Archives 1—10,000—6-10-76.

(1) Number of pages 16

(2) Date of repair 7-8-79

(3) Initials of the Referencer

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 2991 Press.
B.P. No. Mis.

Dated 27-9-1877 197 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

27th September 1877, No. 2,991.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper :—

No. 779. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 10th September 1877, No. 4,217.

Read the following letter from A. J. STUART, Esq., Sub-Collector of Cuddapah, to J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, dated Kalkada, 21st August 1877, No. 156 :—

I HAVE the honor to lay before you the following results of careful inspection of 21 villages in Royachoty, Kadiri, and Voilpaud Taluqs.

2. One thousand four hundred and fifty-nine persons were examined, of whom 240 were classed as *very bad*; to these must be added an average of at least ten per cent. undoubtedly unable to attend the muster from extreme emaciation or sickness brought on by famine, making a total of 985. I consider that it is almost certain that all of these must die; they will not leave their villages, and the dole is not sufficient to bring them round.

I have not met with anything like so high an average as ten per cent. of persons absent owing to extreme emaciation or sickness brought on by famine.

Old age is, as I have found upon personal inspection, the other cau[illegible]

A high percentage of persons in very bad order must naturally be expected amongst those upon village-relief.

The Sub-Collector does not state how many of those referred to by him were very old or else children.

My calculations, based upon actual counting, go to show that about 25 per cent. of those upon village-relief are old persons, the majority of whom, under ordinary circumstances, would have but a very few years to live.—J.F.P.

3. Out of 1,015 of the same persons examined in 15 villages 292 were found *bad*; of these I do not think more than half likely to recover—indeed I doubt very much whether any of these will at present rates, which the villagers are unanimous in saying only provides one meal per day; taking, however, only half this number or 146, there are 146 + 385 or 531 out of 1,459 persons who are in all probability certain to die, or over one-third.

4. Applying this proportion to the total numbers on village and camp relief in 42,000, the result is that about 15,000 persons in the Sub-division are in such a state that little or no hope can be entertained of their recovery. As this figure includes 8,200 in camps, when the mortality is even higher the numbers should probably be put at 1,700.

I consider Mr. Stuart's premises incorrect and based upon fallacious grounds, and therefore cannot admit the accuracy of his deductions. The only really-ascertained mortality is that in relief-camps.—J.F.P.

5. On the works there are bad and very bad persons at least in the proportion of 10 per cent., which makes 4,000 more. I am decidedly of opinion that there is little hope of the recovery of any of these; most of them are weeded off from time to time to village-relief and then starve by degrees.

The "very bad" class does not exceed 3 per cent. at the outside and rarely reaches that. I do not think that those classed as bad have so small a chance of recovery as the Sub-Collector seems to think, that is provided that they are sufficiently fed.—J.F.P.

6. The result is no doubt partly due to village relief not having been fully organised sooner, but there can be no doubt that it is also due in part to the insufficient amount of the dole and other causes. This has now been reduced still further since there are few villages where rice can be got without a reduction of quarter seer per rupee on cusbah prices and many where the reduction amounts to half a seer, and this where prices are at 3 and $3\frac{1}{2}$ seers per rupee tells considerably. It is especially insufficient in the case of children, among whom the number of bad cases is disproportionately large.

That village relief was not organized sooner was the result of Mr. Gribble's disregard of orders.

The present dole is in my opinion insufficient to restore to health though it may keep people alive —J.F.P.

The prices in outlying villages are higher than in the cusbahs. The seers given by Mr. Stuart are Cuddapah = 132 tolahs.—J.F.P.

I believe that it will be found necessary to increase the present dole.

There is not much chance of any very great increase in the importation of rice.

The deportation of the people will be found a very difficult matter and can be only effected at the risk of a heavy loss of life.—J.F.P.

7. I think the dole should be considerably raised if life is to be saved; at the same time I do not believe this will be of permanent use unless accompanied either by a large increase in importation of rice or by the deportation of a considerable part of the population.

No. 499.

SUBMITTED for the information of the Board of Revenue.

2. The Sub-Collector, in my opinion, over-estimates, but at the same time the danger to which he refers is a real one, and, as the south-west monsoon may

3. Importation of rice, if possible in such quantities as to meet the wants of those upon State Relief, would, I believe, prove far cheaper and be the means of saving more life than deportation.

4. It would certainly be more acceptable to the people.

5. I fear though that, taking into consideration the distress which exists in other districts, this could not be effected.

CUDDAPAH,
3rd September 1877.

(Signed) J. W. JOHNSTON,
Special Deputy Collector,
for Acting Collector.

SUBMITTED to Government.

2. The Collector and Sub-Collector are agreed that the present dole is insufficient to enable weakened men and women to recover strength, and the Board have no doubt they are to that extent right.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

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

No. 780. ORDER THEREON, 27th September 1877, No. 2,991.

Miscellaneous.

HIS GRACE the Governor in Council cannot concur in the opinion that the rate of money-dole should be raised; further, he thinks it unnecessary that persons in weak health should be compulsorily removed to camps.

Revenue Department, 27*th September* 1877, *No.* 2,991.

2. The Collector will continue the authorized rate of money-dole therefore, and will see that the orders relating to its issue are strictly enforced.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Collector of Cuddapah.
,, the Financial Department.
,, the Sanitary Commissioner.

Exd. J. W. Fischer.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No. 1739

From Secr: of the Board of Revenue

Dated 10th September 1877.

FOR ORDERS.

I do not agree in the opinion
of the acting Secretary that
Relief Works should be
closed — nor do I think it necessary
that persons in work Houses should
be compulsorily weighed as
a condition of
their
receiving relief — I would observe
without
present change

Stuarts respited

Dec 1779

No 2991 G.O. 7 Dec 1779

Sat: 779-780

At Court the Governor in
Council Came into Consn in the
Opinion that the sale of Jenny
Able Pl. Lia paid; but that it
Should be necessary that
persons in Jenny Pl. Lia
Pl. in Error & Causes
of Action Should be Remd. to
Court. The Coll will Continue the
Authorized sale of Jenny Able
Stewart and Child So that
Pl. in Error may ~~[illegible]~~ Plaintiff in Error
are Stayed Suffered

Gl
26. 977

27 Dec 779

2991

FOR ORDERS.

C03-9-11R-C21/3/11R25/1/11

Cuddapah
№ 4217

5/2411.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 10th September 1877.

Read the following

№ 156

From

A. J. Stuart Esquire
Sub Collector of Cuddapah

To

J. H. Price Esquire
Asst Collector of Cuddapah

Sir.

I have the honor to lay before you the following results of careful inspection of 21 villages in Royachoty Kadiri & Veilpaud Talugs.

I have not met with anything like as high an average as 10 per cent of persons absent owing to extreme emaciation or sickness brought on by famine, at least 10 per cent must be added on account of persons absent from old age, as I have found upon personal inspection, that they 2. 1469 persons were examined of whom 240 were classed as very bad - unable to attend the musters from

extreme emaciation or sickness brought on by famine making a total of 386. I consider that it is almost certain that all of these must die they will not leave their villages and the dole is not sufficient to bring them round.

3. Out of 1015 of the same persons examined in 15 villages 292 were found to be of this or a much more than 1/2 likely to recover, indeed I doubt very much whether any of them will at present rate which the Villagers are unanimous in saying only provides one meal per day, taking however only 1/2 this number or 146 there are 146 + 385 or 531 out of 1459 persons who are in

cause of non-attendance and

A high percentage of persons in very bad order must naturally be expected amongst those upon Village relief.

The Sub Collector does not state how many of those referred to by him were very ill or else otherwise.

My calculations, based upon actual counting, go to show that about 25 percent of those upon Village Relief are old persons the majority of whom under ordinary circumstances would have but a very few years to live

19/7/90

in all probability certain to die or over $\frac{1}{3}$ rd.

I consider Mr. Stuart's premises incorrect and based upon fallacious grounds and therefore cannot admit the accuracy of his deductions. The only really answering mortality is that in relief camps.

19/7/90 F.R.P.

Applying this proportion to the total numbers on village and Camp relief in 42000. The result is that about 15000 persons in the Sub-Division are in a such a state that little or no hope can be entertained of their recovery. As this figure excludes 8200 in Camps the mortality is even higher the numbers should probably be put at 1700.

The Very bad class does not exceed 3 per cent at the outside and rarely reaches that. I do not think that those classed as bad have even all a chance of recovery

Now the works there are bad and very bad persons at least in the proportion of 10 per cent which makes 4000 more I am decidedly of

of opinion that there is little hope of the recovery of any of them, most of them are needed off from time to time to Village relief and then starve by degrees.

as the sub Collector seems to think, that is provided that they are sufficiently fed
(sg) J. H. P.

6. The result is no doubt partly due to Village relief not having been fully organised sooner but there can be no doubt that also due in part to the insufficient amount of the dole and other causes. This has now been reduced still further since there are two villages where rice can be got without a reduction of 1/4 seer per rupee on cushab prices

that village relief was not organized sooner was the result of Mr. Spribbles disregard of orders.
(sg) J. H. P.

The present dole is in my opinion insufficient to health though it may keep people alive.
(sg) J. H. P.

The prices in outlying villages are higher than in the cushabs. The cases given by Mr. Stuart are Caddapah = 132 total
(sg) J. H. P.
= rather more than 3/4 lbs

prices and many where the reduction amounts to 1/2 a seer and this where prices are at 3 and 3 1/2 seers per rupee is considerable.

It is especially insufficient in the case of children among whom the number of dead cases is disproportionately large.

I believe that it will be found necessary to increase the dole considerably, raised if there is not much be raised. At the same time I do chance of any very great increase I do not believe this will be of permanent importance of rice.

The deportation of the people will be found a very difficult matter and can be only effected at the risk of a heavy loss of life.
(sg) J. H. P.

I do not believe that it will be found necessary to increase the dole considerably. At the same time I do not believe this will be of permanent importance unless accompanied either by a large increase in importation of rice or by the deportation of a considerable part of the population
(sg) C. J. Stuart
Sub Collector
Cuddapah Sub Collectors office Cuddapah (15th

(True copy)

No. 499.

Submitted for the information of the Board of Revenue.

2. The Sub-Collector, in my opinion over estimates, but at the same time the danger to which he refers is a real one and as the S.W. monsoon may now be considered as failure it is necessary that it should be met.

3. Importation of rice, if possible in such quantities as to meet the wants of those upon State Relief, would I believe prove far cheaper and be the means of saving more life than deportation.

4. It would certainly be more acceptable to the people.

5. I fear, though that taking into consideration the distress which exists in other Districts this could not be effected.

3rd September 1877 / Cuddapah 2 Sep / J.W. Johnstone Special Dy Collr for Collector

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Submitted to Govt.

2. The Collector and Sub-Collector are agreed that the present dole is insufficient to enable weak men and women to recover strength, & the Board have no doubt they are to that extent right.

(True copy & Extract)

Sd/ Secretary

To The Addl Secretary to Govt

Rev 1877 Dept
Cuddalore
7 No 7739
Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue &
10th September 1877
Recd 11th do

Submitting to Govt
inspection reports of the
Collector on his sale
-division & agreeing
that the present dole
is insufficient to
enable weak men
& women to receive
strength.

Forwarded

Sent up pros at Govt HC
by agrees that unless there
be deportation it would
be useless to raise the
"dole" - because those
who would remain on
the increased "dole" would
consume more food to
the detriment of others now
on the dole - deportation
on a large scale is not
probably practicable
& it be not accompanied
by an increased "dole" not to
be raised - what is really
wanted & what would
probably meet Mr Stuarts
real views is to limit the increased
dole to the weakly persons
& to men sickly persons
to Camps where they could
be properly looked after
& treated - another
probable mistaken idea
that is running in Mr Stuarts
head is that the people are
dependent on imported grain
for their food - as by "deportation"
Govt HC

Mr Stuart - The question is not this dole was raised
Govt HC

I can understand that Mr Stuart justly
overestimates the unfavorable aspect & again
& the Collector seems to take the same opinion -
whatever the state of matter was however
it has been greatly improved by the late rain
The "dole" is I believe intended for the support
of persons who are in health, & not for those
suffering from illness or disease - that a
subsistent for a person not out of health
living in his own village & doing no work
then can be little question, and to increase
it to a standard that would enable him
to expend - to obtain what may be termed
Hospital comforts would be a needlessly
costly measure - The remedy is probably
to remove all indigent persons suffering
from illness, to Camps, where hospital
diet & medical attendance are available -
this part of the new proposed arrangement
might should be done - Mr Stuart while
agreeing that the dole be raised says that even
that measure will not be a permanent benefit
unless accompanied by the increased importation
of food - or by "deportation" a circumstance
member of the Commission - Govt HC - Even in a D.O. note