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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	30	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	4. 1. 1877	196

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 54. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 30th December 1876:—

Read the following letter from G. D. LEMAN, Esq., Collector of the Kistna District, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Masulipatam, 22nd December 1876, No. 1293.

I HAVE the honor to forward the Sub-Collector's letter enclosed on the subject of the necessity for work before long for the people of the sub-division.

2. The works proposed are good works, and would do save for the following reasons:—1st, we must anticipate a scarcity of water, and it will be better to bring the people to some place where it will be easily procurable in the hot weather; 2ndly, I do not think it is feasible to help the bulk of the villagers in their villages without great waste of money. Even at the best the works (even if far more numerous than these) must be a long distance from most of the villages, and the time spent in coming and going would be wasted, and the cost of supervision enormous as well as the difficulty of frequent payments.

3. I would, therefore, prefer to send them first to the Cammamoor Extension or to the work at Pedda Ganjam if there be room for them.

4. Mr. Horsbrugh does not name the probable number of coolies for whom work is to be found, but his estimate of the money wanted is Rupees 1,30,000, or at the rate of 6,500 people for five months.

5. If these people can be sent to the canal work, no separate allotment will be needed for my sub-division for the present.

6. I telegraphed yesterday for an allotment for the canal work.

7. Prices are now at Guntur rice 8 seers per rupee; at Vinukonda and Narsarowpet, rice $6\frac{3}{4}$ seers per rupee; at Palnad, rice 6 seers per rupee; chief dry grain at Vinukonda and Narsarowpet, $9\frac{3}{4}$ seers per rupee; chief dry grain at Dachepalli, 10 seers per rupee; and there is not a probability of their falling till the next dry crops are reaped.

8. If further work be necessary, it is proposed to take up the Romperu drainage next.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From B. HORSBRUGH, Esq., Sub-Collector, to G. D. LEMAN, Esq., Collector of the Kistna District, dated Guntur, 5th December 1876, No. 503.

I regret to have to inform you that I think the time has now come for me to address you on the subject of getting ready to start relief works in my division. When I last wrote to you I had hopes, though slight, that we should have rain, and the later crops would have been saved, but we have had none, and water is failing everywhere day by day; prices of the staple food are double and more than double what they were this time last year or even a few months ago; men who last year got rice are now obliged to fall back on zonna and dhol. The Tahsildars report that work is very scarce, and that all classes are suffering much. I have consulted with the Range Officer, and he agrees with me that from the beginning of next month the laboring classes and the poorer cultivators will be face to face with starvation unless work is found for them at which they may at least earn a maintenance. I trust I may be wrong in what is at best but a forecast, but I cannot predict on what day, or with what suddenness, the present undoubted scarcity may become famine, and therefore address you early in the hope that money may be placed at my disposal in anticipation of the worst.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
4th January 1877.*

2. It is a matter of great concern that we are in addition threatened with the horrors of cholera; indeed it is already in our midst; you will by this time doubtless have heard of the death at Narsarowpetta of Mr. Donaghue, the Range Officer, from cholera by all accounts; the Tahsildar of that taluq has to-day reported to me the death at that place of two men out of a party of eight who had come in from Cumbum, thus showing in what direction our danger lies; this afternoon the Civil Surgeon called upon me and requested my interference in the following state of things:—For some time past numbers of bandies have been coming in from Cumbum and the adjacent parts to purchase and carry back grain from Guntoor; these carters boil sufficient rice at one time to last several days; in a day or two it becomes unfit for food, but still they manage to get it down with the addition of tamarind juice; the result of this diet is vomiting and purging, and two, if not three, fatal cases have occurred in this town amongst these men; if it is not true cholera, still it is so dangerous and so likely to cause a panic and a predisposition to cholera that the Civil Surgeon begged me to have every bandy and banly-man from the Ceded Districts turned out of the town forthwith and a guard stationed on the roads to prevent any entering the town. I was unable to comply with this request however much I might agree in its desirability; in the first place I have no men to put as a guard; secondly, I doubt the legality of such a proceeding; and, thirdly, it would be an interference with the course of trade. I share in the Civil Surgeon's grave apprehensions that, if cholera gets a footing in the town, the consequences will be most disastrous both to the civil population, to the strangers within our gates, to the sepoys who are expected shortly, and to the inmates of the jail, which is already filled to overflowing. I have taken upon myself, on the earnest representation of the Civil Surgeon, to direct that the bandies coming from the south and west shall halt a mile from the town and come in in batches of five, load their bags, and go out again; if you think this order must not be carried out, I beg you will telegraph to the Civil Surgeon as I shall probably be out of the town.

3. I have no means of estimating what number of people from these taluqs will find their way to the relief works in Nellore and near Bezvada, but I hope that the people from the south of Bapatla Taluq and the tail-end of Commamoor Canal will not need any special works to be set on foot for them in this district. Cholera seems to have broken out near Nellore, and, if so, it is useless to tell our coolies to go there for work; the safest way is to find them work near their own villages on scattered projects, and, if we can only keep out these infectious strangers, the next six months may be tided over without an unusual mortality amongst human beings; amongst flocks and herds I am afraid there will be great loss from want of both fodder and water; grazing there is none, and the zonna straw will be soon consumed, especially as large quantities are reported to be sold to consignees in other districts.

4. At present I have to ask for the following sums:—

	RS.
For the Great Northern Road	50,000
For the Taluqs of Guntoor and Sattenapalli to be spent in the excavating of tank-beds, the repairs of bunds and of village wells ...	50,000
For digging side-drains, clearing and generally improving the track from Narsarowpet to Maidipad via Sattenapalli and Krosur ...	8,000
For the Road from Sattenapalli to Piduguralla	9,000
Road from Guntoor to Prattipad, 11 miles	10,000

This is an important village and centre of trade; the money will be employed in digging side-drains and excavating gravel quarries at several places along the line.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) D. PURUSHOTTAMAYA,
Deputy Collector.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
4th January 1877.*

2. Prices of staple grain are as yet not inordinately high as compared with other places and do not indicate distress. The Board do not think that relief works are yet required; those in want of employment can have recourse to the Commamur and Embankment works, where the labor will be under proper supervision.

3. The Board are glad to see indications that private enterprise is at work in Cumbum. The sanitary precautions adopted by Mr. Horsbrug may be allowed, but care must be taken to prevent their becoming an interference with trade.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

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

No. 55. ORDER THEREON, 4th January 1877, No. 30.

Miscellaneous.

RECORDED. The Government regret to hear of the death of Mr. Donaghue. The Board will doubtless be watchful.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
" the Financial Department.
" the Public Works Department.

Exd. J. W. Fischer.

Revenue Department
 Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.
 Dated 29th December 1876.
 Read the following:—

No. 2293

From,

G. H. Leuen Esquire

Collector of Kistur District.

H. C. Stokes Esquire

Secretary to the Board of Revenue.
 Madras.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward the Sub.
 Collector's letter enclosed on the subject
 of the necessity for work. before long, for the
 people of the Sub Division.

2. The works proposed are good works
 and would do, some for the following
 reasons:—

1st we must anticipate a scarcity of water
 and it will be better to bring the people
 to some place where it will be easily procurable

GOVT. OF (1877) Madras
 REVENUE.
 THE BOARD OF REVENUE,
 NO. 54-55,
 DETAIL January, 4th.
 Recd.
 G.O., 4th January 1877, No. 53.
 JANUARY.
 Nos. 54-55.
 Copy of Works in Madras Sub-Division
 According to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
 on letter from Collector relating to the necessity
 for work, and requesting to have of the work
 Mr. Henshaw, the Range Officer.

in the hot weather. 2nd. I do not think it is feasible to help the bulk of the villagers in their villages without great waste of money. Even at the best the workmen if far more numerous than these must be a long distance from most of the villages and the time spent in coming and going would be wasted, and the cost of supervision enormous as well as the difficulty of frequent payments.

3. I would therefore prefer to send them first to the Commamoor Extension or to the work at Poldra Gajam if there be room for them.

4. Mr. Horsburgh does not name the probable number of coolies for whom work is to be found but his estimate of the money wanted is 1,30,000 Rupees or at the rate of 6,500 people for 5 months.

5. If these people can be sent to the Canal

Canal work, no separate allotment will be needed for my Subdivision for the present.

6. I telegraphed yesterday for an allotment for the Canal work.

7. Prices are now at Cuntor - Rice 8 seers
at Vijukonda
and Narsanpeth } $6\frac{3}{4}$ "
at Palnad - 6 "

Chief dry grain at Vijukonda
and Narsanpeth } $9\frac{3}{4}$ "

" at Wackpalli - 10 "

and there is not a probability of their falling till the next dry crops are reaped.

8. If further work be necessary, it is proposed to take up the Rompin Drainage next.

I have ^{yes}
(Sd) G. H. Lewis
Collector
Kestur District
Collector's Office
Masulipatam
22nd December 1876

Enclosure

Enclosure.

No. 503.

From

To The Subcollector, Kistna District
The Collector, Kistna District.

Sir,

I regret to have to inform you that I think the time has now come for me to address you on the subject of getting ready to start relief works in my divisions. When I last wrote to you I had hopes, though slight, that we should have rain and the late crops would have been saved, but we have had none and water is failing everywhere day by day - prices of the staple food are double and more than double what they were this time last year or even a few months ago; men who last year got rice are now obliged to fall back on Jowar and Dal. The Tahsildars report that work is very scarce and that all -
classes

34
classes are suffering much. I have consulted with the Range Officer and he agrees with me that from the beginning of next month the labouring classes and the poorer cultivators will be face to face with starvation unless work is found for them, at which they may at least earn a maintenance. I trust I may be wrong in what is at best but a forecast, but I cannot predict on what day or with what suddenness the present undoubted scarcity may become famine, and therefore address you early in the hope that money may be placed at my disposal in anticipation of the worst.

2. It is a matter of great concern that we are in addition threatened with the horrors of Cholera, indeed it is already in our midst you will by this time -
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doubtless have heard of the death at
Narcarrowpetta of Mr. Donaghue the Range
Officer, from cholera by all accounts, the
Tahsildar of that Taluk has today
reported to me the death at that place
of two men out of a party of eight who
had come in from Cumbum thus showing
in what direction our danger lies. This
after-noon the Civil Surgeon called upon
me & requested my interference in the
following state of things for some time
past numbers of bandies have been
coming in from Cumbum & the adjacent
parts to purchase and carry back grain
from Guntoor; These Carters boil sufficient
rice at one time to last several days,
in a day or two it becomes unfit
for

4/6
for food but still they manage to get
it down with the addition of tamarind
juice the result of this diet is vomiting
& purging and two if not three fatal
cases have occurred in this town amongst
these men - if it is not true Cholera
still it is so dangerous and so likely
to cause a panic & a predisposition
to cholera that the Civil Surgeon begged
me to have every bandy & bandy-man
from the Ceded Districts turned out of
the Town forthwith and a guard stationed
on the Roads to prevent any entering
the Town - I was unable to comply with
this request, however much I might agree
in its desirability - in the first place I

I have no men to put as a guard, secondly
I doubt the legality of such a proceeding,
and thirdly it would be an interference
with the course of trade. I share in the
Civil Surgeon's grave apprehensions that
if Cholera gets a footing in the town
the consequences will be most disastrous
both to the Civil population & to the strangers
within our gates, to the Lepoys who are
expected shortly and to the inmates of
the jail which is already filled to over-
flowing. I have taken upon myself
on the earnest representation of the Civil
Surgeon to direct that the banchies coming
from the South and west shall halt
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must not be carried out I beg you
will telegraph to the Civil Surgeon as I
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in this District. Cholera seems to have
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near their own villages on scattered projects,
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loss from want of both fodder and water.

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as large quantities are reported to be
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For the Taluqs of Guntur & Sattenapalli
to be spent in the excavating
of tank beds, the repairs of bunds
& of village wells - - - - - } - 50,000

For digging side drains clearing and
generally improving the track from
Narasampett to Maidipad via
Sattenapalli and Prosur - - - } - 8,000

For the Road from Sattenapalli to
Piduguralla - - - - - } - 9,000

Road from Guntur to Prathipad
11 miles } 10,000

This

11/8
This is an important village and centre
of trade the money will be employed in
digging side drains and excavating gravel
quarries at several places along the line.

Guntur - } I have &c
5th December/76 } (sd/ B. Horsburgh
Sub-Collector

(True copy)

(sd/ D. Purushottamaya
Deputy Collector.

Submitted for the information of
Government.

2. Prices of staple grains are as yet not
inordinately high as compared with other
places and do not indicate distress. The
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when

where the labour will be under proper supervision.

3. The Board are glad to see indications that private enterprise is at work in Cumbum.

The sanitary precautions adopted by Mr. Horsbough may be allowed but care must be taken to prevent their becoming an interference with trade.

True copy & extract

J. H. H. H.

As Secretary

To
The Secretary to Government R.D.

From 1874 to 1876
Proceedings of the
The 30
Board of Revenue

Printed 30 Dec 1876.
Dupa 30 —

Submitting for the
information of your
letter from the collector
of the 25 Jan 1876
the Sub Collector's letter
on the subject of necessity
for religious for the
people of the Sub 25

1830

Received - The Govt. report to fear of the
death of Mr. Somagane -
The Board will doubtless be satisfied.

1830 20/11/77

1830

1830 20/11/77

C-2-1-100-1-17