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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	288	Press
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Dated	22.1.1877	197 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
22nd January 1877.*

No. 638. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 8th January 1877, No. 64:—

Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 30th December 1876, No. 2,223, Revenue Department:—

READ PROCEEDINGS of the Board of Revenue, dated 30th December 1876, forwarding a report from the Director of Revenue Settlement, dated 23rd December 1876, No. 4,427-128, containing his proposals for distributing the Cuddapah Settlement Party throughout the districts of Kurnool, Bellary, and Cuddapah for employment on relief works.

— — —
ORDER THEREON, 30th December 1876, No. 2,223.

Mr. Puckle's proposals contained in paragraphs 5 to 13 of his report are approved with the following modifications; Mr. Cox and party will remain in Cuddapah at the disposal of the Collector, while Mr. Mayer, with a proper establishment, will proceed under the Director's instructions to Kurnool.

2. The Government defer passing orders at present relative to the employment of Mr. C. Bird in Cuddapah.

3. The attention of the Board is prominently drawn to the following remarks of Mr. Puckle in paragraph 3: "The relief establishment at present employed is unknown, and each Divisional Officer has his own system of work, check, and supervision." Every endeavor must be made to secure system and uniformity of practice.

Paragraph 15. Speaking of Bellary and Cuddapah, "There are no returns of establishment or of the number of coolies employed on such description of work. The mileage of roads is not given in all cases, and it is difficult to distinguish between new roads and repairs. Works projected, in progress and completed, are in most cases lumped together, and there is considerable discrepancy between the Collectors' accounts and the maps intended to illustrate them." It is believed that at the time Mr. Puckle was writing, the Collectors were completing the information which was then deficient and on which Mr. Puckle most justly commented. The Board will, however, issue the necessary instructions to obviate such defects and to secure punctual submission of prescribed returns.

4. They are requested to notice the recommendation contained in paragraph 13 of the report, and to impress on Collectors of Districts, where relief works are in progress, the necessity of endeavoring to introduce task-work everywhere on them as is done at Bellary.

5. With reference to Mr. Puckle's remarks in paragraph 19 on the drawbacks to the system of payments in grain, the Government observe that, even if grain is lost or stolen in transit and the bags arrive short of their proper weight, the loss is borne by Government and this is better than the workmen being cheated, while the other difficulties enumerated by Mr. Puckle seem to have been successfully overcome by Mr. Price. They request, however, that the Board will consider the advisability of ordering a small cash payment of 3 Pies per cooly for the purchase of salt and condiments along with the grain when grain payments are made, and issue a circular on the point.

6. Paragraph 21 will be communicated to Colonel Hicks, with a request that he will arrange at once for erecting skeleton sheds at the railway stations of Cuddapah, Gooty, Bellary, and Adoni, for protecting imported grain from the weather.

7. Referring to the statement contained in paragraph 22 that about 417 miles of new road are in progress in the Bellary District, the Government desire to impress upon the Board that road work of this description should not be undertaken when there is no likelihood of the roads being subsequently maintained in repair. Tank and channel repairs, well-sinking and village improvements in most cases, afford much better employment than making roads. The repairing of existing roads and the storing of metal by the sides of such roads are, of course, not open to the same objections, but in all districts where the magnitude of the distress has not yet reached such limits that works on a very large scale require to be undertaken as relief works, the policy laid down by the Government of India in a recently received despatch should be most carefully acted up to. That policy is that, while large works may have to be resorted to as a reserve for relief purposes at a certain advanced stage of a famine of prolonged duration, they should not be had recourse to until extensive use has been made of minor projects which do not involve risk or future expenditure, and do not draw the people to a distance from their homes, and which usually afford ampler scope for unskilled labor.

8. The Government have already passed orders on the report on the progress of relief works in the Cuddapah Sub-division submitted by Mr. Gribble and forwarded to Government with the Board's Proceedings of the 21st December 1876. They request the Board will, with reference to Mr. Puckle's remarks in paragraph 29 of the report now under review, order Mr. Gribble to desist from paying money wages in excess of the maximum fixed by Government.

9. Paragraph 30 of Mr. Puckle's report will be communicated to Colonel Hicks, and he will be requested to arrange for the establishment of grain depôts on the frontier between Cuddapah and Kurnool, for the reception of grain coming from the latter district and for its transfer to the Kurnool authorities.

10. It appears from paragraph 32 of the report that about 268 miles of new road are in progress throughout the Cuddapah Sub-division. The Board will direct Mr. Gribble's immediate attention to the instructions contained in paragraph 7 *supra*, and order him to submit proposals for the diversion of much of the labor now being employed on these roads to works of the description there designated.

11. The maps and statements furnished to Mr. Puckle, by the Collectors of Bellary, Cuddapah and Kurnool, will be returned to those officers through the Board for revision and check.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. H. GARSTIN,
Acting Secretary.

MR. PUCKLE'S report and the Government Order thereon will be communicated to all Collectors of distressed districts for information and for guidance, as far as applicable to relief works under their control, with the following instructions.

2. With reference to Mr. Mayer's employment in Kurnool, the Collector will doubtless bear in mind the need, so strongly represented by Mr. Arbuthnot, of strengthening Mr. Farmer's hands in Cumbum and Markapur.

3. *Paragraph 3 of the Government Order.*—The Board have had nothing to do with the employment, sanction, or distribution of establishments, which is a matter depending so much on local circumstances and the class of men locally available, that it must be left to a great extent to local officers. It is necessary, however, that information of what these officers are doing should be regularly placed before the Board and Government, and Collectors will accordingly report without delay the nature of the arrangements which they have made, and will furnish with the weekly relief reports, statements as near as possible in the accompanying form showing the establishments employed. Further instructions will, however, be issued on this point.

4. As regards classification of works, the maps and instructions provide for new roads and repairs of existing roads being discriminated. The works should, however, in future be distinguished in the weekly reports. New works being described as "construction of road, tank, &c.," as the case may be, and similarly for repairs. The mileage of all road-works must be given. There is no object in showing works completed in the weekly returns, and the instructions issued provide for their being excluded, the outlay upon them being however, of course, included in the "outlay in each taluk since the commencement of distress."—The weekly reports are to show only works sanctioned for execution, *i.e.*, about to be commenced, or works in progress. Completed works are to be marked, with appropriate symbols, in the maps.

5. *Paragraph 4 of the Government Order.*—The Board have repeatedly impressed upon Collectors the necessity of exacting a fair amount of work from the coolies. Their attention will now be drawn to the advisability of exacting task-work which (it must be remembered) is a different thing from piece-work. Both, however, are practicable, and piece-work should be adopted when possible. The rough measurement of earthwork is not difficult, and Supervisors of the stamp of Revenue Inspectors would soon learn to do it. With gangs properly organized the introduction of task-work would be almost everywhere possible.

6. In the instructions regarding relief operations which are being issued under the approval of Government, provision is made for adding to grain-wages a small sum of money for condiments. The Board have provided a maximum ration of 1½ lbs. of grain in this case, which seems to them sufficient; but as opinions on the subject seem to differ, and as local officers complain of the insufficiency of wages which will purchase much larger quantities, the Board suggest that a competent medical opinion be obtained as to the amount necessary for the sustenance of men and women from whom a moderate labor-task is exacted, and of those who receive relief without making any return in the shape of labor.

7. *Paragraph 7 of the Government Order.*—The selection of works has been made by Collectors. Their attention is prominently drawn to the orders of Government herein conveyed. The Board have on several occasions deprecated the construction of new roads which cannot be maintained hereafter, and called attention to the

advisability of undertaking matured irrigation projects. Collectors should at once, in communication with the District Engineers, lay out schemes of irrigation repairs and prepare lists of works which have been sanctioned. Recent orders* of Government have given District Engineers of distressed districts power to undertake minor new works and repairs from relief funds, and this order should be fully acted on, and every endeavor should be made to carry out ordinary works in the ordinary manner through the District Engineer by placing funds at their disposal. The necessary funds will be allotted by the Board on application. New roads should be very sparingly undertaken, and repairs of, and storing metal for, existing roads should be preferred.

8. *Paragraph 8.*—Mr. Gribble and all Collectors who are paying money wages in excess of 2 Annas for a man will at once reduce them to that rate, where the sum of 1 Anna and 9 Pies (see Board's rules) will buy more than 1½ lbs. of second-sort rice. When this is not the case and when grain payments cannot be organized at once, Collectors are authorized as a temporary measure, and pending the introduction of grain wages, to pay the money price of 1½ lbs. of grain, plus 3 Pies to a man; and similarly on the Board's scale for women and children. There is not, as far as the reports show, any place where this temporary concession need be availed of.

9. Mr. Puckle's remarks on the relief returns for Bellary and Cuddapah refer to the information collected for the reports of the 16th December. Those for the 23rd are more accurate and complete, and it is hoped that there will be improvement week by week. Collectors are requested to use their best endeavors to make the reports accurate and to submit them punctually at the prescribed dates. The reports at present do not all reach the Board's Office before Thursday morning, and to get the figures posted and checked, and review written within 24 hours, is difficult. The reports from the most remote district would, however, if posted at the time ordered, reach the Board on Wednesday morning. Collectors will issue stringent orders, regarding the despatch of the required returns, to all officers in charge of relief works.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

Return of Establishments employed in connection with Relief Works in the
the Week ending

1. Supervision of execution of works.

Ordinary Revenue Establishment—

Number of Tahsildars.

- " of Deputy Tahsildars.
- " of Revenue Inspectors.
- " of Taluq Gumastahs.
- " of Overseers, D. P. W.
- " of Others.

Establishments specially entertained—

Number and aggregate monthly pay of Special European Officers or Deputy Collectors.		
"	"	of Tahsildars.
"	"	of Deputy Tahsildars.*
"	"	of Overseers.
"	"	of Revenue Inspectors.
"	"	of Settlement and Survey Establishments.
"	"	of Head Maistries.
"	"	of Village Officers specially remunerated.
"	"	of others above the grade of Head-cooly or Ganger.

2. Payment of wages.

Number and aggregate monthly pay of Paymasters or paying Gumastahs.
" " of others (clerks for grain depots, &c.)

3. Accounts.

Number and aggregate monthly pay of special clerks.
" for audit and check of labor bills and accounts.

* When extra Deputy Tahsildars are employed to relieve Tahsildars of sedentary work they should be entered here.

No. 639. ORDER THEREON, 22nd January 1877, No. 283.

*G.O., dated 12th January 1877, No. 193.

with the exception of the portion relating to the rates of grain-wages. The wages should be at the rates fixed by Government; the Board had not evidently received the Government Order on the subject when their Proceedings were written.

2. The Government attach much importance to the weekly reports, and trust that the Board's present instructions will secure punctuality and accuracy.

3. The statements of establishments called for in paragraph 3 will be highly useful, and show at a glance the extra charge incurred by the State on establishments. The Board have every facility for checking these returns, as all special appointments made by Government are communicated to them without delay.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
" the Financial Department.
" the Accountant-General.
" the Public Works Department.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Return of Establishments employed in connection with Relief Works in the
the Week ending

District for

1. Supervision of execution of works.
Ordinary Revenue Establishment—
Number of Tahsildars.
" of Deputy Tahsildars.
" of Revenue Inspectors.
" of Taluq Gurnastahs.
" of Overseers, D. P. W.
" of Others.

Establishments specially entertained—
Number and aggregate monthly pay of Special European Officers or Deputy Collec-
tors.

"	"	of Tahsildars.
"	"	of Deputy Tahsildars.*
"	"	of Overseers.
"	"	of Revenue Inspectors.
"	"	of Settlement and Survey Establishments.
"	"	of Head Maistries.
"	"	of Village Officers specially remunerated.
"	"	of others above the grade of Head-cooly or
"	"	Ganger.

2. Payment of wages.
Number and aggregate monthly pay of Paymasters or paying Gurnastahs.
of others (clerks for grain depots, &c.)

3. Accounts.
Number and aggregate monthly pay of special clerks.
for audit and check of labor bills and accounts.

* When extra Deputy Tahsildars are employed to relieve Tahsildars of menial work they should be entered here.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 8th January 1877.

Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 30th December 1876, No. 2,223, Revenue Department:—

READ Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 26th December 1876, forwarding a report from the Director of Revenue Settlement, dated 23rd December 1876, No. 4,427-123, containing his proposals for distributing the Cuddapah Settlement Party throughout the districts of Kurnool, Bellary, and Cuddapah for employment on relief works.

ORDER THEREON, 30th December 1876, No. 2,223.

Mr. Puckle's proposals contained in paragraphs 5 to 13 of his report are approved with the following modifications; Mr. Cox and party will remain in Cuddapah at the disposal of the Collector, while Mr. Mayer, with a proper establishment, will proceed under the Director's instructions to Kurnool.

2. The Government defer passing orders at present relative to the employment of Mr. C. Bird in Cuddapah.

3. The attention of the Board is prominently drawn to the following remarks of Mr. Puckle in paragraph 3: "The relief establishment at present employed is unknown, and each Divisional Officer has his own system of work, check, and supervision." Every endeavor must be made to secure system and uniformity of practice.

Paragraph 15. Speaking of Bellary and Cuddapah. "There are no returns of establishment or of the number of coolies employed on such description of work. The mileage of roads is not given in all cases, and it is difficult to distinguish between new roads and repairs. Works projected, in progress and completed, are in most cases lumped together, and there is considerable discrepancy between the Collectors' accounts and the maps intended to illustrate them." It is believed that at the time Mr. Puckle was writing, the Collectors were completing the information which was then deficient and on which Mr. Puckle most justly commented. The Board will, however, issue the necessary instructions to obviate such defects and to secure punctual submission of prescribed returns.

4. They are requested to notice the recommendation contained in paragraph 18 of the report, and to impress on Collectors of Districts, where relief works are in progress, the necessity of endeavoring to introduce task-work everywhere on them as is done at Bellary.

5. With reference to Mr. Puckle's remarks in paragraph 19 on the drawbacks to the system of payments in grain, the Government observe that, even if grain is lost or stolen in transit and the bags arrive short of their proper weight, the loss is borne by Government and this is better than the workmen being cheated, while the other difficulties enumerated by Mr. Puckle seem to have been successfully overcome by Mr. Price. They request, however, that the Board will consider the advisability of ordering a small cash payment of 3 Pies per cooly for the purchase of salt and condiments along with the grain when grain payments are made, and issue a circular on the point.

6. Paragraph 21 will be communicated to Colonel Hicks, with a request that he will arrange at once for erecting skeleton sheds at the railway stations of Cuddapah, Gooty, Bellary, and Adoni, for protecting imported grain from the weather.

7. Referring to the statement contained in paragraph 22 that about 117 miles of new road are in progress in the Bellary District, the Government desire to impress upon the Board that road work of this description should not be undertaken when there is no likelihood of the roads being subsequently maintained in repair. Tank and channel repairs, well-sinking and village improvements in most cases, afford much better employment than making roads. The repairing of existing roads and the storing of material by the sides of such roads are, of course, not open to the same objections, but in all districts where the magnitude of the distress has not yet reached such limits that works on a very large scale require to be undertaken as relief works, the policy laid down by the Government of India in a recently received despatch should be most carefully acted up to. That policy is that, while large works may have to be resorted to as a reserve for relief purposes at a certain advanced stage of a famine of prolonged duration, they should not be had recourse to until extensive use has been made of minor projects which do not involve risk or future expenditure, and do not draw the people to a distance from their homes, and which usually afford ampler scope for unskilled labor.

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9. Paragraph 30 of Mr. Puckle's report will be communicated to Colonel Hicks, and he will be requested to arrange for the establishment of grain depôts on the frontier between Cuddapah and Kurnool, for the reception of grain coming from the latter district and for its transfer to the Kurnool authorities.

10. It appears from paragraph 32 of the report that about 363 miles of new road are in progress throughout the Cuddapah Sub-division. The Board will direct Mr. Gribble's immediate attention to the instructions contained in paragraph 7 *supra*, and order him to submit proposals for the diversion of much of the labor now being employed on these roads to works of the description there designated.

11. The maps and statements furnished to Mr. Puckle, by the Collectors of Bellary, Cuddapah and Kurnool, will be returned to those officers through the Board for revision and check.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. H. GARSTIN,
Acting Secretary.

Mr. Puckle's report and the Government Order thereon will be communicated to all Collectors of distressed districts for information and for guidance, as far as applicable to relief works under their control, with the following instructions.

2. With reference to Mr. Mayer's employment in Kurnool, the Collector will doubtless bear in mind the need, so strongly represented by Mr. Arbuthnot, of strengthening Mr. Farmer's lands in Cambum and Markapur.

3. *Paragraph 3 of the Government Order.*—The Board have had nothing to do with the employment, sanction, or distribution of establishments, which is a matter depending so much on local circumstances and the class of men locally available, that it must be left to a great extent to local officers. It is necessary, however, that information of what these officers are doing should be regularly placed before the Board and Government, and Collectors will accordingly report without delay the nature of the arrangements which they have made, and will furnish with the weekly relief reports, statements as near as possible in the accompanying form showing the establishments employed. Further instructions will, however, be issued on this point.

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5. *Paragraph 4 of the Government Order.*—The Board have repeatedly impressed upon Collectors the necessity of exacting a fair amount of work from the coolies. Their attention will now be drawn to the advisability of exacting task-work which (it must be remembered) is a different thing from piece-work. Both, however, are practicable, and piece-work should be adopted when possible. The rough measurement of earthwork is not difficult, and Supervisors of the stamp of Revenue Inspectors would soon learn to do it. With gangs properly organized the introduction of task-work would be almost everywhere possible.

6. In the instructions regarding relief operations which are being issued under the approval of Government, provision is made for adding to grain-wages a small sum of money for condiments. The Board have provided a maximum ration of 1½ lbs. of grain in this case, which seems to them sufficient; but as opinions on the subject seem to differ, and as local officers complain of the insufficiency of wages which will purchase much larger quantities, the Board suggest that a competent medical opinion be obtained as to the amount necessary for the sustenance of men and women from whom a moderate labor-task is exacted, and of those who receive relief without making any return in the shape of labor.

7. *Paragraph 7 of the Government Order.*—The selection of works has been made by Collectors. Their attention is prominently drawn to the orders of Government herein conveyed. The Board have on several occasions deprecated the construction of new roads which cannot be maintained hereafter, and called attention to the advisability of undertaking matured irrigation projects. Collectors should at once, in communication with the District Engineers, lay out schemes of irrigation repairs and prepare lists of works which have been sanctioned. Recent orders* of Government have given District Engineers of distressed districts power to undertake minor new works and repairs from relief

* G.O., dated 12th December 1876, No. 3,385, P.W.D.

funds, and this order should be fully acted on, and every endeavor should be made to carry out ordinary works in the ordinary manner through the District Engineer by placing funds at their disposal. The necessary funds will be allotted by the Board on application. New roads should be very sparingly undertaken, and repairs of, and storing metal for, existing roads should be preferred.

8. *Paragraph 8.*—Mr. Gribble and all Collectors who are paying money wages in excess of 2 Annas for a man will at once reduce them to that rate, where the sum of 1 Anna and 9 Pies (see Board's rules) will buy more than 1½ lbs. of second-sort rice. When this is not the case and when grain payments cannot be organized at once, Collectors are authorized as a temporary measure, and pending the introduction of grain wages, to pay the money price of 1½ lbs. of grain, *plus* 3 Pies to a man; and similarly on the Board's scale for women and children. There is not, as far as the reports show, any place where this temporary concession need be availed of.

9. Mr. Puckle's remarks on the relief returns for Bellary and Cuddapah refer to the information collected for the reports of the 16th December. Those for the 23rd are more accurate and complete, and it is hoped that there will be improvement week by week. Collectors are requested to use their best endeavors to make the reports accurate and to submit them punctually at the prescribed dates. The reports at present do not all reach the Board's Office before Thursday morning, and to get the figures posted and checked, and review written within 24 hours, is difficult. The reports from the most remote district would, however, if posted at the time ordered, reach the Board on Wednesday morning. Collectors will issue stringent orders, regarding the despatch of the required returns, to all officers in charge of relief works.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

H. Puckle
Acting Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,

with Form of Return.

Collector of the Kistna District, with do., and of Board's Proceedings,

dated 26th December 1876, No. 3,287.

" " of Nellore, with do.
" " of Bellary, with do.
" " of Cuddapah, with do.
" " of Kurnool, with do.
" " of North Arcot, with do.
" " of South Arcot, with do.
" " of Trichinopoly, with do.
" " of Madurai, with do.
" " of Tinnevely, with do.
" " of Coimbatore, with do.
" " of Salem, with do.
" " of Chingleput, with do.
" " of Tanjore, with do.

Copy to the Director of Revenue Settlement, with do.

" " Hon. D. Arbuthnot, Acting 2nd Member, Board of Revenue,

on Special Duty, with do.

Ed. W. H. French.

