Sectt. I (i)-I—10,006—7-10-70.

(1) Number of pages 32.

(2) Date of repair 18.4.22

(3) Initials of the Referencer

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No.	870 A	Press / Mis. —
Dated	28.2.1877	197 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

870 A

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
23th February 1877.

Famine Relief.

No. 882-A. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 19th February 1877, No. 698 :—

Read the following letter from H. LEFANU, Esq., Acting Head Assistant Collector, to C. T. LONGLEY, Esq., Collector of Salem, dated Tripatore, 7th February 1877, No. 147-74 :—

WITH reference to Board's Proceedings, No. 3,244, dated 21st December 1876, received by me on the 18th ultimo, I have the honor to state that the relief machinery in my division is of four kinds :—

(1.) Irrigation repairs.
(2.) Roads new, constructions.
(3.) Village minor relief works.
(4.) Gratuitous relief.

2. Regarding irrigation repairs a long list of tanks and channels needing repair was got ready, and seventy of these were selected at a rough estimate of some Rupees 33,232. This work has been entrusted to the Public Works Department, and from what Mr. West told me yesterday, about twenty-two of these are started, and the Overseers and Range Officer are hard at work on the remainder. I have inspected four of the largest in progress. Good work was being done on all with a rapidity unusual in the annals of the division. On one work some 400 coolies were present. The great check on the department is the want of tools ; their indents for which have not yet been complied with. The coolies were generally satisfied, and the only thing I fear is that they will do the work, which is on ták, so quickly that we shall be at a loss to find them work later on.

3. Of roads there are seven under construction in the division, all under the Revenue Department. Their aggregate length is thirty-six miles, excluding the portion of one road which goes into the Dharampuri taluq. I regret that I cannot speak of finished roads "as good as any in the division." Our works have not been sanctioned long enough ; the allotments spent are too small, and the want of water precludes any thing of the kind ; but I may say that nearly the whole length is marked out, channels dug, in many places gravelled or gravel in course of collection. The total sanction is Rupees 9,050, and the reported expenditure to date Rupees 6,000 nearly. Owing to the daily wage at first paid there was much loss to Government, but the ták system is in full progress.

4. On some of the roads I have been compelled to stay work, pending preparation of estimate ; and on others I have confined the work to collection of materials for the same reason, but as the irrigation works are being taken in hand, the people generally will not suffer.

5. It is very wasteful working without estimate.

6. The coolies generally complain against the ták system, but they have not complained of being cheated in the measurements, which is of more importance. In the last month besides travelling by rail, I have marched nearly 170 miles, of which ninety were done on horse-back. I have inspected every work of any importance in charge of the Revenue Department in my division.

7. Of minor works fifty-three have been sanctioned, at a cost of Rupees 2,401, most of which are for the improvement of water-supply. The returns for these have

not come in, although on the 24th ultimo I called for them. I cannot therefore say what the measurements of works done are. There is a general want of helpfulness amongst the people, and even after they got a grant for what they urgently want they seem to wait for some one to stand at their backs and make them do the work. One very useful work is the Kombur reservoir in the Manjawadi valley, which the villagers are executing on contract. Unfortunately we cannot put water in it when full.

8. I was surprised, when there, to see the general good condition of the grazing cattle which are fed on the hills which bound the valley. They suffer more for want of water than anything else, and have to go a long distance for it.

9. There are four relief camps in my division. As yet they must be regarded as only tentative. The people strongly object to go to them, preferring to combine a daily dole with a gipsy wandering through the towns begging from the respectable classes.

10. Cholera has broken out during my absence in the Tripatore camp, and twenty-six cases occurred in six days. The Tahsildar lacks backbone, and the medical officer hesitated to incur expenditure without sanction; the result being that the emaciated wretches sank through exhaustion. The moment I returned, I sanctioned what was necessary in the way of food. Supplied medicine, of which Mr. Pritchard was out of stock, improved the water-supply, &c. The poor wretches, almost naked, were lying with the cholera excreta all over their pitiful rags, and these covered with flies. I had to burn these rags and provide new ones of coarse dungry. There have been no deaths since a little humanity was shown to the sufferers, and I trust that the cost will not be objected to. I have, for upwards of two months, been crying for another medical officer. My Dresser was taken away, when there was both cholera and famine in the division. Nearly 400 deaths have totalled up since then, and the medical officer at last promised has not come. Harur, the vaunted sanitarium of the Utangarai taluq, has lost 103 lives out of a little more than 2,000 in a few weeks. Fifty deaths at Kadathur, close on forty at the little village of Ananthur, fifty or more in Kammevellur, twenty-six in a week at Tripatore, and so on.

11. I regret that I have not had the time to make this report fuller. The weekly letters which I have been sending you have kept you *au courant* with what is going on. I leave it to you to express an opinion as to the state of things in forwarding this letter.

12. That there are shortcomings I must acknowledge, but I think that these could not have been avoided. The *vis inertiae* of ignorance and unsympathy are difficult to overcome. We are doing our best.

FORWARDED for the information of Government through the Board. Mr. LeFanu appears to have done fairly, and will no doubt accomplish more now that he has more supervision at his disposal.

2. A more recent report shows that cholera has subsided, but a medical subordinate is greatly needed for the Head Assistant Collector's office.

SALEM,
9th February 1877.

(Signed) C. T. LONGLEY,
Collector.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

2. Mr. LeFanu's account of the condition of the relief camp at Tripatore during the cholera outbreak shows that the Tahsildar is unfit for a charge involving such

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
28th February 1877.

responsibility. The Collector will report the name of this officer, what his general character for efficiency is, and whether it is possible to arrange for his place being filled by a more efficient man.

3. The Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, will be requested to send, if possible, another medical subordinate to the Head Assistant's Division.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

No. 882-B. ORDER THEREON, 28th February 1877, No. 870-A.

Miscellaneous.

THE Government desire that the Head Assistant Collector of Salem, Mr. LeFanu, will report immediately whether the twenty-six persons attacked by cholera at the Tripatore Relief Camp all died, and if not, whether any, and if so, how many cases proved fatal, and whether their fatal termination is to be attributed to the patients not being sufficiently provided with food.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
" the Collector of Salem.
" the Head Assistant Collector of Salem.
" the Financial Department.

Exd. L. F. Zephir.

Revenue Department

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
Dated 19th February 1877.
No. 696:-

Read the following:-

No. 147/74

From

The Actg Head Assistant
Collector of
Salem

To The Collector of Salem

Sir,

With reference to Board's Proceedings No. 3944 dated 21st December 1876 received by me on the 18th Instno: I have the honor to state that the relief machinery in my Division is of four kinds.

I Irrigation repairs

II Road new construction

Village

Govt. of [1877] Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated February, 28th.

Read

Ended

G.O., 28th February 1877, No. 870-A.

FEBRUARY.
Nos. 882-A—882-B.

FAMINE RELIEF, No. 614-A.

Progress of Relief Operations in the Head Assistant Collector's Division, Salem District.—Desiring Mr. LeFanu to report immediately how many of the twenty-six persons attacked by cholera at the Tripatore Relief Camp died, and whether these deaths are to be attributed to the patients not being sufficiently provided with food.

III Village Relief works
IV Gratuitous relief.

2. Regarding Irrigation repairs a long list of tanks and channels needing repair was got ready and 40 of these were selected at a rough estimate of some Rupees 33,232. This work has been entrusted to the Public Works Department and from what Mr Wash told me yesterday, about 20 of these are started and the overseers and Range officers are hard at work on the remainder. I have inspected some of the largest in progress. Good work was being done on all with a rapidity unusual in the annals of the Division. On one work some 400 coolies were present. The great check on the Department is

is the want of funds; there are debts for which have not yet been complied with. The coolies were generally satisfied and the only thing I fear is that they will do the work, which is on tank, so quickly that we shall be at a loss to find them work later on.

3. Of roads there are seven under construction in the Division all under the Revenue Department. Their aggregate length is 36 miles excluding the portion of one road which goes into the Baramputa District. I regret that I cannot speak of finished roads "as good as any in the Division". But work

works have not been sanctioned long enough, the allotments spent are too small and the want of water precludes anything of the kind, but I may say that nearly the whole length is marked out, channels dug, in many places gravelled or gravel in course of collection. The total sanction is Rs 50,000 and the reported expenditure to date Rs 40,000 nearly. Owing to the daily wage at first paid, there was much loss to Government but the Lake system is in full progress.

On some of the roads I have been compelled to stay work pending preparation of

of estimate and on others I have confined the work to collection of materials for the same reason but as the irrigation works are being taken in hand, the people generally will not suffer.

It is very wasteful working without estimate.

The coolies generally complain against the Lak system but they have not complained of being cheated in the measurements which is of more importance. In the last month besides travelling by rail, I have marched nearly 170 miles of which go were done on horseback. I have inspected every work of

of any importance in charge of the Revenue Department in my Division.

Of minor works 53 have been sanctioned at a cost of Rs 2401 most of which are for the improvement of water supply. The returns for these have not come in although on the 24th Altos. I called for them. I cannot therefore say what the measurements of works done are. There is a general want of helpfulness amongst the people and even after they get a grant for what they urgently want they seem to wait for some one to stand at their backs and make

870 A
b

make them do the work. One very useful work is the Kanjiva river reservoir in the Manjavadi valley, which the villagers are expecting on contract. Unfortunately we cannot put water in it when full.

I was surprised when there to see the general poor condition of the grazing cattle which are fed on the hills which surround the valley. They suffer more for want of water than anything else and have to go a long distance for it.

There are four relief camps in my Division. As yet they must be regarded as only tentative

kentakine. The people strong-
ly objected to us taking preser-
ving to combine a daily dole
with a gipsy meandering through
the towns begging from the
respectable classes.

Cholera has broken
out during my absence in
the Tripatur camp and 26
cases occurred in 6 days. The
Collindar locks backbone
and the medical officer hesi-
tates to incur expenditure
without sanction, the result
being that the emaciated
wretches sank through ex-
haustion. The moment I
returned I sanctioned what
was necessary in the way of
food. Supplied medicine
of which Mr Pritchard was
out of stock, improved the water
supply &c. The poor wretches,
almost naked, were lying with
the cholera spectre all over their
pitiful rags and these cover-
ed with flies. I had to burn
these rags and provide new ones
of coarse dungry. There have
been no deaths since a little
humanity was shewn to the
sufferers and I trust that the cost
will not be objected to. I have
for upwards of two months
been crying for another medical
officer. My Dresser was taken
away when there was both cholera
and famine in the division.

Nearly

Nearly 400 deaths have taken
up since then and the medical
officer at last promised has
not come. Harini, the vaunt-
ed sanitarium of the Uttan
-garai Taluk, has lost 103 lives
out of a little more than 2000
in a few weeks. Fifty deaths
at Kadathuri, close on 40
at the little village of Eman-
thuru, 50 or more in Kammenel-
lur, 26 in a week at Tripatore
and so on.

I regret that I have
not had the time to make this
report fuller. The weekly letter
which I have been sending you
have kept you au courant with
what is going on. I leave
it

870A
8

to you to express an opinion
as to the state of things in pre-
paring this letter.

That there are short
comings I must acknowledge
but I think that these could
not have been avoided. The
vis inertiæ of ignorance and
unsympathy are difficult
to overcome. We are doing our best.

I have &c
Sd/ A. Scott
Collector's office,
Tripatore, 7th Feby 1877

Sd/ A. Scott Collector

(True Copy)
forwarded for the
information of Government through
the Board. Mr Le Fanu appears
to have done fairly, and will
no doubt accomplish more now
that he has more supervision
at

at his disposal.

A more recent report shows that cholera has subsided, but a medical subordinate is greatly needed for the Head Assistant Collector's office.

Salem Collector's office } H. C. T. Longley
Salem 9th Febry 1877 } Collector

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. Mr. Le Fanu's account of the condition of the relief camp at Tripatore during the cholera outbreak shows that the Sahukdar is unfit for a charge involving such responsibility. The Collector will report the name of this officer, what his

8705/9

his general character for efficiency is and whether it is possible to arrange for his place being filled by a more efficient man.

3. The Surgeon General Indian Medical Department will be requested to send if possible another medical subordinate to the Head Assistant's division.

(True copy & Extract)

H. Ewbank
Asst with Secretary

To
The Additional Secretary
to Government
Revenue Department

Copy to

Rec'd 1877 Sept 24

7 Lo 824

Treasury Department
Bureau of Revenue

Office Internal Revenue
Sept 20th 1877

Sir

I submit herewith
for your information
& instruction
Copy of letter
from Collector
of Salem
dated Sept 18th
1877
relative to
Collection
of Legacy
Duty
on the Estate
of
Nathaniel Peabody
deceased
late
of Salem
Respectfully
Your obt Servt
[illegible]

No. 842

Rec'd 1877 Sept 24

7 Lo 824

Revenue Department.

7 No. 1191.

8704
11

From the Asg. 1st Asst Collector of Salem

Dated 4th March 1877.

FOR ORDERS.

[illegible]

FOR ORDERS.

C6-3-11 C7-3-11

I regret this 26 fatal cases in Shipton Relief Camp.

If I rightly gather the purport of de Fonso's report — 26 cases of Abyssinian patients were allowed to sink from exhaustion - from want of food in the words to die of starvation in a relief camp - the Board order

Sh. Dr Hosse? upon how that work is being executed a petty contract is accord: with

Were 26 deaths caused?

Seems to be fully insufficient — I think the Secretary should at once be removed - Breach the Govt. service of his failure of duty. and the S. of S. for W. requested to obtain from him early explanation of conduct of H.M.O. in this most lamentable occurrence. H.C. 27/2

8760A/13

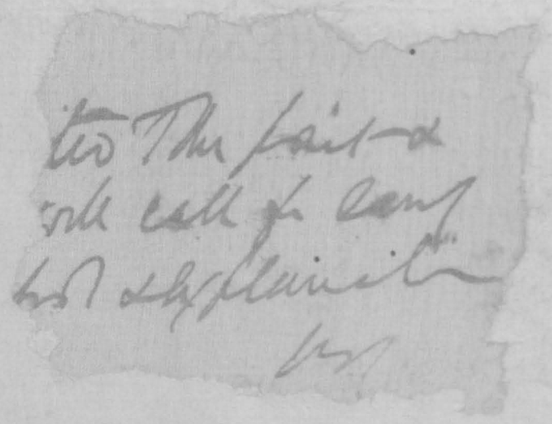
L. O

The Govt concur with the Bd in their strictures on the Talbragh Shipston but consider that the conduct of the Medical officer to whom the responsibility of expenditure of keeping the patients at the Shipston Camp alive was most reprehensible they desire that his name be reported to them with any explanation he may conduct which he may have to offer

I. O.

23/2/97

The Bd can not observe that work is being done on a system which the Govt. dislike is one of petty contract — their attention is en



Circ.

with S.O for approval

Council

H.C.84

24-2-77 & 28-2-77

No 870A

8702A/15

L. O. 28 February 1877

The Govt. desire that the Head Assistant Collector of Salem, Dr. Le Fanu, will report immediately whether the 26 persons attacked by cholera at the Tripatore Relief Camp ~~he~~ died, if not whether any, if so how long, ~~were~~ proved fatal, & whether their termination to be attributed to the patients not being sufficiently provided with food.

H.L.S.

28/3/77

2nd Copy to the Board of Revenue
do the Collector of Salem
do the Head Asst Collector do
the Financial Dept

10/6

Dispt:

S.o 25/9/77

copy to Dirt &
Offr: + Wm Asst. Com
of Salem.

Genl
Coll
6-377