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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2600 B	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	29-8-	1877
		197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1
2600B

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

29th August 1877, No. 2,600-B.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper :—

No. 438-C. From A. McC. WEBSTER, Esq., Acting Commissioner of the Neilgiris, to J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Additional Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Neddivuttum, 20th August 1877, No. 80.

I HAVE the honor to report, for the information of Government, that I have made inquiries regarding the state of the coolies and their dependents in the Ouchterlony Valley. I have not yet obtained from the Superintendents accurate statistics of the numbers fit to work, but roughly there are about 6,000 coolies altogether; of these the majority are fit to work, but there are about 600 quite unfit for work; of these 450 are children. Many coolies are also coming in a more or less emaciated condition, and these are also quite unfit for work.

2. The Superintendents of the Ouchterlony Estates have established soup-kitchens on each estate for the relief of these people, but their means are limited, and they are unable to give a ration that will enable the recipients of relief to pick up strength. These people are generally connected with the working coolies, but the latter, owing to the high price of grain, are unable to support them. They will not go to our camps, and indeed it would not be advisable to remove them from the estates, thereby dividing families. They require more relief than they get now if they are to live; and, as it would be quite impossible for me to establish a purely Government relief camp under proper supervision, I have asked the Superintendents to increase the ration to the 20 oz. scale, and have told them that Government will bear half the cost of the relief afforded.

3. The Superintendents have consented to this arrangement, and, as by it relief will be more carefully administered under the direct supervision of the Superintendents than would be possible under native management, I trust the arrangement I have made may receive the sanction of Government.

4. Many—indeed the greater portion—of the recipients of relief require careful dieting, which they cannot get in the lines of the different estates; and Mr. C. M. Grant, the Manager of the Ouchterlony Estates, has kindly placed at my disposal the Laureston Store, a building 150 feet by 16 feet, asphalted floor, and upper story. I propose to convert this building into a hospital for the relief of those in the lines requiring medical treatment. If the accommodation is found to be insufficient, Mr. Grant will place another building in the vicinity at my disposal. Mr. Dyce, the private Apothecary for the estates, has his time fully occupied in visiting the estates and would be unable to attend to the hospital. I have, therefore, the honor to request that Government will arrange at an early date for a special Dresser being detailed for duty in the Valley Hospital and for his being supplied with medicines. I will arrange for service. The Dresser will be entirely employed in the hospital, and Mr. Dyce will itinerate and inspect those in the lines and will send to the hospital all who require medical treatment.

5. I have found it necessary to establish feeding houses at the Pykara and Neddivuttum Police Stations, as, do what we will, some people manage to elude in and ascend the ghats. The inclement weather speedily acts on them, and they fall from exhaustion and exposure. On my way here on Saturday I passed the bodies of two women lying together by the roadside. They were Coimbatore people, and appear, from inquiries I have made, to have belonged to a large gang

Revenue Department, 29th August 1877, No. 2,600-B.

who were going to work in the Wynad as usual, and who, perhaps, from not being able to keep up with their companions, were left behind. In their case they do not seem to have been discovered before death; but, even if they had been, there would have been no relief near at hand. As temporary relief ought to be within reach, I have ordered supplies to be sent to these Police Stations. As Government were averse to the establishment of a feeding house at Kulhutti, I beg to report my proceedings for confirmation. Owing to the road from Ootacamund to this place traversing an almost uninhabited part of the country, travellers who fall by the way-side have but a small chance of rescue, but we must do what we can for their relief, so I trust Government will not object to the establishment of these additional feeding houses.

No. 438-D.

ORDER THEREON, 29th August 1877, No. 2,600-B.

Miscellaneous.

The Commissioner's action in respect of the Pykara and Neddivuttam Police Stations and of the contribution by Government to soup-kitchens on estates is approved, as is also the conversion of the Laureston Store into a hospital. Care must be taken, however, that the kitchens do not attract people from the low country and that estate laborers in work support their own relatives as far as possible.

2. The Commissioner's letter will be communicated to the Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, in view to a Hospital Assistant being detailed, if possible, to have charge of the Laureston Store Hospital with a suitable supply of medicines.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
" the Commissioner of the Nilgiris.
" the Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department.
" the Financial Department.
" the Accountant-General.

Exd. J. W. Fischer.

2
2600B

7 No. 6971

From *Sy. Commissioner Kelgiris*Dated 20th August 1877.

FOR ORDERS.

As regards *Revenue*
Commissioner
 I would explain
 something out that the
 finding *Revenue* must
 be strictly enforced
 to find only *Revenue*
 persons.

Sanction
Yes/No

As regards *Hospital*
 arrangements at the
Lancaster there - I do
 not think *Int. Inquiry*
Changath with cost of
 supporting children &
 coolies residing in the
 estates - it is a charge
 due to the estate & a part
 of its cost of *Revenue*.

Int. Rates the
Arrangement - On the
 condition that the
 coolies in brick
 are to support their
 own families &
 that the *Revenue*
 have no claim

REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Secy. Secy. Secy.

Dated August 29th.

Forwarded to H.S. September 3rd.

Forwarded September 7th.

Recd.

Recd.

G.O. No. 2074 August 1877, No. 2,600-B.

AUGUST.

No. 438-C-188-D.

FACILE RELIEF, No. 1,600-E.

Feeling *Theresa* at *Pybarn* and *Nadkarni*
 sent to the *Kilgiris* - Approving the *Commis-*
 sioner's action in respect of the - and of the con-
 sideration by Government to send *Theresa* on the
 estate; and communicating the Commissioner's
 letter to the Surgeon-General, Indian Medical
 Department, in view of a Hospital Assistant being
 decided to have charge of the *Lancaster* Stone
 Hospital with a suitable supply of medicines.

26000B

They must pay the price
The amount necessary
to keep them & their
children

on the estate
calculated as follows
see

other: I am entitled
to the estate worth
red money in the

I am afraid there
is no prospect of
revenue and being
unable to

I fear the estate
will be sold
at a low price

2573

about 2500

178

FOR ORDERS.

Webster
of the
Court

Court

716971

1877

No. 80

In Circuit. Reddington

Sept 20th 1877.
Sept 21st

From

A. M. Mearns Esq
23 Chambers Street New York

To

J. H. Garrison Esq
Add. Sec. of Government

Sir

I have the honor to reply for the information of your government that I have made inquiries regarding the state of the cookies and their dependants in the District of Columbia. I have not yet obtained from the Superintendent accurate statistics of the numbers for work; but roughly there are about 6000 cookies altogether - of these the majority are for work, but there are about 600 quite unfit for work. If these 400 are ^{the} children, many cookies are also coming in in a more or less emaciated condition & these are also quite unfit for work.

150
The 150
that are
coming

1877-78

2. The Superintendents of the Protectorial
Estates have established soup kitchens
on each Estate for the relief of these people -
but their means are limited, and they
are unable to give a ration that will enable
the recipients of relief to put up strength.
These people are generally connected with
the working coolies, but the latter owing
to the high price of grain are unable to support
them. They will not go to our camps, &
indeed it would not be advisable to
remove them from the estates, thereby dividing
families - They require more relief than
they get now, if they are to live, and as
it would be quite impossible for me
to establish a penitentiary government
relief camp under proper supervision,
I have asked the Superintendents

to increase the ration to the 20 oz scale, &
have told them that Government will
bear half the cost of the relief afforded.

3. The Superintendents have considered
this arrangement, and as by it relief
will be more carefully administered
under the direct supervision of the
Superintendents than would be possible
under native management, they
the arrangement I have made may
receive the sanction of Government.

4. Many indeed the great portion of
the recipients of relief require careful
feeding, which they cannot get in the
series of the different Estates; and for
C.M. Grant the manager of the Protectorial
Estates has kindly placed at my
disposal the Laureston Store - a building
150 ft by 16 ft, asphalted floor.

And upper story. I propose to convert
this building into an Hospital for the
relief of those in the district requiring
medical treatment. If the accommodation
is found to be insufficient, the Government
will place another building in the
vicinity at my disposal. Mr. Dyer
the private Apothecary for the Estate
has his time fully occupied in visiting
the Estate, and would be unable to
attend to the Hospital. I have therefore
the honor to request that Government
will arrange at an early date for a
Sikandar Dyer being detached for duty
to the Valley Hospital, & for his being
supplied with medicines. I will arrange
for his services. The Dyer will be
fully employed in the Hospital, & will

W. C. Dyer
to

2/2003
Dye will itinerate and inspect those
in the district and send to the Hospital
all who require medical treatment.

5. I have found it necessary to
establish feeding houses at ^{the} Pynara
and Haddiwatthana Pann Stations; &
do what we will some people manage
to slide in and avoid the guards. The
inclement weather speedily acts on them,
and they fall from exhaustion and
exposure. On my way here on Saturday
I found the bodies of two women lying
by the roadside - They were
Cocombato people, and appear from
inquiries I have made, to have belonged
to a large gang who were going to work
in the Pynara as usual, & who ^{perhaps} were
not being able to keep up with the train.

1791
The Hon. Mr. Speaker
of the House of Representatives

To
The Hon. Mr. Speaker
of the House of Representatives
at the City of New York

1791

Received of the Hon. Mr. Speaker
of the House of Representatives

the sum of
Twenty Dollars

for the purchase of
a copy of the
Reports of the
Committee on
the State of the
Union