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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2956	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	25.9.1877	197 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

2950

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

25th September 1877, No. 2,956.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper:—

No. 711. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 10th September 1877.

Read the following letter from E. TURNER, Esq., Extra Special Assistant Collector, to W. McQUIHAE, Esq., Collector of Madura, dated Chinnamanna, 17th August 1877, No. 170:—

I HAVE the honor to forward my report upon famine relief operations in the Tirumungalam and Periacolum Taluqs for the month of July.

1.—TIRUMUNGALUM—Works.—Statement No. I shows the quantity of work turned out during the month. From the statement you will observe that the work as compared with the estimate rates has not been carried out so cheaply as in previous months. The causes of this are—(1) The workmen are not so strong as they were, and cannot turn out so much work as previously. (2) The estimate rates are not reliable; in some instances the estimate is fixed without any consideration of the nature of the soil to be worked, and in others made out long ago, so that the present state of the work bears no resemblance to that for which the estimate was originally framed. For some reason or other, too, they have cut down in the estimates specially framed for famine works the amount allowed for superintendence from $8\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 per cent. (3) I do not think the supervision is quite so good as it was; the work has increased very greatly, and I think our establishment is overtaxed. The whole work is supervised by S. Kristnamachari, B.C.E., with a staff of some five or six not very efficient maistries. I think it does the young man, who is only just out of College, and therefore quite new to the work, great credit that he has been able to manage his work so well. I myself cannot give so much attention to this taluq now as formerly, having to organise and supervise works now commencing in Periacolum. It is, therefore, necessary that we should be strengthened in this taluq, and I have already in my letter, No. 147, dated 20th July 1877, suggested that all works of a professional nature should be undertaken by the Department Public Works. Hitherto the department have given me no assistance whatever except in the preparation of estimates.

Delivered to the Collector of Madura

2. *Camps, Relief-houses, Village Relief.*—The numbers fed in camps and relief-houses were as follow :—

Relief-camps and Houses.	NUMBER ON THE LAST DAY OF THE MONTH.				Amount.
	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.	
Relief-camp, Tirumungalam	244	670	825	1,739	RS. A. P.
Do. Usilampatty	238	386	636	1,260	3,523 1 10
Relief-house, Cheekanoorany	28	30	61	119	335 8 5
Do. Sedapatty	50	50	90	190	86 11 8
Do. Mallanginar	72	193	394	659	127 14 3
Do. Culligudy	61	135	257	453	504 13 4
Total ...	693	1,464	2,363	4,420	1,034 5 10

The numbers to whom money advances were given in their villages :—

Taluq.	Number of Villages in which Money Dole has been introduced.	Number of Adults that received Money Dole.	Children.	Total.	Amount.
Tirumungalam	192	27,465	10,430	46,554	RS. A. P.
					2,582 9 4

I have endeavoured to work the above as much as possible in unison together. I have mapped out the taluq into six divisions, and each division into so many dole centres. A copy of the map with each division centre and the dole centres so marked upon it is furnished to each camp and to each relief centre. In the same way a list of all works in progress is or should be kept in every camp and relief centre. In our camps we keep as far as possible only the worst cases of starving people; the old and infirm and such like are forwarded to their villages where they receive the village dole. Those who can work are sent to the nearest relief-work. Paupers forwarded from the relief-camps to dole centres are each furnished with a ticket, and at the same time an abstract from the camp register is sent to the Nattamgar of the village or villages to which the paupers are sent. This abstract should be initialled by the Nattamgar and returned in original to the Camp Superintendent to be kept on file there, while at the same time the Nattamgar takes a copy for his own use. The same system is pursued with respect to paupers forwarded from the camps to the works. I cannot say that this system is necessary to start with some system and improve upon it as experience shows its defects. Whatever we want now is light work for the women and children who swarm everywhere and cannot be all provided for on tanks where a high task rate is exacted. We are now commencing to employ such on road repairs and in the preparation of broken stone along the lines of roads, work admirably suited as a relief-work for this class of people. When this system of work is fully organised, I hope to be able to reduce the amount now given on dole.

3. *State of the Season.*—The season has been most impropitious during the month; no rain has fallen, and therefore the little crop there was has faded away and the people are unable to sow.

4. *Condition of the People.*—The condition of the people is getting worse everywhere; there are no agricultural operations in progress, and therefore the great mass of the population are becoming dependant upon the State relief.

1. *PERIACOLUM.*—*Works.*—No famine relief-works were commenced during the month under review. The most suitable famine works for this taluq will be road repairs and irrigation channels. Most of the tanks are full of water, and cannot be now repaired; where the tanks are dry, as they are in the east of the taluq, about Andiputty and Guntamanaikanur, the soil is very hard and gravelly, and therefore not well adapted for famine labor. Undoubtedly what we want in Periacolum Taluq is (1) work carried out by the Department Public Works on piece-work so as to give employment to the able-bodied; (2) light labor on roads and channels as famine relief.

Camps.—The subjoined statement shows the amount of gratuitous relief given during the month :—

	NUMBER RELIEVED ON THE LAST DAY OF THE MONTH.				Amount.
	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.	
Relief-camp, Periacolum	485	703	1,015	2,203	RS. A. P.
Do. Chinnamanur	282	325	440	1,047	4,269 13 3
Relief-house, Alinagaram	114	103	103	320	
Do. Andiputty	130	216	395	771	
Village relief ...	155	400	345	900	265 2 0

The system of working the above is precisely the same as in Tirumungalam Taluq.

2. *General Condition of the Taluq.*—As you know I made a tour through this taluq during the month. At that time there was much cause for anxiety owing to the large influx of strangers into the taluq. The measures taken to check the distress then prevalent have so far proved entirely successful, and I think there is no longer any cause for anxiety regarding this taluq at least for the present. I am convinced that famine is not general in the taluq, but affects only the very poorest of the people and the wanderers from other districts and taluqs of this district. Grain is still very dear, viz., rice 6-39 seers, cholum 6-6, cumbu 9-9; but wages, where employment can be had, are high. Wages are a good test of the condition of the people; as long as wages continue as high as they now are in Periacolum there can be no widespread famine. I must except, however, the country about Andiputty and Guntamanaikanur, which is undoubtedly very bad. Arrangements must be made to employ the distressed on the Andiputty road.

3. *State of the Season, Crop, &c.*—The season has been most unfavorable for dry crops. The dry crops that have been sown and germinated are dying for want of rain; and until rain falls the ryots cannot sow more. Wet crops under tanks are good.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.
TIRUMUNGALUM TANK.—Statement showing the Quantity of Work done on Relief during the Month of July.

Name of Village.	Name of Work.	AS ESTIMATED FOR.			AS MEASURED UP TO 31st JUL.			Remarks.
		Amount for Earthwork.	Rate per Cubic Yard.	Quantity of Work.	Quantity of Work.	Rate as done.	Amount spent.	
Orpattur	...	Rs. A. P. 573 9 0	0 1 0	9,177	101 1/2	0 0 10 1/2	Rs. A. P. 5 5 9	These nine tanks finished and ready for completion certificate.
Do	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Veragalamudram	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Do	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Selangoody	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	The earth work of these twelve tanks finished. Leveling and tamping in progress.
Kethiraisankolam	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Do	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Do	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	The earth work of these four tanks finished.
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	

Viloor	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	The earthwork of these tanks finished.
Mytes-patti	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Kalligoody	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Viloor	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Pallanary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	The earthwork of these tanks in progress.
Thedian	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sathangoody	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Konnathur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Nadongolam	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	(Signed) S. KRISTNA CHARI, Civil Supervisor.
Mykkudy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Mallanginar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Virangolam	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Orappattur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Total Rupees on Earthwork & tamping ...
Pootoor	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Veppengolam	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	

TIRUMUNGALUM.
5th August 1877.

No. 568.

SUBMITTED to the Board of Revenue.

2. In a season of famine, work has to be found for two classes: the one able-bodied and accustomed to labor, the other consisting of weakly men, women, children and other inefficient persons. I have always believed that the professional department might be largely used for the employment of persons belonging to the first class. The wages given to them, and they should be kept separate from the inefficient. It unfortunately happens that suggestions of this kind are sometimes treated as complaints against a department.

3. A fair value in work can never be obtained from the labor of inefficient gangs. In Dindigul there are now more than 3,000 women and children without men. Their male relatives are gone to Ceylon and other places, and they can only be employed in collecting and breaking stones and similar work. Where a famine has lasted long in a district like Madura the number of deserted women must become large, for a really good workman can always do well in Ceylon, Travancore, and other places where efficient labor is scarce. When the men went away, I have no doubt they often left their women with some means of subsistence, but these resources gradually become exhausted, and there being no right work in the fields they come on the hands of Government.

DINDIGUL,
24. August 1877.

(Signed) W. McQUEEN
Collector.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

2. The cost of work appears to have been moderate.

3. The Board concur in the Collector's view of the manner in which labor should be employed, and believe that arrangements will shortly be made for starting useful public works under professional supervision.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) G. A. GALTON
Acting Secretary.

No. 712.

ORDER THEREON, 25th September 1877, No. 2,956.

Miscellaneous.

The Chief Engineer, Department Public Works will direct the District Engineer to take immediate measures to organise, supervise, and carry out relief-works wherever the Collector may need his assistance in that respect.

2. Five additional Department Public Works Officers and Subordinates will shortly be posted to the Madura District, so that there should be no difficulty in meeting the wants of the Civil authorities in the matter of professional supervision.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Collector of Madura.
the District Engineer Madura.
the Department Public Works.
the Board of Revenue.
the Financial Department.

Ed. A. Grubert.

2956
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2956

Being a work - Requesting the Chief Engineer, Department Public Works, to direct the District Engineer Madurai, to take immediate steps to organise, supervise, and carry out - wherever the Collector may find his assistance in that respect; and stating that additional professional aid will shortly be given to the district.

FAMINE RELIEF, No. 2691.

SEPTEMBER.
Nov. 711-712.

G.O., 22nd September 1877, No. 2,956.

Recd.

Printed 1st October.

Dated September 25th.

cc. cc. cc.

THE COLLECTOR OF MADURAI.

REVENUE

Genl. of (1877) Madurai

Rev: Department.

No 4222

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Dated 10th Sept^r 1877.

Read the following.

No 140.

From

E. Turner Esq.

Extra Sp. Asst. Collector

Madurai

To

W. Mc Innes Esq.

Collector of Madurai.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward
my report upon Famine Relief opera-
tions in the Tennangalam & Periacolum
Talugs for the month of July.

1. Tennangalam

Works

Statement No I shows the quantity
of work turned out during the month.

From

From the Statement you will observe that the work, as compared with the estimate rates has not been carried out so cheaply as in previous months. The causes of this are (1) The workmen are not so strong as they were and cannot turn out so much work as previously. (2) The estimate rates are not reliable, in some instances the estimate is fixed without any consideration of the nature of the soil to be worked and in others made out long ago so that the present state of the work bears no resemblance to that for which the estimate was originally framed. For some reason or other, too, they have cut down in the estimates specially framed for Famine works the amount allowed for Superintendence from Rs 2 to Rs 1 per cent. (3) I do not think the Supervision is quite so good as it was, the work has increased very greatly and I think our establishment is overtaxed.

The

The whole work is supervised by S. Krishna-machari B.C.E. with a staff of some 5 or 6 not very efficient men. I think it does the young man, who is only just out of College ~~and therefore gives me~~ to the great credit that he has been able to manage his work so well. I myself cannot give so much attention to this taluk now as formerly having to organize and supervise work now commencing in Peracolum. It is therefore necessary that we should be strengthened in this taluk and I have already in my letter No 147 of 20 July 1877 suggested that all work of a professional nature should be undertaken by the D.P.W. Hitherto the Department have given me no assistance whatever except in the preparation of Estimates.

2. Camps - Relief houses - Village relief

The numbers fed in Camps & relief houses were as follows.

Relief Camps and houses	Rs on the last day of the month				Amount			Remarks
Relief Camp Terunungalam	244	670	825	1739	35	23	1 10	
Do Usilampatty	238	385	636	1260	33	5	18 5	
Relief house Chekkanam	28	30	61	119	8	11	8	
Do Sedapatty	50	80	90	190	12	14	3	
Do Mallangur	72	193	394	659	50	4	13 4	
Do Culligudly	81	135	257	453	10	34	5 10	
Total	693	1404	2263	4420	50	12	7 4	

The numbers to whom money advances were given in their villages.

Taluk	No of villages in which money has been introduced	Rs of money advanced that has been received	Children	Total	Amount		
Terunungalam	102	27065	19484	46554	25	82	8 4

I have endeavoured to work the above as much as possible in unison together. I have mapped out the Taluk into six divisions and each division into so many dole centres. A copy of the map with each division centre and the dole centres so marked upon it is furnished to each camp and to each Relief centre. In the same way a list of all works in progress is it should be kept in every camp and relief centre. In our camps we keep as far as possible only the worst cases of starving people; the old and infirm and such like are forwarded to their villages where they receive the village dole. Those who can work are sent to the nearest relief work. Pampers forwarded from the relief camps to dole centres are each

eat furnished with tickets and at the same time an abstract from the Camp register is sent to the Nattamgar of the village or villages to which the pampers are.

This abstract should be initiated by the Nattamgar & returned in original to the Camp Superintendent to be kept on file there while at the same time the Nattamgar takes a copy for his own use. The same system is pursued with respect to pampers forwarded from the Camps to the works.

I cannot say that this system works in every respect satisfactorily or that it is universally carried out. But it is necessary to start with some system and improve upon it as experience shows its defects. Whatever we want now

now is light work for the women and children who swarm everywhere and cannot be all provided for on tanks where a high task rate is exacted.

We are now commencing to employ such on road repairs and in the preparation of broken stone along the lines of Roads, work admirably suited as a Relief work for this class of people. When this system of work is fully organized I hope to be able to reduce the amount now given in dole.

3. State of the Season.

The Season has been most unpropitious during the month, no rain has fallen and therefore the little crop there was has faded away and the people are unable to

The system of working the above is precisely the same as in Terunungulam Taluk.

2. General Condition of the Taluk.

As you know I made a tour through the Taluk during the month. At that time there was much cause for anxiety owing to the large influx of strangers into the Taluk.

The measures taken to check the distress then prevalent, as far as far proved entirely successful and I think there is no longer any cause for anxiety regarding this Taluk at least for the present. I am convinced that Famine is not general in the Taluk but affects only the very poorest of the people and the wanderers from other Districts and Taluks of this District. Grain is still very dear viz Rice 6.39 Seers

Cholam

Cholam 6.6 Cumbu 9.9; but wages where employment can be had are high. Wages are a good test of the condition of the people, as long as wages continue as high as they now are in Periacolum there can be no widespread Famine. I must except however the country about Andiputty and Guntamankannur which is undoubtedly very bad. Arrangements must be made to employ the distressed on the Andiputty road.

3. State of the Season, crops &c

The Season has been most unfavorable for dry crops. The dry crops that have been sown & germinated are dying for want of rain & until

rain

like Madura the number of deserted
women must become larger for a really
good workman can always do well in
Ceylon, Travancore and other places
where sufficient labour is scarce. When
the men went away I have no doubt
they often left their women with some
means of subsistence, but these resources
gradually become exhausted and
then being no light work in the fields
they come on the hands of Government.

Indignul }
24 August 77 } Col W. McDukas
Collector

Submitted for the information
of Government.

The cost of work appears to
have been moderate.

The

3. The Board concern in the
view of the manner in which labour
has been employed & believe that arrangements
will shortly be made for starting
public works under professional supervision.

(True copy & Extract)

W. J. P.
Secy
The Adm. Secretary to Govt. R.
with copy of statement.

noted

Ch. longulam	Tank	438 46	7022 6012	"	1 3 474 23
Ch. abhaya	Tank	979 129	15616 9121	"	1 5 1/2 840 1 4
Ch. Kallanginam	Cornie	8750	800	"	" " 8 1/2 07
Ch. Vellangulam	Large tank	5482	8770 4469	"	15 1/2 407 7 4
Ch. Kallanginam	Chia Commooy	8468	13544 9602	"	14 1/2 800 15 2
Ch. Pootan	Partiampattan				
Ch. Vellangulam	Tank	191 109	3063 1714	"	1 10 1/2 200 8 6
Ch. Kallanginam	Chia Commooy	108 18	4632 4652	"	1 3 1/2 375 6 10

The Earth-work of these 13 tanks in progress.

Total Cub. yds. turned in

139854

Total Cub. yds. in Bank with 10241 105

Signed, E. Lester

Signed S. H. Guzmanachari
Special Supervisor

Asst. Collector

True copy

5th August 1927
Mumungalam

Asst. Collector

2956
14

7.9740

Enclature no 100

Par 6th 1891

Depositing 67 Cent

Dr. 10. 1891

Copy of Manuscript

for J. G. M. W.

True copy

W. H. M. W.

W. H. M. W.

(1) Number of pages 10.

(2) Date of repair 17.8.79

(3) Initials of the Referencer

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2957	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	26.9.1877	197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

AV

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

26th September 1877, No. 2,957.

Read the following paper :—

No. 713. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 7th September 1877,
Miscellaneous No. 12,356.

Read G.O., Revenue Department, dated 31st August 1877, No. 2,615.

ABSTRACT.—Intimating that the Government will not object to the actual
transfer of officers in the Tinnevely District being postponed for a few months.

COMMUNICATED to the Collector of Tinnevely.

2. The Board think the change may be postponed until the commencement
of the next official year.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Acting Secretary.

Miscellaneous.

THE change should take place by
the 31st December next unless the state
of the district then renders delay to 31st
March 1878 advisable.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
.. the Judicial Department.
.. the Financial Department.

Exd. A. F. Goodall.

Ministry Revenue Department
No. 12356
29/5/12

Proceedings of the Board of Res.
dated 7 September 1877

Read G.O. No. 2615 dated 31st
August 1877 intimating
that the Govt. will not object
to the actual transfer of
officers in the Minersley Dist.
being postponed for a few
months.

Communicated to the Collector
of Minersley.

2. The Board think the change
may be postponed until
the commencement of the
next official year.

(True Extract,

To
The Secretary to Govt.
Revenue Department

20/9/12
CU

GOVT. OF 1877
REVENUE
THE BOARD OF RES.
SEPTEMBER
Nos. 713-714
G.O. No. 2615 dated 31st August 1877
Minersley Dist.
29/5/12

203946

FOR ORDERS.

Not permitted of the class
of Officers on Temporary
Duty until next year

R24/9/77
C. 10:54/77 R12/9/77

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