irregular
of the Chatterbox
which has done
credit to the St.

Some
of the objects of
the business world
have been the
interior of the
Wells in the
Navy 21/2

24/7

21/2

giving & work under
H.D. from these books
simply because they
are not in your fold.
I don't understand H.D.
knows to propose his
to the rest of the
already gone. Must
be in accord with
H.D.'s view. only the
delegation & this our
District of the Alms
Lakers Brown fit

& trust. but not
at all & work? But
he present our
work done
from the ability
of the District
they do not be
helped & this
times. & work
in this our D.
the Semper I don't
see much use in
this delegation. It
makes no difference
& for to have the

work. many
returning to the
town fit & I have
to the (old)
It is not for
much more
of the irregular
of the Chubb
what has done
around the D.

of districts
discovered
have been
returning
village
returning
24/7
22/7-23/7-24/7

Book is situated. &
I think it a pity to
dis courage the honest
effort & find it.
I don't understand
that it is the policy
of Govt. & Legislature
to keep the able
bodies from doing any
work. & to put them in idleness
I look on Vt. which
as the habitat
for ship camps
& trading houses.
- for living works.

Let.
18.8.77.

The principle the Govt have
decided on is village chief
as the principle village
Camps as adjuncts for
temporary chief of
bandits & for their
meeting Medicine men
but Thomas said he
delegated as quickly as
possible to their homes -

I think Dr. Thomas cannot
be blamed for any action
he has taken in this affair
of any reply to his letter
during an entire month
According to the dates his
letter of 2nd from St. Columen
was read at Bd of Revenue
on 13th July - was mentioned
to me on 22nd - ~~by the~~
but no order was issued
till 30th
In the mean time a

Procedure has commenced
of opening works in
a district where the
vicitudes were not necessary
and hoarsely speaking only
handicraft had to be retained.

They should according to
the principles adopted by J. S.
have been retained completely
in camp - or if village means
& relegated as speedily as
possible & was a rail to them
near districts -

The 27th of 30th appears
to indicate a readiness to
open under Mr. Morgan by
the order to submit plans.

I had especially mentioned
"no works" but the S.O.
was not circulated appearing
and the order went
forth without the devoted
negatives. I expected to
submit the proposed
modification very
submitted -

In this matter it is not
that all men

order run in accord
with each other - and
the numerous J. S. having
on the matter should always
be looked to. To see that a
class does not (without
its having been clearly
indicated & the point noted)
deviate from the guiding
principles of action -

In the present case
the collector
has again asked for
orders as to the great
"stream of foreigners" &
then asks certain orders from
8 - 11 - 13 - 15

I would say it is clear
from the "present letter
that works are not needed
for the people of the district
that through the opening of
works is not necessary.

that (para 8) Col. M. should
arrange to give notice to
officers of other districts to which
the mandarin belong and
return all except any really
except those & to them on

distinct valleys as promptly
as may be - arranging for
their sustenance in their
way but not giving them any
money.

para 9 - 10 - 11 - That
any ^{stamps} who refuse to work
must be deported by
Police if necessary to their
own district or release -

One further (all? should
make such arrangements

as will ensure wanderers
being taken care of on
their first days march

in the district & seeing
when their return is very
not costly to the state or
laborers & individuals.

The same Mr. should be
however pointed out to the
Collector that it is not the
intention of the order to

prevent any one from
giving to wanderers

that it is to be
17/8

This Grace the Governor's Note on
J. N. 6385.

For Orders.

With reference to His
Grace the Governor's remarks
on the above note regarding

(1) The delay of a month
in passing orders on Mr.
Thomas' letter of July 2nd

(2) The sanctioning a procedure
in that G. O. of opening works
in a District where the people
were not necessitous.

(3) The disregard shown to
His Grace's Minute Works.

(4) The necessity for govern-
ment orders being in accord-
ance with "guiding principles
of action"

The undersigned has
the honor to explain as
regards

regards (1) that the delay between the 23rd July, on which date His Grace made his notes on the paper, and the 30th on which date the G.O. issued is attributable entirely to the system of "Circulation" in vogue. The paper came back to the office from "Circulation" on the 27th July; the G.O. was ready for issue the next day, but, as it contained a paragraph taken from the text of what Sir W. Robinson had written, which appeared of doubtful correctness, the draft was sent to that gentleman with a note drawing his attention to the sentence. He amended it and returned the paper on the 29th and the order issued the next day. W.A.H.

x As an instance of the delay in circulation I may state that an "Emergent" paper viz: Mr. Puckle's Confidential report on the complaint forwarded by the Govt of India to the Govt. in the beginning of June which was circulated by me with a draft order on the 29th June only reached me on the 20th Aug^t from His Grace the Governor.

A minute requires the nature in full. His Grace's remarks are only sketched.

With regard to points (2) and (3) it is to be observed that His Grace has no where "minuted" on the papers. A remark exists in these words "one or two Camps, not works, should be started, the Camp being "closed Camps". Both Sir W. Robinson and Mr. Studleston, however, were more or less in favor of starting works. Sir W. Robinson wished the Collector to be ordered "to open both Camps and works". Mr. Studleston said the Collector "should submit proposals for works for those capable of work" and as this course was a compromise between His Grace's and Sir W. Robinson's views which were opposite, it was adopted. With respect to this point it is respectfully

respectfully submitted
that His Grace's views
(as set forth in the Note now
commented on) relative to
"Works" in Tanjore are not
quite clear - for while His
Grace wishes at page 3 of
the Note, that the collectors
"should be told that works
are not needed for the pro-
ple of the District" at page
4, he would direct that
"strangers who refuse to
work must be deported
by the Police if necessary"
The inference to be drawn
from the above 2 sentences
taken together is that
His Grace considers that
work should be provided
for able-bodied strangers
who if they refuse to work
should be deported.
But it has to be borne
in mind that Mr Thomas

I don't say I see
any difficulty in
that I cannot see
the use of it. I see
that the works would
be of all that any
relief work would not
be done. I don't
deport

Mr all accounts
who appear out of
on the way to
Tanjore

for saying that he
deport all the wandering
poor straight back to
their Districts - and for
deprecating relief - Camps
or relief - works for them
was told by Government
that the tone of his letter
was not approved. More-
over if the ordinary works
in progress in the District
under the G. P. W. are not
sufficient to employ the
able-bodied strangers special
relief works must be pro-
vided for them if they are
to be expected to work.
Again. both Sir W. Robinson
and Mr Studleston both
appear to be of opinion that
able-bodied wanderers in
Tanjore should be sent
to works, although the
former gentleman has
started a somewhat novel
principle

principles when he says
"all able-bodied persons
should not be relieved
as a rule unless accom-
panied by women and
children in a deteriorated
state and then those only
should be relieved" but
funding work for the
destitute is one form of
relief and Sir W. P.'s
proposal seems therefore
to shut these people off
such work, though he
at the same time recom-
mends the pushing on
with Bedamam-bhannet
and making arrangements
in case wider employment
than is afforded by all
sanctioned works is needed
for providing it.

With regard to point
(4) the greatest care is
to be

taken in the Secretariat
to adhere to "guiding
principles" but it is
respectfully submitted
that the course now
suggested by His Grace
of deporting able-bodied
vagrants belonging to
other districts who won't
work is opposed to the
policy hitherto adopted
which is, that able-bodied
persons must work or
go without relief; that
those who can't work
must be sent to camp
and then relegated
home; and therefore in
Panjora it is submitted
that all able-bodied
vagrants should be
transferred to the District
Engineer to be worked
on

on ordinary works if special relief works are not to be started for their benefit. It is observed that the weekly season telegram received on Tuesday shows that 1000 persons were on relief works in Bangalore.

Cue
Special
to the
S. K. K. K. K.

They are fully in
condition to go to
the relief works which
are being opened for
the relief of the
wandering population
in the district.
Must, omit - J. P.

M
29/7

Revenue Department.
D

G. O. No. 2401A
of 30 July 1877-

The object of Government being to relieve distress and starvation wherever met with, the Governor in Council is unable to approve of the tone of the collector's letter.

2. To relieve the destitute infirm wanderers in the district relief camps should be opened wherever necessary, and for those capable of working proposals for opening relief works should be submitted.

Arrangements should at the same time be made with the collectors of the Districts concerned for the return to their homes of such of the wanderers as are unable to work but are fit to travel.

21
3. With regard to the claim
for refund of part of the
Chatham expenditure, the Go-
vernment wish before sub-
siding it, to be informed
whether the whole income of
the Chathams has been ex-
hausted or not.

20/7

MS

Ms. Receipt of Money
for Collection & Payment of Taxes } All dispo.
Paul Dept. } 10 Aug 77

10
97