

(1) Number of pages 66
(2) Date of repair 25.9.78
(3) Initials of the Referencer. _____

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2468	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	7.8.1877 1878	197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

7th August 1877, No. 2,466.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper:—

No. 111. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 26th July 1877, No. 3,511.

Read the following letter from C. J. KNOX, Esq., Special Assistant Collector in charge of Kurnool, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 17th July 1877, No. 647.

I HAVE the honor to forward, herewith, the reports of the Sectional Officers on the progress of relief operations for the month of June, together with my marginal remarks recorded thereon.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From G. W. FAWCETT, Esq., Acting Head Assistant Collector, to R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Acting Collector of Kurnool, dated Cumbum, 2nd July 1877, No. 1,893-A.

I HAVE the honor to forward my report on Famine Relief operations in my division for the month of June.

2. The only works now in progress in the Markapur Taluq are the Dupad road and the Chapalamadugu Tank. All the coolies on the former work have been concentrated for the present to the south of Vemulkota. This is most important part of the road, as it is the nearest to Cumbum, and lies over the worst soil. The northern part is not of so much importance for the present, as there is a good bandy track the whole way, and the soil is generally hard kunker, which would never be made impassable by rain. The southern end on the contrary is over black cotton soil that would be almost impassable for bullock bandies in the wet weather. When this is finished, the coolies may, with advantage, be put on the other part if relief works still continue.

3. The works in the Cumbum Taluq are the repairs to the three trunk roads to Kurnool, Cuddapah, and Ongole, the repairs of the Dupad road, the Denakonda road, the filling in of the Cumbum cess-pools, and some tank works. I reported last month that the cess-pools had been finished, but I found afterwards that I had made a mistake. Particular attention is being paid to the three trunk roads. The Cuddapah road beyond Komarole is a mere bandy road over a very hard kunker soil that will have to be all picked before it can be made a good road. The road from this to Komarole is in fair order and can easily be made a good road. The Ongole road is metalled from the Nellore boundary to a point a little over two miles from its junction with Trunk Road No. VII going to Kurnool and Cuddapah, and a good part of it is also

covered with gravel. It will soon be finished. The total number of coolies employed in the Markapur Taluq was—

8,719 in the first week,
9,999 in the second week,
8,877 in the third week, and
8,083 in the last week.

The work done by them in the month was—

Miles.	Furlongs.	Yards.	
1	1	21	Side channels to Dupad road,
2	1	38	Collecting metal on do.,
1	2	18	Breaking metal on do.,
0	6	10	Earthwork on do.,

besides the work at the Chapalamadugu Tank which is not reported.

The total number of coolies in the Cumbum Taluq were—

41,651 in the first week,
36,888 in the second week,
37,364 in the third week, and
38,068 in the last week.

The work done by them in the last two weeks of the month was—

Miles.	Furlongs.	Yards.	
10	2	107	Spreading metal and gravel.
3	4	76	Collecting gravel.
4	0	100	Breaking metal.
0	3	154	Earthwork.
1	0	0	Side channels.

The work done in the first two weeks was not reported. The physique of the coolies is about the same in Markapur Taluq that it was last month. In Cumbum Taluq they are pretty much in the same condition as in Markapur with the exception of those near Komarole who are much better. I have ordered all old people and people incapable of doing the task set by Government to be removed from the works and put into relief-camps or sent to relief in villages. The health of the coolies is good. No deaths are reported from Markapur in the month, and only eighteen are reported from Cumbum.

3. The number of people receiving gratuitous relief at relief camps and houses in Cumbum Taluq increased steadily during the month from 1,351 to 2,607, and in Markapur Taluq it increased, though not steadily, from 298 to 1,133. The number of children receiving 3 Pies has decreased in Cumbum Taluq from 15,285 to 11,963. In Markapur Taluq it has increased from 1,962 to 2,234. I do not believe these tremendously large figures can be correct. Two days ago, on the Ongole road, in one gang I found only one child that ought to receive the 3 Pies, though there were 60 children entered in the list. There were about 20 or 25 children at the breast, and these had all been included in the return as children receiving 3 Pies. Of course, this was wrong, but even with these there would only have been about 25 instead of 60. Of course, I was told that there were some that had not come, but that it is needless to say must have been all nonsense. I merely mention this incidentally here.

Children at breast are to receive the 3 Pies allowance under G.O., dated 16th June 1877, No. 2,915. The Sectional Officer's attention will be drawn to this.

I have taken measures for a thorough examination of all the gangs, and I shall report the result to you as soon as I can. The number receiving village relief increased in Cumbum Taluq from 139 to 227, and decreased in Markapur Taluq from 425 to 346. The mortality in Cumbum Taluq at relief-camps among children receiving 3 Pies and among people receiving village relief was 42, 2, and 3, respectively. In Markapur Taluq there was one death at a relief-camp, and no

deaths among the others. I have already written to you about the necessity of

The Acting Head Assistant Collector will be requested to give further particulars of the site selected for the camp, particularly whether there is a top on it and whether good drinking water is available.

changing the present site of the relief camp in Cumbum to a healthier spot and one farther from the town. I have fixed on a piece of Government waste land, measuring about 20 acres, at the 1st mile stone on the road from Cumbum to

Kurnool and Cuddapah as the best place available.

4. Emigration does not seem to prosper here. 2,376 coolies left this for Ongole during the month, but only a very small part of them ever reached it.

5. All the grain in Cumbum town has now for some time been stored and was protected from the rain. All the grain in Cumbum Taluq is also covered. The only grain in Markapur Taluq that is not in a building or shed of some sort is about 64 tons at Iskatripuravaram and a part of the grain at Dupad. Bandies were sent off about ten days ago to bring this all into Markapur, where it can all be covered, and I hope it will be all brought in in a few days.

6. I have, pending your sanction for the measure, got rid of one Settlement and three Survey hands that I have found to be perfectly useless and untrustworthy. These people have been sent back to the Revenue Settlement Office from which they came to this district. They are Head Surveyor Vasudeva Row, Deputy Surveyor Ranganada Moodelly, Deputy Surveyor N. Subbroyer, and Revenue Settlement Classifier Nadilla Purushottam. I dare say I shall be able to get rid of some others in a short time more without any injury to the public service.

7. I am sorry to see that Government have refused to give advances to ryots to buy seeds or cattle. I am quite certain that the numbers on the works would be largely diminished at once if some little advances were given. There are numbers of ryots on the works especially in the south of the Cumbum Taluq, that have land, but cannot cultivate because they have no bullocks or money to buy seeds. It is evident that this can be no pretence in most cases, for all the ryots who can are cultivating all round them, and it would be their interest to cultivate too if they had the means. If they do not get an advance of some kind a great many of them would not be able to cultivate at all this year, and the result will be not only a large number on the relief-works for some time longer, but also a much smaller amount of produce next year.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From E. GIBSON, Esq., Special Assistant Collector Section, No. II, to R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Acting Collector of Kurnool, dated Chagalmurry, 6th July 1877, No. 924.

I HAVE the honor to submit my report upon relief operations for the month of June.

2. *Progress of Work.*—During the month I have visited the works in all three taluqs, and, without asserting for a moment that all is going on satisfactorily, I am able to report a very decided improvement in the outturn of work. There are unfortunately certain localities where the return is very inadequate, but the coolies have in such cases been punished by removal to other works, a measure by which those who come to idle are generally eliminated without the risk involved in dismissal. As a rule, those who do not mean to work refuse on the score of personal convenience to proceed to places distant from their homes. Moreover the recent orders of Government enjoining the removal to "Village Relief" of those who cannot perform a fair task have enabled us to get rid of many, who, although able to do something, were a drag

on the stronger members of their gangs. I have arranged for the issue to all such persons of printed tickets addressed either to the Reddies of their respective villages or to the Superintendent of the nearest relief-camp. The great bulk of the labor has continued to be employed upon the trunk roads, and fair progress has been made. Work is now going on along five or six miles of the Nandikotkur. Considerable difficulty has been experienced in getting the people to work over the pass, but, by affording them assistance in building huts, I trust it has now been overcome. Hitherto the outturn here has been unsatisfactory, owing chiefly to the fact that the coolies have been in the habit of returning to a village at the foot every evening. The merchants, moreover, appear to be reluctant to supply grain to the people on the spot; but I have no doubt as competition sets in they will be compelled to forward provisions to any place where works may be in progress; indeed this is very generally the case everywhere except on the pass, which, owing to its isolation, has a bad name. It has been proposed to me that grain payments would be a boon to the people here employed; but I strongly object to such a course, as it would certainly have a bad effect upon the Nandial market, which is only ten miles distant, and which is the most important mart in this section.

3. *Numbers on Works and in Receipt of Gratuitous Relief.*—Every effort is being made to limit and, if possible, reduce the numbers on the works; but, although enlistment is generally restricted to certain localities, the number employed in the last week in June exceeded by some 2,200 that of the last week of the preceding month. There has been also a slight increase in the number in receipt of gratuitous relief.

4. *Wages.*—The higher scale of wages is now paid throughout the division. There was some delay in introducing the new rate generally into Sirwell owing to a misapprehension of the meaning of my orders.

5. *Relief-camps.*—Two camps are at Chagalmurry, and one at Nandial are now established. Sir Chandos Reade is at present in charge of the latter and Lieutenant Thompson is about to take charge of the former. The numbers, according to the returns for the last week in June, were 8,034 Nandial, 3,362 Chagalmurry. As an additional Hospital Assistant being now available another camp will shortly be opened at Nandikotkur.

6. *Village Relief.*—The more I see of the system of village relief the more unsatisfactory it appears. Village headmen cannot be made to understand whom it is their duty to feed, and the consequence is that much avoidable distress prevails. The camp system may be open to objections, though I confess that I do not share them, but in my opinion it is far better in every way than that which is being substituted for it. I have lately read in the newspaper a letter from the Collector of Nellore upon this subject. The force of Mr. Grose's arguments will be felt by most Relief Officers, and I trust that Government will extend to this district the permission accorded to our neighbors to exercise discretion as to the employment of the village system.

7. *Health.*—The general health of the people on the works has been good. I hear, however, of a sharp outbreak of cholera at a village in Nandikotkur Taluq, but the epidemic appears to have lasted only a few days.

8. *Audit.*—The Chief Auditor lately appointed has been engaged with my office at Nandial during the month under report. The audit of many of the works in that taluq is nearly completed with results far more satisfactory than might have been anticipated. With regard to payments of wages the plan adopted is to check all nominal rolls and compare them with pay abstracts; a balance is then struck between the amount of the nominal rolls and the sum actually paid; overpayments are charged to the Paymaster responsible and under payments are credited to Government. When

erroneous calculations are discovered in the nominal rolls resulting in a loss to Government the sum deficient is charged to the gang maistry where he can be found, in the few cases where residence is unknown the sum will have to be written off. I have been greatly surprised at the accuracy of the accounts kept. On an outlay of many thousands of rupees the total loss or gain is usually insignificantly small, not exceeding some 2 or 3 Rupees.

9. *Prices.*—Prices have risen steadily throughout the month, and reached the highest point in Nandikotkur, where second sort rice was at one time selling at 5.54 Indian seers the rupee. By the return for the 30th June, however, it appears that it has fallen about half a seer. I attribute this rise almost entirely to the fact that the cattle were required for agricultural purposes, and were not available for the carriage of grain. But in the taluqs of Sirwell and Nandial, as well as in the Elgode portion of the Nandikotkur Taluq, a rise in prices may always be looked for whenever there is a fresh in the Pennair, which, for the time, interrupts communication with the railway. Almost the whole of the grain now consumed in these taluqs is imported, and I am satisfied that, except for private consumption, reserved stocks do not exist. Hence it follows that whenever direct communication with the railway and Cuddapah is interrupted, prices are ruled by the Proddatur market, which, for the time, has a monopoly.

10. *Rainfall and Crops.*—So far the rainfall in these taluqs has been scanty, and there is no immediate prospect of more. The crops are now a few inches high, but the ground is hardening day by day, and unless we get more rain very shortly the late sowings will perish altogether.

11. I have just received a copy of Board's Proceedings, dated 27th June 1877, No. 3,050. I regret that I am not able at once to furnish the full information required regarding the value of work done. I will, however, do my best to obtain details before the end of the current month and give the result in my next report. Meanwhile it may be worthwhile to mention that at the present rate of wages the "metal" which is being stocked in large quantities along the trunk road now costs at the roadside about 1½ Rupees for a cubic yard. This sum does not of course include the cost of supervision.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.

From H. CLOGSTOUN, Esq., Special Assistant Collector of Kurnool, to the Acting Collector of Kurnool, dated Peapally, 10th July 1877, No. 745.

I HAVE the honor to submit the usual monthly report on the conduct of the famine relief operations in my section* of the district during the month of June 1877.

2. *Numbers on Relief-works.*—The numbers on relief-works in each taluq of the section on the 26th May and on each succeeding Saturday up to Saturday 30th June are shown below:—

Taluqs.	TOTAL NUMBERS ON RELIEF-WORKS.						Increase or Decrease in Column 7 as compared with Column 2.
	26th May.	2nd June.	9th June.	16th June.	23rd June.	30th June.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Ramalkota ...	31,230	30,345	32,818	32,463	33,044	33,757	+ 2,527
Pattikonda ...	22,487	22,753	25,895	24,920	25,109	24,349	+ 1,862
Koilkuntla ...	26,797	27,466	27,701	26,434	24,930	25,994	— 803
Total ...	80,514	80,564	86,414	83,817	83,083	84,100	+ 3,589

The increase on the last Saturday in June as compared with the numbers on the last Saturday in the previous month is 3,586, an increase which would have been considerably larger had it not been for timely rains in Koilkuntla which have enabled us to keep the numbers in that taluq at an average lower by 5,000 than the average prevailing during the three previous months.

The increase in Ramalkota and Pattikonda would be much larger were admission to the work freely given to all who apply for it, but the knowledge that they may be sent to Nellore deters many from applying at all and rapidly disperses the crowds of coolies who assemble together in the hope of getting easy employment near their own villages. Due care is, however, taken that those who are not in a fit state to march to Nellore are either provided with suitable work, or, if found in too weak a condition for work, that they are sent to a relief-house.

3. *Prices.*—The prices of second-sort rice and of cholam on the last day of the last week in the month at the different taluq cusbahs are shown in the next statement:—

Items.	Taluqs.	FOR WEEKS ENDING				
		2nd June.	9th June.	16th June.	23rd June.	30th June.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Cholam ...	Ramalkota ...	7-12	7-12	6-77	6-41	6-41
	Pattikonda ...	8-60	8-33	8-33	8-06	7-79
	Koilkuntla ...	7-42	7-42	7-42	7-42	7-42
Rice, second sort.	Ramalkota ...	5-85	6-23	6-06	5-88	5-88
	Pattikonda ...	7-52	7-52	7-52	7-52	6-45
	Koilkuntla ...	6-60	6-60	6-60	6-60	6-39

It will be seen that there is a general rise in prices throughout the section, caused partly by the difficulty of procuring carriage from the different railway stations to the interior owing to the diversion of draught cattle to ploughing operations. The stocks of grain in the section have, however, during the last fortnight been considerably augmented, coolies having been used instead of bullocks to draw the bandies. It is, therefore, to be hoped that a further advance in prices will be checked.

4. *Wages.*—In view to using up the stocks of locally-purchased grain, wages have been paid in grain on certain roads in each taluq of the section; in all other cases money-wages have been paid up to the present date; cholam has been taken as the standard in Ramalkota and Pattikonda, on the price of which the coolies' wages have been based, but now the serious falling off in the importation of this grain will, it is feared, render it necessary to adopt second-sort rice as the standard, in which case the money-wages of the coolies will have to be considerably increased. The coolies in the section have been paid under Scale I.

5. *Task-work.*—Task-work at 50 per cent. of a Public Works Department task is at the end of the month being exacted from all coolies employed on the main roads to the number of about 25,000. On the other roads in Ramalkota and Pattikonda the 50 per cent. task has only now been fully enforced, it having been thought desirable to introduce it gradually, and to teach the coolies by the means of a slight increase to their task made week by week that they are fully capable of performing the work demanded of them by Government. Notwithstanding this indulgence numbers of gangs have day after day forfeited the difference between Scale I. and Scale II. From the return which I have before me showing the work on the Pattikonda and

Devarakonda road, it appears that even in the third week of the new task-work the practice of frequent fining is opposed to the directions contained in paragraph 6 of G.O., dated 5th February 1877, No. 520-A, and in Clause V, paragraph 3, of Board's Proceedings, dated 21st February 1877. The Sectional Officer's attention will be drawn to this matter. I would, however, observe that the fear of fine is the only thing which can induce indolent coolies to render a fair tale of work. on the higher rates of pay, though here the task imposed had only reached about 30 per cent. of the Public Works Department task, only five gangs out of sixty-six gangs entirely escaped fine during the week. Of the remaining gangs ten were fined for six days in the week. On an average each of the sixty-six gangs were fined on three days during the week.

In Koilkuntla I trust that the Deputy Collector in charge of the taluq aided by Sub-Engineer Woods and Overseer Higgins will have succeeded with his diminished numbers in obtaining a satisfactory task.

6. *Condition of Coolies on Relief-works.*—The general health of the coolies throughout the month has been fair, and their condition has certainly not deteriorated. It is much to be regretted that the rapidly-rising prices should at the present time so seriously diminish the value of the differences between the higher and lower scales of wages.

7. *Nature and Progress of Relief-works.*—The increase in the wages of coolies granted by Government in their Order, No. 1,788, dated 22nd May 1877, has enabled us to secure a better outturn of work throughout the section generally. Along the main road between Gooty and Kurnool from 20,000 to 25,000 coolies have been employed. Materials for the reconstruction of the entire road will, within a few weeks, have been prepared. A similar work will shortly be commenced on the Kurnool and Bellary road, which urgently requires thorough repair.

The Board is anxious to know the value of our work, but this information I have not been able to supply owing to the non-completion of many of the roads begun, which non-completion has been caused by the want of rain, without which it is impossible to lay the gravel, which is, however, all prepared and stacked ready to be laid on the roads as soon as the much-needed rain falls.

As regards the prepared metal and gravel stacked along the main road between Gooty and Kurnool, I am of opinion that the former will be found to have cost on an average from Rs. 1-3-0 to Rs. 1-6-0 per cubic yard, and the latter from about Annas 5 to Annas 6 per cubic yard. The task imposed upon this line of road was such as to allow the payment of full wages when one cubic yard of metal or one cubic yard of gravel was stacked for Rupee 1 or for Annas 4 respectively; but, although in many cases this task has been obtained at these rates in an equal, or perhaps greater, number of cases, the outturn has been below this amount, while the fine permissible has not been found sufficient to compensate for this short work.

On the other lines of road in the section, where only the subsistence wages have been in force, I have, as I have on many previous occasions stated, found it practically impossible to obtain a satisfactory outturn of work in proportion to the expenditure. This, as the Board remark, has been very large; however it has been quite unavoidably so. But, though the work has been very costly, I feel certain that it will be found to have been well and thoroughly done.

8. *Gratuitous Relief.*—The numbers in camps and relief houses and on village relief and the numbers of children in receipt of three pies a-day are shown in the following statement. Considerable fluctuations are noticeable in the numbers shown weekly as in receipt of village relief. This is due to a certain extent to the difficulty experienced in obtaining punctual returns from the different villages. But a large decrease has in reality taken place in the last week of the month caused by the influx from villages into the relief-camps of numerous

It may soon become necessary to raise the money-dole given in villages should prices continue to be so high. This matter will receive due attention.

paupers for whom the money-allowance of Annas 1-2 had, from the excessive rise in prices, become insufficient. So great has the rush to the relief-camps become that in the past eight days the numbers in the Peapally feeding-house rose from 416 to upwards of 800.

No. 112.

ORDER THEREON, 7th August 1877, No. 2,466.

Miscellaneous.

The Government have read the reports
of the Sectional Officers in Karnool with
much interest.

Mr. Gibson's comments on the village-relief system seem to show that it has
not been properly carried out. Registers do not seem to be prepared for each village
or reviewed by the Inspector.

(True Extract.)

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

7/12/5936-

Income.

[Handwritten initials]

a very good
report & worth
reading -

but Gibson comments
on the village chief
system & says it is not
properly carried
out - & suggests no
proper register. Also
has found in each
village - or country
inspector -

By 4/5

The points for notice in
the reports of the District
officers in Kananakau
set out in the B. & P.
in full. Mr. Gibson's remarks
on the village chief
system in form of
his report and concludes
by saying that discretion
in both introduction has
been given as has been
done in both as to
introduction.

W. W. W. W.

[Handwritten signature]
30.7.77. 2/8/77

Humant District
Humant Salt Collector
Office
Cumbum 28 July 1877

No. A
1893.

From.

The Agt. & Salt Collector
Humant

To

The Ag. Collector of
Humant

Sir,

I have the honor to
forward my report on Famine
Relief operations in my dis-
trict for the month of June.

2. The only works now in
progress in the Markapur Tal-
uk are the Dupad Pond and
the Chapalamadage Tank.

All the boats on the
work have been
aid for the present
of Vermulthar. This is an im-
portant part of the pond, as
it is the nearest to Cumbum
and

75936

Humant District
Humant Salt Collector
Office

Humant

Humant

Humant

Humant

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Humant

C3-8-77

and lies over the worst soil.
The northern part is not of so
much importance for the present,
as this is a good bundy track
the whole way, and the soil
is generally hard & kaolier
which would never be made
impassable by the rains. The
Southern end on the contrary
is over black cotton soil that
would be almost impassable
for bullock bundles in the
wet weather. When this is
finished, the Cootee way
with advantage, be put on the
other part if Relief works still
continue.

The works in the
Cumbum Taluk are the
repairs to the three trunk
roads, to Hurur
Chiddapur

Chiddapur and Ongole, the
repairs of the Dupad road, the
Sonakonda road, the filling
in of the Cumbum Cess pools
The Relief works I
reported last month that the
cess pools had been finished,
but I found afterwards that I
had made a mistake. Particular
attention is being paid
to the three trunk roads. The
Chiddapur pond beyond
Honnarole is a mere bundy pond
over a very hard kaolier soil
that will have to be all
picked before it can be
made a good pond. The road
from this to Honnarole is in
fair order and can easily
be made a good road. The

The Bangalore road is metalled from the Villore boundary to a point a little over two miles from its junction with the Bangalore road.

Turn out and Buddapate and a good part of it is also covered with gravel. It will soon be finished. The total number of Coolies employed in the Muckapur Taluk was,

8719 in the first week
9999 in the second
8877 in the third
and 8083 in the last

The work done by them in the month was

Miles	Furlongs	Yds	Work
1	1	21	Side Channel to Doped road

Miles	Furlongs	Yds	Work
2	1	38	Collecting metal on Doped road
1	2	18	Breaking metal on 1st
0	6	10	earth work on 2nd

Besides the work at the Chaper Lamadup Tank which is not reported.

The total number of Coolies in the Cumbum Taluk were,

41651 in the first week
36888 in the second
37364 in the third
and 38068 in the last.

The work done by them in the last two weeks of the month was

Miles	Furlongs	Yds	Work
10	2	107	Spreading metal & gravel
3	4	76	Collecting gravel
4	0	100	Breaking metal
0	3	154	Earth work
1	0	0	Side Channels

The

The work done in the first two weeks was not reported. The physique of the Coolies is about the same in Muskapur as in Talag that it was last month. In Cambum Talag they are pretty much in the same condition as in Mus. Rapur with the exception of those near Hom and who are much better. I have ordered all old people and people incapable of doing the work set by Government to be removed from the works and put into Relief Camps or sent to relief in Villages. The health of the Coolies is good. No deaths are reported from

from Muskapur in the month and only 18 are reported from Cambum. 3. The number of people receiving gratuitous relief at Relief Camps and Homes. This number in Cambum Talag increased steadily during the month from 1354 to 2607, and in Muskapur Talag, it increased though not steadily, from 298 to 1133. The number of Children receiving relief has decreased in Cambum Talag from 15285 to 11963. In Muskapur Talag, it has increased from 1962 to 2234. I do not believe these tremendously large figures can be correct. Two days ago on the voyage

On the road in one gang,
I found only one child
that ought to receive the 3
pice though there were 60
Children enlisted in the list.

There were about 20 or 25 Chil-
dren at the breast, and there
had all been included in
the return as children re-

ceiving 3 Pice. Of course, this
was wrong but even with
these there would only have
been about 25 instead of 60.

Of course I was told that
there were some that had
not come, but that it is
needless to say, must have
been all nonsense. I merely
mention this incidentally here.

children
breast
receive the
pice allow-
under 6.0 of
June 18. 7
the list
pice allow-
will be
to this.

Why

2/2/8
I have taken measures
for a thorough examination
of all the gangs, and I
shall report the result
to you as soon as I can. The
number receiving village
relief increased in Cumbum
Taluk from 139 to 227 and
decreased in Murkaper
Taluk from 1225 to 346. The
mortality in Cumbum Taluk
at Relief Camps among Chil-
dren receiving 3 Pice and
among people receiving village
relief, was 42, 2, and 3 respec-
tively. In Murkaper Taluk,
there was one death at a
Relief Camp, and no deaths
among the others. I have
already

I have already written
to you about the necessity
of changing the present site
of the Relief Camp in Com.
Lum to a healthier spot and
one farther from the Town.
I have fixed on a piece of
Government waste land,
measuring about 20 acres
near the 101st mile stone on
the road from Lumbum
to Kurnool and Buddapah
as the best place available.

H. Emigration does not seem
to prosper here. 2576 Coolies
left this for Europe during
the month, but only a very
small part of them ever reached
it.

5. All the grain in Cum-
bum Town has now for some
time been stored and was
protected from the rain. All
the grain in Cumbum is
safely is also covered. The
only grain in Maskapur
that is not in a bul-
ding or shed of some sort is
about 64 tons at Sekatipurava-
ram and a part of the grain
at Inpad. Bandies were sent
off about 10 days ago to bring
this all into Maskapur
where it can all be covered,
and I hope it will be all
brought in in a few days.

6. I have, pending your sanction for the measure, got rid of one settlement and three survey hands that I have found to be perfectly useless and untrustworthy. They are Head Surveyor Vasa-
devaram, by Surveyor Rangana-
da Bodd, by Surveyor N.
Subbroyer, and Revenue
Settlement Classifier Kadella
Purushottam. I dare say
I shall be able to get rid
of some others in a short
time more, without any in-
jury to the Public Service.

7. I am sorry to see that
Government have refused
to give advances to ryots to
buy

buy seeds or cattle. I am
quite certain that the
numbers on the works
would be largely diminish-
ed at once if some little
advances were given. There are
numbers of ryots on the works
especially in the South of the
Cumbum Taluk that have
land, but can't cultivate
because they have no bull or
money to buy seeds. It is
evident that this can be
no fact in most cases,
for all the ryots who can,
are cultivating all round
them, and it would be
there.

their interest to Cultivate
in, if they had the means.

If they don't get an advance
of some thing, great many
of them won't be able to Cul-
tivate at all this year, and
the result will be not only
a large number on the Relief
Works for some time longer,
but also a much smaller
amount of produce next
year.

I have to
J^d L. W. Fawcett
Asst. Hd. Asst. Collec.
(True Copy)

sd. C. J. Knowlton
Spt. Asst. Collector
in Charge
(True Copy)

W. C. Knowlton
Ag. Secretary

Chas
H.

Enclosure in
Proceedings of the
Board of Directors
of 26 July 1877

23
3
25936

No 924

Memorandum of the Committee

Camp Chagalamony

dated 1 July 1877

From

Le. Gibson Esq.

Special Agent

through

Section No II

To

R. Davidson Esq.

Acting Collector

through

See

I have the honor to submit
my report upon Relief operations
for the month of June.

2. Progress of work. During the month

I have visited the works in
all three taluqs and without
excepting for a moment that

all is going on satisfactorily.

I am able to report a very
decided improvement in the
out-turn of work. There

are

are unfortunately certain localities
where the return is very inadequate,
but the coolies have in such
cases been punished by
removal to other works,
a measure by which those
who come to idle are presently
eliminated without the risk
involved in dismissal. As
a rule those who do not
mean to work refuse on
the score of personal convenience
to proceed to places distant
from their homes. Moreover
the recent orders of Government
enjoining the removal to
"Village Relief" of those
who cannot perform a fair
task have enabled us to
get rid of many who although
able

able to do something were a
drag upon the stronger
members of their gangs.
I have arranged for the
issue to all such persons
of printed tickets addressed
either to the Raddies of their
respective villages or to the
Superintendent of the nearest
Relief Camp. The great bulk
of the labour has continued
to be employed upon the
Trunk Roads and fair progress
has been made. Work is
now going on along five
or ten miles of the Nandikarana.
Considerable difficulty has
been experienced in getting
the people to work over the
pass, but by affording
them

their assistance in building
huts. I trust it has now been
overcome. Notwithstanding the situation
here has been unsatisfactory
owing chiefly to the fact
that the coolies have been
in the habit of returning
to a village at the fort
every evening. The merchants
moreover appear to be reluc-
tant to supply grain to
the people on the spot, but
I have no doubt as competition
sets in they will be compelled
to forward provisions to
any place where works
may be in progress, indeed
this is very generally the
case everywhere except on
the pier, which owing to
its

isolation has a bad name.
It has been proposed to me
that grain payments would
be a boon to the people
here employed, but I strongly
object to such a course as
it would certainly have a
bad effect upon the Naudial
market which is only ten
miles distant and which is
the most important market in this
section.

3. Timber on works } Every effort
and in receipt of } is being made
gratuitous relief } to limit
and if possible reduce the
numbers on the works, but
although enlistment is
generally restricted to
certain localities the number
employed in the last week

in June exceeded by some 2200. that of the last week of the preceding month. There has been also a slight increase in the number in receipt of gratuitous relief.

4. Wages. The higher scale of wages is now paid throughout the division. There was some delay in introducing the new rate generally into Simla owing to a misapprehension of the meaning of my orders.

5. Relief Camps. Two camps are at Chaglamunay and one at Kandial are now established. Sir Chandas Rood is at present in charge of the

the latter and Lieutenant Thompson is about to take charge of the former. The numbers according to the returns for the last week in June were 8034 Kandial 3862 Chaglamunay. As an additional Hospital Assistant being now available another camp will shortly be opened at Sandikotkur.

6. Village Relief. The more I see of the system of Village Relief the more unsatisfactory it appears. Village Head men cannot be made to understand whom it is their duty to feed and the consequence is that much avoidable

avoidable distress prevails.

The Camp system may be open to objections, though I confess that I do not share them, but in my opinion it is far better in every way than that which is being substituted for it.

I have lately read in the news paper a letter from the Member of Council upon this subject. The force of Mr. Gross's arguments will be felt by most chief officers and I trust that Government will extend to this District, the permission accorded to our neighbours to exercise discretion as to the employment of the village system.

7. Health. The general health of

The village has been good. I have however of a sharp outbreak of Cholera at a village in Sandikotkur Taluk, but the epidemic appears to have lasted only a few days.

8. Audit. The Chief Auditor lately appointed has been engaged with my office at Sandial during the month under report. The audit of many of the works in that Taluk is nearly completed with results far more satisfactory than was anticipated. With regard to payments of wages the plan adopted is to check all nominal rolls and compare

compare them with pay abstracts,
a balance is then struck
between the amount of
the nominal rolls and the
sum actually paid; over-
payments are charged to
the paymaster responsible
and under payments are
credited to Government.

When erroneous calculations
are discovered in the
nominal rolls resulting
in a loss to Government
the sum deficient is
charged to the gang making
it.

In the few cases where
residence is unknown
the sum will have to
be written off. I have
been

been greatly surprised at the
accuracy of the accounts kept
on an outlay of many
thousands of Rupees. The
total loss or gain is usually
insignificantly small
not exceeding some two
or three rupees.

9. Prices. Prices have risen
steadily throughout the month
and reached the highest point
in Sandikottur, where 27½
sot rice was at one time
selling at 5.34 Indian seers
the rupee. By the return
for the 30 June however
it appears that it has
fallen about half a
seer. I attribute this rise
almost entirely to the
fact that the cashes
were

being required for agricultural
purpose and are not
available for the raising
of grain. But in the Taluqs
of Simla and Chaudhial
as well as in the Elgotha
portion of the Mandakhetta
Taluq a rise in prices
may always be looked for
whenever there is a fresh
in the Pemsar, which for
the time interrupts
communication with the
Railway. Almost the
whole of the grain now
consumed in these Taluqs
is imported and I am
satisfied that, except
for private consumption

reserved

reserved stocks ~~and~~ it
hence it follows that ~~the~~
direct communication with
the Railway and Ludhiana
is interrupted prices are
ruled by the ~~Produce~~
market, which for the time
has a monopoly.

10. Rainfall & Crops. So far
the rain fall in these Taluqs
has been scanty and there
is no immediate prospect
of more. The crops are now
a few inches high, but
the ground is hardening
day by day and unless
we get more rain very
shortly the late sowings
will perish altogether.

11. I have just received a
copy of Board Proceedings
dated

dated 27 June 1897 No 3050.

I regret that I am not
able at once to furnish the
full information required
regarding the value of work
done. I will however do my
best to obtain details
before the end of the current
month and give the result
in my next report. Meanwhile
it may be worth while
to mention that at the present
rate of wages the metal which
is being stacked in large
quantities along the Trunk
Road now costs at the
road side about 175 rupees for
a cubic yard. This sum does
not of course include the cost
of supervision.

Shankar
(Sd) L Gibbon
Sd Capt. Charles Sestribo II
Tracy
Sd Capt. Hume
Sd Capt. Hume
in charge

Cd 612

Tracy
L. Gibbon
Sd Capt. Hume

Special asstth Collector
Office, Peshawar
10th July 1877

No 745

From

The Special asstth Collector
Kurrumool

To The Asstth Collector, Kurrumool

Sir

I have the honor to submit
the usual monthly report on the
conduct of the Famine Relief operations in my section of the District during the month of June 1877

2 members on Relief works. The
members on Relief works in each
Taluk of the section on the 26th May
& on each succeeding Saturday up
to Saturday 30th June are shown below.

Total members on Relief works

Taluk	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	Total
Ramalkota	21230303	1532818	32463	33044	33757	+2527																						
Pattikonda	22487	22753	25895	24920	25109	24349	+1862																					
Railkuntla	26797	27466	27701	26434	24930	25994	-803																					
Total	80514	80514	86414	83817	83083	84100	+3586																					

The increase on the last Saturday

No 73936

Encl^{osure} no 738

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Encl^{osure} no 738

1

Saturday in June as compared with the numbers on the last Saturday in the previous month is 3586. an increase which would have been considerably larger had it not been for timely rains in Koilkumbha which have enabled us to keep the numbers in that Taluk at an average lower by 5000 than the average prevailing during the three previous months.

The increase in Ramalkota & Pattikonda would be much larger, were admission to the work freely given to all who apply for it; but the knowledge that they may be refused admission deters many from applying at all & rapidly disperses the crowds of coolies who assemble together in the hope of getting easy employment near their own villages.

Due care is however taken that those who are not in a fit state to march to the works are either provided with suitable work or if found in too great a condition for work that they are sent to a Relief house.

3. Prices - The prices of second sort rice & of cholera on the last day of the last week in the month at the different Taluk centres are shown in the next statement.

Items	Talugs	For weeks ending				
		June 2 nd	June 7 th	June 16 th	June 23 rd	June 30 th
		3	4	5	6	7
Cholera	Ramalkota	7.12	7.12	6.77	6.41	6.41
	Pattikonda	8.60	8.33	8.33	8.06	7.79
	Koilkumbha	7.42	7.42	7.42	7.42	7.42
Rice 2 nd sort	Ramalkota	5.88	6.23	6.06	5.88	5.88
	Pattikonda	7.52	7.52	7.52	7.52	6.45
	Koilkumbha	6.60	6.60	6.60	6.60	6.39

It will be seen that there is a general rise in prices throughout the section, caused partly by the

Difficulty of procuring carriage
from the different Railway sta-
tions to the interior owing to the
diversion of draught cattle to
ploughing operations. The stocks of
grain in the section have how-
ever during the last fortnight been
considerably augmented coolies
having been used instead of
bullocks to draw the handies. It
is therefore to be hoped that a further
advance in prices will be checked.
to wages. In view to using up
the stocks of locally purchased
grain, wages have been paid in
grain on certain roads in each
Taluk of the section; in all other
cases money wages have been
paid up to the present date.
Cholera has been taken as the
standard in Ramalkota & Patti-
Konda, on the price of which the

the coolies' wages have been
based, but now the serious
falling off in the importation of this
grain, which it is feared, renders
it necessary to adopt 2nd sort rice
as the standard in such case
the money wages of the coolies
will have to be considerably
increased. The coolies in the
section have been paid under
scale I.

Taskwork. Taskwork at 50 per
cent of a D.P. or Task is, at the
end of the month being exacted
from all coolies employed on the
main roads to the number of
about 25000. On the other roads
in Ramalkota & PattiKonda
the 50 per cent task has only now
been fully enforced, it having been
thought desirable to introduce it
gradually & to teach the coolies by
the means of a slight increase to

to their task made week by week
that they are fully capable of per-
forming the work demanded of
them by Government. notwithstanding
this indulgence num-
bers of gangs have day after day
forfeited the difference between
Scale I & Scale II. From the North
return which I have before me
showing the work on the Pattikonda
& Deranakonda Road, it appears
that even in the 3rd week of the
new task work on the higher
ratio of pay, though here the task
imposed had only reached about
30 per cent of the D.P.V. task, only
5 gangs out of 66 gangs entirely
escaped fines during the week.
Of the remaining gangs 16 were
fined for 6 days in the week.
On an average each of the 66
gangs were fined on three days
during

During the week

In North India I trust that
the Deputy Collector in charge of
the task aided by Sub. Engineers
Woods & Overseer Higgins will
have succeeded with his
diminished numbers in obtain-
ing a satisfactory task.

6. Condition of Coolies on Relief work.
The general health of the coolies
throughout the month has been fair
but some deterioration has been
observed. It is much to be re-
gretted that the rapidly rising
prices should at the present time
so seriously diminish the value
of the differences between the
higher & lower scales of wages.

7. Nature & progress of Relief work.
The increase in the wages of coolies
granted by Govt. in their order no 1788
of 22nd May 1877 has enabled us to
secure a better output of work
throughout the section generally.
Along

Along the main road between Gooly
& Kurnool from 20000 to 25000
coolies have been employed. Ma-
terials for the reconstruction of the
entire road will, within a few
weeks, have been prepared &
similar work will shortly be
commenced on the Kurnool and
Bellary Road, which urgently
requires thorough repair.

The Board is anxious to know
the value of our work; but this
information, I have not been able
to supply, owing to the non-completion
of many of the roads begun, which
non-completion has been caused by
the want of rain without which
it is impossible to lay the gravel
which is however, all prepared
& stacked ready to be laid on the
roads as soon as the much needed
rain falls.

As regards the prepared metal

metal & gravel stacked along
the main road between Gooly
& Kurnool, I am of opinion that
the former will be found to have
cost on an average from Rs 1-3-6
to 1-6-0 per cubic yard, & the latter
from about Rs 5-0-0 to Rs 6-0-0 per
cubic yard. The task imposed
upon this line of road was
such as to allow the payment
of full wages when one cubic
yard of metal or one cubic yard
of gravel was stacked for Rs 1-0-0
or for Rs 1-4-0 respectively; but
although in many cases this task
has been obtained at these rates
in an equal or perhaps greater
number of cases, the outturn has
been below this amount, while
the price permissible has not been
found sufficient to compensate
for this short work.

On the other lines of road in the

the section where only the subsistence wages have been in force I have, as I have on many previous occasions stated, found it practically impossible to obtain satisfactory outcome of work in proportion to the expenditure. This as the Board remark has been very large, however, it has been quite unavoidable so. But though the work has been very costly I feel certain that it will be found to have been well & thoroughly done.

8. Gratuitous Relief. The numbers in Camps & Relief houses and on village Relief, & the numbers of children in receipt of 3 pice a day are shown in the following statement. Considerable fluctuations are noticeable in the numbers of

in receipt of village relief. This is due to a certain extent to the difficulty experienced in obtaining punctual Returns from the different villages. But a large decrease has in reality taken place in the last week of the month, caused by the influx from villages into the Relief Camps of numerous paupers for whom the money allowance of Rs 1-2 had from the excessive rise in prices, become insufficient. So great has the rush to the Relief Camps become, that in the past 8 days the numbers in the Peapally feeding house rose from 416 to upwards of 800.

Talags	The number in Camps & Relief houses		The number on Village relief		The number of 3 pie children		For the week's ending		For the week's ending		Remarks	
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
1	1572	1785	2142	2136	4076	1320	1942	2084	2054	1734	7927	7538
2	372	342	392	408	534	818	635	681	752	421	5478	5575
3	392	357	421	583	585	389	356	424	6457	"	4004	5741
Total												6892

9. Grain Reserve. It has not been found necessary during the month to withdraw the Govt reserves of grain in the section, though I was compelled on one occasion to remove a body of 3000 coolies from the Kotara Konda Road, where supplies were failing, to the main Road in the neighbourhood of Peapally where the markets were better supplied. As I have stated in para 4 all the locally purchased grain is being paid away in wages to coolies & will shortly be consumed.

The stock of Government Reserve Rice in the section is shown below:-

Kamal Koda	104189
Pattikonda	10466
Koilkumbha	27779
Total	216634

2 1424 24

Taking the population of the
section about 1197 and the con-
sumption at 1 lb per head per
day the stock of Reserve grain
is about sufficient for 7 or 8
weeks supply

10. In conclusion, I regret
that an attack of Ophthalmia
which has prevented me
using my eyes, has slightly
delayed the submission of this

Report.

Spec. Ass't Collector
Office, Pampanga
10 July 1877

I am &c

(Sd) H. Clogston
Spec. Ass't Collector

(True Copy)

(Sd) C. J. Nixon
Spec. Ass't Collector
in charge

(True Copy)

W. C. Nixon
Secretary

W. C. Nixon

Enclosed with
 Order 15th Dec 1877
 Dec 15 1877 N.D. 8003
 26th July 1877 N.D. 3511

2. 2/2/78

Revenue Department

N^o 3511

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.

Dated 26th July 1877.

Read the following

From The Special Assistant Collector
 In charge

To The Secretary to the Board of Revenue
Madras

Sir, I have the honor to forward herewith the reports
 of the Sectional Officers on the progress of relief operations
 for the month of June together with my marginal remarks
 recorded thereon.

Collector's Office,
 26th July 1877

I have &c
 (Signed) G. J. Knox
 Special Asst Collector.
 In charge.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. Mr. Glogston is unable as yet to furnish
 much information regarding the cost of the work executed
 but from what he states it appears likely that it will
 prove generally high, principally owing to the difficulty
 of enforcing adequate tasks. It is satisfactory to learn
 that the work has been thoroughly done. The chief point
 calling for notice in the report is the statement at
 para 8 regarding the influx of paupers from villages
 into the Relief Camps owing to the insufficiency of the
 money doles with reference to the excessively high
 prices prevailing. This is a result which the Board
 have

have feared was likely to follow and demands serious attention. Mr. Puckle is engaged in sending very large numbers from work and camps to their villages and the measure, if carried too far, is likely to lead to terrible disaster. If these people find that they cannot subsist on the money dole they will return to the works and camps by thousands and the movement of large bodies of paupers about the country with the Board fear, be attended with imminent risk. It is true that a slight increase of money doles has recently been authorized, but it is not sufficient to counterbalance the rapid advance of prices. The Board regret to receive an unsatisfactory account of Mr. Cogston's health.

3. Mr. Gibson's report shows that work in his section is being satisfactorily carried on, but he is unable to furnish details regarding the cost. The Board are glad to learn that the audit is making progress and that the results are so far satisfactory. Although Mr. Gibson's experience of the working of the village relief system is not encouraging the experiment must be persevered in.

4. With reference to the Head Assistant Collector's report the Board observe that the Collector has been vested with discretionary power in the matter of the selection of the road work to be undertaken. No particulars

particulars regarding the cost of the work done are furnished. With reference to para 7 the Board rely upon the Collector to give his attention to the matter and to apply for sanction for the issue of advances for the purchase of seed grain should necessity arise hereafter: in the present state of the season, cultivation must be at a standstill and advances are not wanted.

(True Copy & Extract)

W. L. Cotton
As Secretary

To,

The Adml. Secretary to Government
Revenue Department

with Copies of 3 Encllosures

G.O. 10th Dec

12 2273

12/12/23
G.O.

W 2466-

40.

The Government has had
the report of the Librarian of
Congress with the
instruct.

2. Mr. Wilson's Committee
on the Library of Congress
has the honor to inform
you that the Librarian
has received the report
of the Librarian of
Congress and
has referred the
same to the
Committee on
the Library of
Congress.

1877 7 August 177

720.6936

Board of Trustees

24 Aug 177

6.3

Submitting for the
impression of the
report of the Librarian
of Congress to the
Board of Trustees.

of the report of the
Librarian of Congress
to the Board of Trustees
for the purpose of
the impression of the
report of the Librarian
of Congress to the
Board of Trustees.

18th 91
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M. S. Board of Trustees 1873/8
M. S. Board of Trustees
M. S. Board of Trustees
M. S. Board of Trustees

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