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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No.	3034	Press. / Mis.
Dated	29-9-1877	197 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

29th September 1877, No. 3,034.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper:—

No. 864. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 7th September 1877.

Read the following letter from R. W. BARLOW, Esq., Collector of the Chingleput District, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sydapet, 31st August 1877, No. 656.

I HAVE the honor to forward copies of letters as per margin from Major Murray, Special Relief Officer, giving his views regarding the evils arising from the relegation to their villages of paupers from Madras, and of my No. 2,785 of the 17th instant, referred to for the information of Government. No special reference, however, seems to me necessary as the correspondence quoted, I think, sufficiently disposes of the question for the present; but I forward the same as Major Murray officially requests me to do so.

From Major Murray, No. 272, dated 27th July 1877.
From Major Murray, No. 308, dated 13th August 1877.
From Major Murray, No. 323, dated 18th August 1877.
To Major Murray, No. 2,781, dated 17th August 1877.

2. The evil alluded to by Major Murray at paragraph 2 of his No. 308 has already been brought to notice by me—*vide* my No. 614, dated the 18th instant, while as regards able-bodied paupers found in camps the remedy lies in the hands of the officer in charge of each camp.

3. As to the desirability of localizing the paupers of each taluq as much as possible by sending them to the camp or camps in such taluq I agree with Major Murray, but have directed him to suspend the despatch of large bodies of non-working paupers from the Palaveram and Tirumushi (late Kovattoor) camps till misapprehensions now existing among the destitute classes, as to village dole tickets being obtainable only at Madras or other camps, have been dispelled. I directed this, fearing that paupers during transport might make off to Madras. The two camps above named have of course many paupers from other taluqs as they were two of the three first constituted to check the rush to Madras in December last.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From Major A. J. MURRAY, Special Relief Officer, to R. W. BARLOW, Esq., Collector of the Chingleput District, dated St. Thomas' Mount, 27th July 1877, No. 272.

I HAVE the honor again to bring to your notice the excessive overcrowding at the Palaveram Relief-camp of paupers from all talugs of this district and from the other districts bordering thereon, notably those of South and North Arcot.

2. Last evening at this camp there were about 12,000 people waiting to be fed; over 10,000 were counted before rain and darkness put an end to the numbering. In consequence of the rain and the confusion necessarily attendant on such a crowd waiting for food at a camp not at all in a position to meet such a demand, however, now made daily upon it, a large number of the people remained unfed; I am told 2,000. I cannot exactly say, as I was myself at the Tirumushi camp at the time; I can only say that the clamor of no food was loud and great on all sides this morning.

3. Of this large assemblage some 3,000 at the outside belong to the Sydapet Talu of this district; of the balance a very large portion belongs to the taluqs of Chingleput and Conjeveram. These are the two taluqs which are the principal cause of our present most serious overcrowding; the remaining portion of the people came from the other taluqs of the district and from neighboring districts.

In the Camp's report of his last inspection of the Chingleput Relief-camp 270 persons were obtaining relief in camp. Some thousands of Chingleput people are in the Palaveram camp.

4. It will be apparent to you from this report how unfairly the taluqs of the sub-division are taking their own share of the present distress, or seeing to the wants of their own people.

5. It is absolutely necessary that I should take prompt measures to stand against this torrent of pauperism from other districts and from the other taluqs of our own. I have therefore this morning directed that all persons fit and able to travel who are at our camp from other districts and divisions should be at once weeded out and sent with batta for the journey to the taluqs in which their villages are situated, and I have directed that hereafter except in cases of absolute and entire necessity arising from disease or utter starvation no person from another taluq shall be received into the camp.

6. In a late demi-official on this subject to your address I begged to urge upon your notice the necessity of taluq relegation to centres of properly superintended relief in each taluq instead of the relegation of the people to their scattered homes and villages. I ventured to point out in that communication that the relegation of the people to their homes and villages opened up an opportunity for dishonesty on the part of village officials, which would be too severely taken hold of, and I tried to show in this matter the superior advantages which would obtain both to the Government and to the people from a system of central taluq relief-camps properly supervised by special famine officers deputed for this purpose alone, and not by district officials having more than half their time taken up by other district duties.

7. The result of this leaving of their own proper neighborhoods and crowding down to large relief-camps upon the suburbs of the capital is already telling most injuriously upon the habits and the character of the people; they are losing sight altogether of their homes and villages; they are giving up altogether all ideas of self-help, and they are from a patient, uncomplaining, and hardworking people fast altering to a clamorous, discontented, and lazy population; they are fast becoming a population of professional beggars.

8. In consideration of all these circumstances I would earnestly urge that the only safeguard against and the only cure for such a state of things is that at such a time where distress is so widely spread each district, each division, and each taluq shall be called upon to bear its own share of the burden and to keep its own people at home.

Enclosure No. 2.

From Major A. G. MURRAY, Special Relief Officer, to R. W. BARLOW, Esq., Collector of the Chingleput District, dated St. Thomas' Mount, 13th August 1877, No. 308.

I have the honor specially to bring to your notice another result of the working of the present scheme of home and village relegation.

2. For every person who is relegated to his village another seeing his neighbor return home with a draft upon the village headman for a money dole swiftly arraying himself in his poorest rags and drawing in his stomach to his backbone starts off for the nearest relief-camp and prays for the boon of village relegation.

3. You know how the best to-do ryots and other natives well off can, when it suits them, put on the appearance of utter misery and destitution; thus it is fast coming round to be the case where with relief-camps and money doles at home [illegible] to avail of village aid and village relegation, the whole or almost the whole of the population, both those needy and those not needy, in one way or another subsisting on Government charity and so to an enormous extent plundering the State.

4. I have to-day in demi-official form drawn your attention to the fact of the great numbers of strong able-bodied women with their children obtaining gratuitous food at the Guindy Relief-camp. I may say with perfect truth that this is the fact in many other camps in and around Madras. I would therefore with much respect beg to urge upon your notice and on that of Government that if in these two sources of charitable expenditure, viz., at relief-camps and through village heads, details were thoroughly gone into, such an inquiry could not but lay bare the truth that however difficult it may be to prevent it, there is no doubt of the fact that much money is being spent which the Government has no intention of so spending.

Revenue Department, 29*th September* 1877, *No.* 3,034.

Enclosure No. 3.

From R. W. BARLOW, Esq., Collector of the Chingleput District, to Major A. G. MURRAY, Special Relief Officer, Chingleput District, dated Sydapet, 17th August 1877, No. 2,785.

In reply to your No. 308 of the 13th instant I have the honor to inform you that the evil alluded to in the 1st paragraph of your letter was pointed out by me some time since to the Hon. Sir William Robinson as sure to ensue.

2. As regards the rest of your letter, I have the honor to observe that you make no suggestion as to what for the precautions you would adopt. Government having decided after due deliberation very recently to try a village dole system in addition to camps will certainly not alter without a full trial, and our duty is to do our best to carry out their views, though I also have doubts as to the ultimate result.

3. As regards the able bodied the remedy lies in the hands of each camp officer; they can be turned out with a ticket for work, due discretion being used in selecting such recoveries.

4. I take this opportunity of again impressing on you that I have no desire to *force* relegation with money tickets upon those who are unable to work, and they should not be sent to their villages if they *prefer* remaining in camp.

Enclosure No. 4.

From R. W. BARLOW, Esq., Collector of the Chingleput District, to Major A. G. MURRAY, Special Relief Officer, Chingleput District, dated Sydapet, 17th August 1877, No. 2,781.

Adverting to my Nos. 2,492 and 2,743, dated 27th ultimo and 15th instant, respectively, I have the honor to request that you will desist for the present from sending non able-bodied paupers from Tirumulsi and Palaveram and to the camps of their own taluq.

2. Where they are they are out of mischief, but if moved and unsettled they may make for Madras; just now here is a large influx.

Enclosure No. 5.

From Major A. G. MURRAY, Special Relief Officer, to R. W. BARLOW, Esq., Collector of the Chingleput District, dated St. Thomas' Mount, 18th August 1877, No. 323.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 2,785, dated 17th instant, replying to [illegible] No. 308 of the 13th idem.

2. In reply I beg you will do me the favor of forwarding my letter No. 308 above quoted together with this communication and with copy of my letter, No. 272, dated 27th ultimo, to your address on the subject of pauper relegation from relief-camps to their homes and villages to Government for their consideration. In the 2nd paragraph of your letter under reply you state that I have made no suggestion as to the steps which ought to be taken to improve upon this scheme of village relegation. I would respectfully observe that my letter No. 272, copy of which is attached, is a clear suggestion of what, in my opinion, is the course which should meet the difficulties now apparent in the scheme of village relegation with a money dole at home.

3. It is absolutely clear that in relegating paupers from Madras and [illegible] to their homes at great distances in other taluqs little or nothing can be known about them, or the truth of the statements they make as regards their homes; they naturally accept with a light heart the boon of 8 Annas and half a measure of rice which is the rate given in relegating from the Madras camps and go where it suits them probably to another camp to be again relegated.

4. Were there however taluq centres of relief to which each person claiming to belong to a certain taluq could be sent, then his real claim for relief in the camp of that taluq, or to village relief at his home, could easily be ascertained.

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government.

2. The increasing numbers at Palaveram render some steps to relegate paupers to their own districts and taluqs necessary, and Mr. Barlow should arrange to send strangers back under Police escort if necessary. Twelve thousand is an

utterly unmanageable number for one camp. The course above indicated appears to be in accordance with the instructions conveyed in G.O., dated 17th August 1877, No. 2,518-B.

(True Copies and Extract.)

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

No. 865. ORDER THEREON, 29th September 1877, No. 3,034.

Miscellaneous.

RECORDED with reference to G.O., No. 2,847, of September 24th. Instead of relegating persons who have become convalescent and fit for work from the camps to their villages they should be sent direct to works under Department of Public Works or Civil Agency according to their capabilities.

2. The Collector should supply Major Murray with a list of all such works in his district.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
" the Collector of Chingleput.
" the Financial Department.
" the Public Works Department.
" the Commissioner of Police.
" the Inspector-General of Police.

Ed. A. Grubert.

7. N° 7554

Items.

The evil complained of by the Petitioners is of very great magnitude, both as regards the Evil itself, and the Agitation. The remedy is the immediate and absolute abolition of the Agitation & the prosecution of the following principles:

Relief compulsorily intended for the relief of those strictly & truly poor persons shewn prima facie to be such. None others should be admitted upon the Books able to do work & able & willing to work by all & not relegated anywhere & not relegated anywhere

The giving of Relief to the poor is a most burthensome System

if it is not given
the people will flock
to the camps -

A strong force of
temporary constables
may be necessary
to take persons
under & to keep order
at camps but these
can easily be
[illegible] kinds of guides
The [illegible]
in a camp at S.L.
Transfer in case of
attack & Dr Rays
at S.L. Cole to camp
for transport &c

The presence of
a practical officer
like Major Murray
is very desirable
against too hasty

and per an
admission to the
Mining Board - H.Q.tr
& has expressed his
opinion that it is
advisable very strictly
to limit - their modes
of relief to a certain
class of persons over
the Q.tr of which had
occurred in this
view I have expressed
a wish that the prompt
should be made quite
clear in any orders
that may now be
issued - This limitation
is provided for in
the draft of a
Memorandum order
as then arranged -
Submitted to H.E. the C.in.C
on the 8th instant -
and duly sent into H.Q.tr

13/9

No 4176

Revenue Dept.

Proceedings of the Board of Rev:
Dated 7th September 1877
Read the following

No. 656.

From

R.H. Bastow Esquire
Executive Engineer
& Acting Deputy District

To

The A. Gaston Esquire -
Secretary
Board of Revenue

Sir,

I have the honor to for-
ward copies of letters as per
margin and copies of letters from Major Murray No 272 of 27th July 1877 } Memorandum from Executive
From " No 305 } dated 13th Aug.t/77 } Officer giving his views
" " No 328 } dated 18th Aug.t/77 } regarding the wide area
To " No 2781 } d/17th Aug.t 1877 } from the relief stations
to their villages of persons
from the areas and of my

No. 2780 of the 19th Instant
referred to, for the infor-
mation of Government.
No special reference, how-
ever, seems to me necessary
as the correspondence quoted
I think sufficiently disposes
of the question for the present,
but I forward the same
for your information & office
action if any you may deem
necessary.
2. The Civil Surgeon at Kohat
in his No. 308 has already
been brought to notice
by me - Vide my No. 614 -
dated the 10th Instant
while as regards the Kohat
pauper found in Camp
the remedy lies in the hands
of the officer in charge
of such a camp.

3. As to the desirability of
localizing the paupers of
each Taluq as much as pos-
sible by sending them to
the Camp at Campore in each
Taluq, I agree with the expe-
diency, but I am directed
to suggest that in the despatch of large
bodies of non-working
paupers from the Talukas
to Dharwar (Lata Kod albeit)
Campoor till misapprehension
now existing among the
subordinate classes as to
Village authorities being
also amenable only to Camp
or other Camp-Laws
been dispelled. I directed
this, fearing that paupers

during the day the transport might make off to Kimberley.

The two Companies above named have been engaged in various duties, patrolling as they were directed, at the river fords established to check the rush to Kimberley in December last.

Chingleput 8th August 1877.

Lieutenant & Staff Officer
for Colonel Commanding Chingleput District.

Endorsement

No. 272.

From

SP Superintending Relief Officer
Chingleput Dist.

To,

R.W. Barlow Esquire
Collector Chingleput Dt.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter

over

[illegible]

[illegible] Dt. 3rd R.W. Barlow
Collector

over

[illegible] Relief Camp of Paupers from all parts of this District and from the other districts bordering thereon, north & west of Fort St. George.

Last evening at this Camp there were about Twelve thousand people to relieve from the [illegible] to be fed, and this number is constantly increasing. In consequence of the new arrivals the confusion necessarily attendant on such a crowd is great for at present at all in a position to meet such a demand

a

a demand, however, more
or less daily upon it; a
larger number of the
people remained unfed.
I can't tell two thousand
I cannot exactly say,
as I was myself at the
Freedmen's Camp at the
time; I can only say
that the Camp was
crowded two thousand and
great are all in addition two
morning.

Of this Larger no-
= accurate some two
thousand at the entrance
belong to the Suidabet
Talug of this Municipality
of the balance and
Larger portion the Camp

In Dr. Grajera-
ort of his last
inspection of the
Chimpleant
Relief Camp
279 persons
were observing
relief in Camp.
Some three cents
of thing upon
people are in the Cabiz of their own
Poblacion Camp.

to the Talug of Cabiz Pampanga
and Consequently in the
are the two Talugs which
are the principal Causes
of our present unfit
conditions owing to the
removal of portion of the
people, came from the
other Talug of the Municipality
of Bacolor.

It will be apparent
from our former Report
that our principal Talugs
of the Municipality
of the present distress, or
owing to the number of their
poor people —

It

It is therefore necessary
that I should take prompt
measures to take and against
this transit of suffering
from other Districts to
from the other Talugs
of my own. I have
therefore this morning
directed the Native Pen-
-sioners and able bodied
Villagers at
from other Districts
Divisions should be at
once dismissed and sent
with batta for the journey
to the Talugs in which their
Villages are situated,
and I have directed that,
hereafter, except in cases
of absolute and entire

respectfully

necessity no intercourse
whatever on account
=tion, no person from one
other Talug should be
received into the Co=
=munication that the re-
=legation of the people
to their native Villages
to their homes and
open up an opportunity
for

[illegible] distance on the height
of Telegraph Office and which
would be taken
Roll of and tried to shew
the [illegible] matter the superior
advantages which would
accrue both to the Govern-
=ment and to the people from
a system of Central Taking
Relief Cases personally
superintended by Special
Parish officers deputed
for this purpose alone
and not by District
Officials having more
than half their time taken
up by their District duties.
The result of this be-
=ing of their own proper
neighbourhoods and

drawing down to Bangor
relief Committee of the
extension of the hospital by
already letting most of
mainly upon the habits
and the character of the
people; they are, having
regard to the aggregation of their
homes and their agri-
=culture, they are [illegible]
are giving up attogether the
system of self help and
they are from a habit
=ual complaining and hard
working people, [illegible]
[illegible] to a
dissipated and lazy po-
=pulation. They can [illegible]
to an unfair population
of paupers and beggars.
In consideration of

To
The Assistant Adjutant General
Chenghapat Division
Sir

I have the honor respectfully to bring to your notice, and the return of the persons of Kane Village Delegation

Per early passenger
is relegated to his village
return home to do
upon the village Headman
for a Ration not exceeding
arranging himself in his
transit rage and draw
in his stomach to his back.
Kane starts off for the
nearest Relief Camp and
prays for the [illegible] of Vil.
Rage Relegation.

Your

All these circumstances,
I would earnestly urge that
the only safeguard against
and the only cause for
such a state of things, is
that at such a time where
distress is so widely spread
each District, each Divi-
-sion and each Subdivision
be called upon to bear
its own share of the burden
and to keep its own people at
Home

Saint Kane's Tent, Ikane 2nd
27th July 1877 Sd. A. G. Murray Major
Spl. Relief Officer
Chenghapat Distt.

/ True copy /

(Sd.) R. W. Barlow
Assistant.

No. 308

From,

The Special Relief Officer
Chenghapat Distt.

To

You know how much
the Clerk has to do upon the days
days when votes are taken, when the
Clerks there, first are the appe-
arance of Attorneys
and Solicitors, secondly
to see the case what with
Relief Camps and heavy
Votes & have to sit
every District to have there
great distress on the
of it sufficient
to make it responsible
to be needful to bring in
this system of Village aid
and Village relegation
the which at present the
whole of the population
in Cork there are many of
those not necessary, viz

in one way or another
Subscribing an Income tax
Charity and so far as the
expenditure extent pleased of
the States

I have to say in
Reply officially from
documents your attention
to the fact of the great
inequalities of patronage take
by the Union and how
the Children of Poor
Sir Valentine paid at the
Quarter Relief Camps may
say and perfect truth
that this is the fact in
many other Camps in
and around Dundrum
I would respectfully
much respect to large
upon your Votes
as that of powerful

that if in these two Districts of Charitable expenditure at Relief Camps and through Village Heads, details were thoroughly gone into, such an inquiry could not but have the result that would be to prevent it, more than half of the money is being spent which the Government has no intention of expending.

Saint Nazaire
Mount
13th August 1877

I have &c
(Sd) A.G. Murray, Major
Spl. R. Officer Chingleput Dist.

True Copy
(Sd) R.W. Barlow
Collector

From,
R.W. Barlow Esqre
Collector of the Chingleput District.

No. 2715

To
Major A.G. Murray
Spl. Relief Officer
Chingleput District.

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 13th Instant, I have the honor to inform you that the evil, alluded to in the 1st para of your letter, is one pointed out by me some time since to the Honorable Sir Richard Pelham and to ensure to ensure.

2. As regards the rest of your letter, I have the honor to observe that you make no suggestion as to what further precautions you would adopt. Government having decided

after due deliberation we
recently took steps to increase
the Camps with certain restrictions
which we shall not
alter without a full trial
and are anxious to do our
best to carry out their
views, though I also to
doubt as to the ultimate
result.

2. As regards the date brought
forward by him in the case of
each Camp Officer
who can be turned out
with a ticket for work,
the directions being issued
to establishment receivers
&c. I beg to point out
that if any person
engaged on the Roads
are not forced to

= relegation until in every
instance upon those who
are unable to work and
they should not be sent
to their villages if they prefer
remaining in Camp =

Chinglepat Collectorate Office
Sadapet
17th August 1877

} I have &c
P. Rama Row
Collector

No: 2781. From

The Collector of the
Chinglepat District.

To

Major A.J. Murray
Spl Relief Officer
Chinglepat District

Sir,

I have &c

Rec. 24 & 27/03 dated 22nd Ultimo
and 15th Inst. and respect-
-fully I have the honor
to request that you will
direct for the present
from sending non-able-
-bodied Paupers from
Jirnmahe & Pallavaram
to the Campe at Kistnapoor
Patny.

2. Where they are & they are
not of service, but big
more and much old
they may make for hearing
just more here is a large
influx:

Chingleput 8th
Collr. Office
Sd. 17 Augt 1877

I have &c
(sd) R.W. Barlow
Collector

Enquiry
(sd) R.W. Barlow
Collector

From
The Secretary to Govt
Chingleput

No 328
Dated

To
R.W. Barlow Esqr
Collector Chingleput

Sir

I have the honor to
acknowledge the receipt of your
letter No 278 dated 22nd Instant
replying to mine No 303 of the
13th Idem.

In reply I beg to
state that my letter No 303
alone was intended to be the
Communication and not
Copy of my letter No 272
dated 27th ultimo by which
a reference to Chingleput
Kampoo Regulations from
Revenue Secretary to Govt
and Collectors has been made

For their consideration.

In the second paragraph of your letter under reply you state that I have [illegible] on the steps which any Minister takes to suppress or suspend the Release of Village Religionists. I most respectfully observe that my Circular No 272 copy of which is attached is so clear a [illegible] of my opinion as to the Course which should meet the difficulties more apparent in the Release of Village Religionists with a view of their at home.

I am also obliged

[illegible]

[illegible] from Bramhan or [illegible] Caste for preaching the word of God, but on the contrary, Caste Hindoos attend their Sermons and hear the truth of the Gospel. Some of them make known their names as receipt and [illegible] that they are of Right Caste and [illegible] of Religion which is [illegible] Christianity [illegible] Hindoo Religion [illegible] Hindoo Caste [illegible] to be again religionists [illegible] Many Hindoos [illegible] Caste of Religion which

Each person claiming
a Refund of a certain Duty
Levied by the said Act shall
Claim for relief in the
Collector of that Duty, or to
Judge relief at home
Three Days after
the said Notice
Saint Thomas } Thos Ford
Assistant } (Sd) A. G. Murray Magt
18th August } Relief Office
Kingston 20th
Jamaica
(Sd) R. M. Barlow
Secretary

Submitted for the orders
of Government.
2. The Queen being minister.
It. Relief can render
Notice of application for
Justice to the Governor Board
and

And Petitioner received from
Mr Barlow should any person
be aggrieved by such
Notice he can apply
to the Judge in Chambers
who will if necessary
Resolve the question in a speedy
summary manner for
one Pound. The Queen alone
indicated appearance to be in
accordance with the instructions
Conveyed in Despatch
August 1879 No. 251 B.

True Copy Exempt

To
The Asst Secy to Govt H.D.

Ag. Secretary

(Sd)
Ag. Secretary