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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 335
B.P. No.

☒ Press
☐ Mis.

G.S.
Dated 23.1.1877

197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Standing

Revenue Department

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
No 1602
Dated 15th January 1877

Read the following
No 16.

From

A. Wedderburn Esquire
Collector of Coimbatore

To

F. E. Stokes Esquire,
acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue
Madras.

Sir

With reference to the rules
which have been circulated for the
employment and payment of persons
engaged on relief works, (Proceedings of
the

The Revenue Board No 1 of 2^d January
1877), I have the honor to make
the following suggestions:—

1st That it is advisable to allow Col-
lectors some discretion in the work
which is carried on in their dis-
tricts. In this, for instance, a full
scheme of works was drawn up, be-
fore a rupee was expended. It was
the result of much Considerations and
Consultation with divisional officers—
and the relative importance of each
work was well weighed. —

2. There is no need in this District
to introduce a rule for payment of
daily wages — when the people by
timely employment, are not reduced
to

to their last meal, the weekly wage
is far more convenient to all con-
cerned and accords with the weekly
market in the neighbourhood. —

3. The organization of labour cannot
be the same everywhere — and Mr Gribble's
36 rules are far in excess of what is
requisite. —

4. Rules cannot be too few or short,
many are wholly unnecessary — and
some are absurd — such as that "it
is far cheaper in the end to spend
"Rs 100 to Rs 150 on a Common well,
"than to keep several hundred Coolies
"at work for some days in walking
"a mile or more, with one pot of water."

This occurs
in rule
10 of Mr
Gribble's
rules

5. As for digging wells along a line of road for road making - the road would have been long finished before the well was a quarter excavated.

6. Tamping as a rule, cannot be done in ordinary seasons in the dry weather, much less so in a time of water famine - but a road can be greatly improved without water, and when distant from water, there is no need to appoint extra people of Castes to bring drinking water - As each family can bring their ^{own} water Chatty, without this extra cost to Government. —

7. I may note the way work is done in this district, where it is rather

rather payment by results, than ⁵ twice a day numbers, and records.

60 baskets of broken stone are delivered on some roads at 8 annas

(46 to the Culee yard) = $6 - 1\frac{3}{5}$ ^{a p} per

Culee yard - the D. P. W. rate is 8

annas - This is the principal work

of the women and boys - The men are employed on hard road work, digging, clearing, laying material, &c. —

8. In reference to the rule 9 regarding indents for tools - it is by

that indents must be submitted to the Board - but if the need is urgent

Collectors may apply direct to the Superintendent of Public Works stores and

and workshops, - but if neither
of these indents produce results, it is
not stated what is to be done. I
applied for 10,000 pickaxes on the
16th 414th December 1876, and was sup-
plied with only 2000 - numbers of people
are Compulsorily debared from
work, unless I am allowed to
purchase on the spot; a pickaxe
wanting, means 2 mromoties un-
employed and 6 basket women, -
without relief - so 9 people are
dependant on one pickaxe.

9. I must purchase, and hope
that the object may justify the
unauthorized transaction. - I
can get the picks made here at $\frac{1}{2}$

$\frac{1}{2}$ the price charged in Madras, viz
for 24 Rs a dozen. -

10. Of course shifts can be made
without the pickaxe, for a time, but
the work is not in due proportion,
and good results are our object. -

11. It may be objected that our roads
are too soon made - but this cannot
be helped - when good work is done -
other devices must be hit upon - which
I have no doubt the intelligence of
the Division officers, will suffice
to suggest - when road work is done,
and natal stores, then I think of
some heavier permanent works of
local water supply - such as large
villages, and tank, wells. These
done

done, a deepening of the tank storage basins, Combined with a terracing of the outer and upper margin, for plantations, will be a good work. trees must be above the water level. too many trees cannot be planted, provided the means of watering, then for some years, is attainable. —

12. I can, in some places get 12 Cubic yards of excavation and terracing done for the rupee. By itself, for water storage alone, the expenditure would not be remunerative. Combined with the less exposure of surface to evaporation and the advantage of the reclaimed land. it is a justifiable work.

work. —

13. Where no more channels can be made from our rivers, as in this District. when the irrigable area exceeds the water supply, nothing can be done in this direction, and the local village wells of a larger and more permanent sort, are best fitted for employment, the upper surface being removed by cooly labour — and the rock cutting by the professional wuddar. Such wells will be permanent advantages to the Country — made up as it is, of hills and valleys. It is not frittering away money to execute such works, — although they will not produce revenue. —

14. The more the people are made comfortable

Comfortable, and secured against
Calamity - one of the greatest of
which is a water famine, the more
the future prosperity of the Country
is ensured. It is a sad thing, when
the people are forced to emigrate - and
cheap field labour is an essential
to full Cultivation. -

15. Scarcely any emigrants ever leave
this district, the few that the French
recruiters pick up, are homeless waifs
averaging 77 in a year. -

16. The district neither exports nor im-
ports grain to any extent, it does
not appear, for its extent, to have a
Surplus population. -

17. Another suggestion I would make
is, whether the weaver who comes
to

to work with soft hands, and is most
inexpert, with either mamoty or pick
axe, though he blisters his hands
with praiseworthy perseverance, might
not be better employed in making
Cloths - advances being given, to be
repaid in cloth, at certain rates
to be fixed, and the cloth sold on
account of government. -

Similar
proposals from
the
weavers
referred to
in the
last page

to his proposal
the
weavers will
aided in their
way, I think

18 I have a large apartment of
weavers under my personal supervision
they would never come to work in
the sun, the whole day, for 2, 1/2 and
1 annas, if their weaving were more
remunerative. Weaving is easy work
Compared to digging out hard clods
in a tank-bed, which latter I can
vouch by personal trial to be a
very

very fatiguing operation - were
a fair price fixed for the cloth,
Government could hardly be a loser,
tent cloth is always in demand, as
also dungaries, and ordinary native
coarse wearing cloths. —

19. The weaver forms a considerable
section of the native industry of
this district, and he suffers from
the high prices of food, which he
does not produce, and from the cessation
of demand for his manufacture.
The cessation it is true, is only tem-
porary, but the weaver must starve
in the interim, if not relieved, and
I think that less^{of} money, if indeed
any at all, will fall upon im-
perial funds, if the weavers are
paid

x no of weavers
93464, or 5.57
per cent of the
whole population

paid advances for cloths, than when
they are employed on remunerative
road, and earth work. —

20. I may mention that weavers are
now passing their arms with pick-
axes, and blistering their hands with
promoties, who are superior workmen,
and could earn a rupee a day in their
own craft - whereas they are forced
to accept 2 annas for the mere means
of existence - should advances be
given the cloth will be delivered
at cost price, without the weaver's
usual profit - and this condition
they will gladly accept. The re-
sult will be a recoup of
the advances. — I suggest —
Rs

Rs 10000 for this purpose.

Cambay Collector's
Office

10th January 1877

I have &c.
(Signed) A. Madhukar
Collector

It is observed that the Board's rule
11 leaves it within the Collector's discretion
to adopt weekly payments; but the opinion
of Government is, as the Collector will
have seen from G.O. 28 December 1876
No 2199, in favour of daily payments.
2. His objection in paras 3, 4 & 6 of his
letter relate to points in Mr. Lobb's hints,
and he is referred to para 13 of the Board's
rules in which these hints are circu-
lated for information and for
adoption when deemed suitable.
They need not be followed, if the
Collector considers them unsuitable,
except

except when points of principle are
involved as to which separate orders
have been given. One of such points
is the mode of accounting for
labour wages, and the Collector will
be good enough to follow the system
prescribed (Board's rule 13) when la-
bours on wages are employed.

The system is of course inapplicable
when work is done on Contract
as described in para 7 of the Col-
lector's letter; but it appears from
his weekly reports, and from para
18 of the present letter, that work on
wages is in force in the Cambay
district as well as work on Contract.

2/15-1-77

Donnerstag - R. 2

2. In regard to the weavers, if the P^ls. can ascertain that any deft. of cost. wants the cloth they can turn out from their looms, it can be purchased from them at market rates; and if by any advances for material they can be kept off the works at a less cost than will be incurred by their retention here - the arrangement should be effected. It is a question of money.

174127

and copy to the Board of New England
5 the Financial Dept
6 the Accountant General
28 the B W Dept

Dec: 1871) 36/10
and 10/4/91
Proceedings of the Board
of Revenue.

1845-15 " January 1871
 1846-15 " "
 1847-16 " "

White cedar.

1872. -
I cannot have no objection
to leaving - but I am not
disposed to alter my opinion.
If we order clothes why not hats
& shoes & children - why not
jewels in such old houses.
(1871-72). (1871-72). M.C.

I have been thinking of you
 very much lately, and wondering
 how you are getting on. I hope
 you are well and happy. I am
 still the same, but I am getting
 older and wiser. I am still
 interested in the same things,
 but I am also interested in
 new things. I am still a
 student, but I am also a
 teacher. I am still a
 student of life, but I am also
 a teacher of life. I am still
 a student of the world, but I am
 also a teacher of the world. I am
 still a student of the human mind,
 but I am also a teacher of the
 human mind. I am still a student
 of the human heart, but I am also
 a teacher of the human heart. I am
 still a student of the human soul,
 but I am also a teacher of the
 human soul. I am still a student
 of the human spirit, but I am also
 a teacher of the human spirit. I am
 still a student of the human body,
 but I am also a teacher of the
 human body. I am still a student
 of the human mind, heart, soul,
 and spirit, but I am also a teacher
 of the human mind, heart, soul,
 and spirit. I am still a student
 of the human body, mind, heart,
 soul, and spirit, but I am also a
 teacher of the human body, mind,
 heart, soul, and spirit. I am still
 a student of the human body, mind,
 heart, soul, and spirit, but I am
 also a teacher of the human body,
 mind, heart, soul, and spirit. I am
 still a student of the human body,
 mind, heart, soul, and spirit, but
 I am also a teacher of the human
 body, mind, heart, soul, and spirit.

With unpublished collection 16

There are the 25 of available
lands in the ^{land} can
should be set at our highest

Less than three feet from surface.

Have always been a
lover of architecture. Many

G.O. 11

on 12th 1877 15/1/11

"Comm. to the"

1-1-11

From orders

wh. for 1877

11/1/11

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
23rd January 1877.*

Famine Relief.

No. 727. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 15th January 1877, No. 160:—

Read the following letter from A. WEDDEBURN, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 16th January 1877, No. 16.

With reference to the rules which have been circulated for the employment and payment of persons engaged on relief works (Proceedings of the Revenue Board, No. 1, of 2nd January 1877), I have the honor to make the following suggestions:—

1. That it is advisable to allow Collectors some discretion in the work which is carried on in their districts. In this, for instance, a full scheme of works was drawn up before a rupee was expended. It was the result of much consideration and consultation with Divisional Officers, and the relative importance of each work was well weighed.

2. There is no need in this district to introduce a rule for payment of daily wages when the people by timely employment are not reduced to their last meal; the weekly wage is far more convenient to all concerned, and accords with the weekly market in the neighbourhood.

3. The organization of labor cannot be the same everywhere, and Mr. Gribble's 36 rules are far in excess of what is requisite.

4. Rules cannot be too few or short; many are wholly unnecessary, and some are absurd, such as that "it is far cheaper in the end to spend Rupees 100 to Rupees 150 on a common well than to keep several hundred coolies at work for some days in walking a mile or more with one pot of water."

5. As for digging wells along a line of road for road-making, the road would have been long finished before the well was a quarter excavated.

6. Tamping as a rule cannot be done in ordinary seasons in the dry weather, much less so in a time of water famine; but a road can be greatly improved without water, and when distant from water there is no need to appoint extra people of castes to bring drinking-water, as each family can bring their own water chatty without this extra cost to Government.

7. I may note the way work is done in this district, where it is rather payment-by-results than twice-a-day musters and records. Sixty baskets of broken stone are delivered on some roads at 8 Annas (46 to the cubic yard) = Annas 6, Pies 1½ per cubic yard, the Public Works Department rate is 8 Annas. This is the principal work of the women and boys. The men are employed on hard road-work, digging, clearing, laying material, &c.

8. In reference to the Rule 9 regarding indents for tools, it is laid down that indents must be submitted to the Board, but if the need is urgent Collectors may apply direct to the Superintendent of Public Works Stores and Workshops; but if neither of these indents produce results, it is no stated what is to be done. I applied for 10,000 pick-axes on the 16th and 17th December 1876, and was supplied with only 2,000; numbers of people are compulsorily debarred from work unless I am allowed to purchase on the spot; a pick-axe wanting means two mamoties unemployed and six basket women without relief, so nine people are dependent on one pick-axe.

9. I must purchase and hope that the object may justify the unauthorized transaction. I can get the picks made here at half the price charged in Madras, viz., for 24 Rupees a dozen.

10. Of course shifts can be made without the pick-axe for a time, but the work is not in due proportion, and good results are our object.

11. It may be objected that our roads are too soon made, but this cannot be helped when good work is done. Other devices must be hit upon which I have no doubt the intelligence of the Division Officers will suffice to suggest; when road-work is done and metal stored, then I think of some heavier permanent works of local water-supply, such as large village and tank wells. These done a deepening of the tank storage basins, combined with a terracing of the outer and upper margin for plantations, will be a good work; trees must be above the water level; too many trees cannot be planted, provided the means of watering them for some years is attainable.

12. I can in some places get twelve or fifteen yards of excavation and terracing done for the rupee. By itself, for water storage alone, the expenditure would not be remunerative, but combined with the less exposure of surface to evaporation and the advantage of the reclaimed land it is a justifiable work.

13. Where no more channels can be made from our rivers as in this district, where the irrigable area exceeds the water-supply, nothing can be done in this direction, and the local village wells of a larger and more permanent sort are best fitted for employment, the upper surface being removed by cooly labor and the rock cutting by the professional Wuddar. Such wells will be permanent advantages to the country, made up as it is of villages. It is not frittering away money to execute such works, although they will not produce revenue.

14. The more the people are made comfortable and secured against calamity, one of the greatest of which is a water famine, the more the future prosperity of the country is ensured. It is a sad thing when the people are forced to emigrate, and cheap field labor is an essential to full cultivation.

15. Scarcely any emigrants ever leave this district; the few that the French recruiters pick up are homeless waifs averaging seventy-seven in a year.

16. The district neither exports nor imports grain to any extent. It does not appear for its extent to have a surplus population.

17. Another suggestion I would make is, whether the weaver who comes to work with soft hands and is most inept with either mamoty or pick-axe, though he blisters his hands with praiseworthy perseverance, might not be better employed in making cloths. Advances being given to be repaid in cloth at certain rates to be fixed, and the cloth sold on account of Government.

18. I have a large assortment of weavers under my personal supervision; they would never come to work in the sun the whole day for 2, 1½, and 1 Anna if their weaving were more remunerative; weaving is easy work compared to digging out hard clods in a tank-bed, which latter I can vouch by personal trial to be a very fatiguing operation; were a fair price fixed for the cloth, Government could hardly be a loser; tent cloth is always in demand, as also dungaries and ordinary Native coarse wearing cloths.

19. The weaver forms a considerable

* Number of weavers 93,464 or 5.37 per cent. of the whole population.

facture. The cessation it is true is only for the interim if not relieved, and I think they will fall upon Imperial funds if the weavers they are employed on unremunerative road

20. I may mention that weavers are blistering their hands with mamoties, who receive a rupee a day in their own craft, whereas the means of existence; should advances be given without the weavers' usual profit, and the result will be a recoup of the advances.

ve industry of this from the high prices of produce, and demand for his manufacture must starve in if indeed any at all, for cloths than when

erring their arms with pick-axes and inferior workmen, and could earn a forced to accept 2 Annas for the mere the cloth will be delivered at cost condition they will gladly accept. suggest Rupees 10,000 for this purpose.

It is observed that the Board's Rule 11 leaves it within the Collector's discretion to adopt weekly payment; but the opinion of Government is, as the Collector will have seen from G.O., 28th December 1876, No. 2,199, in favor of daily payments.

2. His objections in paragraphs 3, 4, 5, and 6 of his letter relate to points in Mr. Gribble's hints, and he is referred to paragraph 13 of the Board's rules in which these hints are circulated for information and for adoption when deemed suitable. They need not be followed if the Collector considers them unsuitable, except when points of principle are involved, as to which separate orders have been given. One of such points is the mode of accounting for labor wages, and the Collector will be good enough to follow the system prescribed (Board's Rule 13) when laborers on wages are employed. The system is, of course, inapplicable when work is done on contract as described in paragraph 7 of the Collector's letter; but it appears from his weekly reports, and from paragraph 18 of the present letter, that work on wages is in force in the Coimbatore District as well as work on contract.

3. The Board are unable to support the Collector's suggestion for the employment of weavers in their own trade, as Government have disapproved the proposal in the case of the Bellary cumbly weavers on the ground that it is impossible for the State to find congenial employment for all kinds of handicrafts men, and blacksmiths, potters, and goldsmiths could claim as well as weavers.

4. With regard to tools, Mr. Wedderburn is informed that paragraph 9 of the Board's instructions was intended to indicate to Collectors how they might obtain tools wanted. Mr. Wedderburn may get them made locally if they are cheaper than those got from the Public Works Stores. With regard to the delay in complying with his indents, he is informed that it was unavoidable owing to the exhaustion of stock pending the arrival of a ship-load of tools expected from Bengal.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

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

No. 728.

January 1877, No. 335.

however consider
 empowering Collect
 can be got there at
 including their carriage

2. In regard to the weavers
 ment of Government wants the ol
 be purchased from them at mark
 can be kept off the works at a les
 there—the arrangement should

THE Government observe that the
 Board's remarks dispose of all the Col-
 lector's objections satisfactorily. They
 be made to Rule 3 regarding tools—
 in the districts, if available, and if they
 charged for their supply from Madras

Collector can ascertain that any depart-
 can turn out from their looms, it can
 nd if by any advances for material they
 would be incurred by their retention
 It is a question of money.

(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.

50
60th. of 1877. ~~REVENUE~~

REVENUE.

To THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Secy, Secy, &c.

Dated January, 28th.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O. No. 339.

50
JANUARY.
727-728.

50
EXAMINEE RELIEF, No. 333A.

50
Rules for employment and payment of Persons
on relief-works.—Observing that the Board's
remarks dispassionately the objections of
the Collector of Coincidence regarding the
passing orders on the subject of altering the
rule regarding tools and on the suggestion
for helping weavers.