

CONFIDENTIAL

^{Co} Revenue (1893) Department.

G.O., No. 2151

Confidential No. 596

DATED 12 June 1893

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording with remark B.S. Submitting
report from Mr. de Fane on the agricultural
population of the North West district.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

$\frac{0}{15}$ —2,000—13-3-93.

(1893.)

ABSTRACT.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Current Number. 42.

From

E. Gilson Esqre
Madras.

Dated 20 June

Received 21st

Enclosures

No.

SUBJECT.

Regarding delay noticed
in G.O. No. 2151
12-6-93

BOARD OF REVENUE,
REV. SETT., L. RECORDS & AGRICULTURE.
Madras, 20 June 1893

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

My dear Sir -

G. B. 2151/1893 says "The
12.6.93

long delay on the part of the
Board of Revenue - I am
not concerned to defend the delay
and humbly wish to express the
hope that it is understood
clearly that I am not responsible
for it.

It seems a little hard on
one, who, during the past few
weeks, has been striving hard.

a large village about 14

Arni. The poorer classes of the
village

Not unsuccessfully as you seem
to know - to clear off arrears
to find himself the unhappy
recipient of these remarks -
I do not pretend to say how
they are to be avoided - I
can only trust that in the
mind of God they are not
applicable.

Yours very sincerely

Hibson.

a large village common

Arui. The poorer classes of the
village.

BOARD OF REVENUE,
REV. SETT., L. RECORDS & AGRICULTURE.

Madras,

20 June 1893
1 JUN 95

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

My dear Sir -

L. b. 2151/1111 says "the
12-6-93

long delay on the part of the
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clearly that I am not responsible
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It seems a little hard on
one, who, during the past few
months, has been striving hard.

a large village with

Arni. The poorer classes of the
village

Enclosure I.

Vellore, 8th March 1890

Sir

Mr. John Lancaster M.B.

L. Wilson points out
that he is not respon-
sible for this delay &
thinks it hard on
himself that the re-
lease should have been
made.

He now seems surprised
that he was responsible
as he has had charge
of the Prison at Vellore
of the Prison Office for
a comparatively short
time - He says he
is informed accordingly.
The fact he could hardly
have been made aware
of the delay without
comment and the
release could hardly
have been left hanging

Wm

certainly not

under. I find from
the records concerning the original report which
mentioned - I am
surprised at Wilson's
conduct in not
providing it as a
personal reflection on
myself & ...

Yours truly

23/6/50

Wm

Ch

M.B.A.

est.

DO not accordingly

Ch

forward

appearance

to of

with the

I myself

On the 18th of the month

I met the Deputy Collector at Chitpau
a large village about 14 miles from
Arni. The poorer classes of the
village

FOR ORDERS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Current No.

D.V. from L. Nelson

From

Dated 20 June 1893.

FOR ORDERS.

Slide from the
the condition of the
cultural population of
cultural traits in the
and of 1910/90 was
not reported until
10 May 193. (as in
titled 1 3 years / and
in recording the
in was remarked that
the long delay in the
of the report in passing
was a very interesting

a large village about 14 miles from
Arni. The poorer classes of the
village

Enclosure I.

Vellore, 8th March 1890

Sir

Surgeon Major John Lancaster M.B.
District Surgeon
North Arcot

✓
To

Mr. J. H. Le Stan Esq. B.A.
Collector, North Arcot.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward
a report of the physical appearance
and condition of the people of
villages inspected by me with the
Deputy Collector of Arni and myself
in February last.

On the 18th of the month
I met the Deputy Collector at Chetpat
a large village about 14 miles from
Arni. The poorer classes of the
village

with the neighbouring hamlets were collected in the early morning on the bank of a large tank and under the shade of two of the finest peepul trees in the District. 808 were assembled here, men, women and children out of a population of 4638. These were chiefly low caste people, a few Sulus and Gujaris and a sprinkling of Pathans. Out of the number that were present, (and I presume that there were others absent who were old and poor) I selected carefully 716, who showed signs of privation and great poverty. You also saw these soon after as they were arranged in lines: - there were very poor, many of them much emaciated, others

others less so; the bones of the chest were prominent and the hollows above and below the collar bones well marked. The Sulus and Gujaris were very wretched indeed; some of the children had the harsh dry skin with the brown puffy hair on back and shoulders. Those children who were born in the famine years 1876, 1877 and 1878, now approaching maturity showed well marked signs of bad development.

716 were selected out of 808 present, or a percentage of 1888; the percentage to total population was 15.

Lehetpur was once a flourishing village, and is also now fairly well cultivated, but it

it is chiefly interesting too for its
old dismantled fort, and as the
abode of the devoted Roman Catholic
Priest, Father Darras, who is the
most striking figure here: - a tall
spare built man with a flowing
grey beard, keen blue eyes, and a
complexion tanned brown as
old Mahogany by the fierce sun:
he walked up to the collector's tent,
and in a very interesting conversation
with that officer fully bore out
the results of my examination. For
31 long years he has worked in
Southern India, 12 of which have
been spent in this village among
the poor, and his opinion is
invaluable. A gallant priest and
true missionary, bronzed almost
to

the complexion of the people amongst
whom he has so long laboured, his
blue eyes, clear cut features and
cheery voice still bespoke the European,
and as he left the tent we were
filled with admiration and respect
for him with some regret at the
thought of his lonely life.

I next day visited the
village of Pinamangalam with
32; here we found 177 men, women
and children, collected by the road
side; of these I selected 168, who
showed a poor physique and
marks of privation, or 94 per
cent of those present, and 19 per cent
of the total population.

In the evening I visited
from the village of Kallipattu, on the
whole

a well-to-do village; 102 men, women and children were assembled here; of these I selected 72 as poor in physique and ill-fed, or 64 per cent of the population and 70 per cent of those inspected. I then went on to the village of Randon, situated among some fine old trees; under the shadow of one of these, 123 people were assembled; out of these I selected 79 men, women and children (ie) 22 per cent of the total population and 64 per cent of those assembled.

The next morning we visited the villages of Velai and Nacal; these were well-to-do villages with cultivation all round and under large tanks, and the people here were not so poor as in

in the other villages. In the village of Velai, with a population of 287, 50 were present, of these I selected 15 or only 5 per cent of the population, and 30 per cent of those present.

In the village of Nacal, 32 were present, out of a population of 253; I inspected 32, all of these were poor in appearance and ill-fed, ie: 12 per cent of the population, and 100 per cent of those inspected.

In the evening we visited the villages of Brahmanakateri and Karapannanthal of the Wandiwash Taluk: - there was much cultivation here, and the soil looked poor. Out of 624 people, there were 161 for examination, of these 141 were selected by me, men, women and children or 22 per cent of the population. The

a next village was Purupath with a
a population of 175; of these 19 were
a present and all were selected, (ie)
10 per cent of the village and 100 per
cent of those present.

The total number inspected
by me in these villages was 1636, -
of whom I selected 1330, viz: 290
males, 502 females and 538 children.
The percentage of poor and ill-fed
to the total population was 17 per cent
and of those inspected, 81 per cent.
The majority of these people were
Pariahs and low castes, 75 per
cent of these, as I said before,
^{must be considered}
to be in poverty.

In all the villages there
were 2 or 3 lepers in dire poverty.
I need not go again fully into the
physical

physical condition of those I selected -
as a medical man - but in selecting
them I considered their skin, their
anaemic condition, the appearance
of the chest and limbs and general
physique, bearing and clothing, all
of which showed signs of poor
feeding and great poverty.

Work is plentiful in the
district both in Railway and
D. P. W. Works. It may be asked,
and has been asked, why do the
people not go for work to these places.
The answer is simple. Some of
them do go and are absent from
the villages; others cannot go; they
would not be taken on any works
from their poor physique, and they
cannot

cannot do the work of railway
coolies: others cannot leave their
villages, they are tied down to it
from various reasons; they and their
fathers have worked for the better
class of ryots from time immemorial;
they are probably in debt to their
employers, and they know the
Railway work is only temporary,
and that once there, they will never
be employed again in the villages;
there are other reasons which are
well known:—the natural dislike
of the people to serve contractors
and to leave their villages for perhaps
an uncertainty.

In conclusion I beg to
thank

thank you for the kind help you have
given me in my inspections, and to
thank the Deputy Collector, Mr. Ghatala
Sahib for the careful arrangements
he made for my visits; his experience
of the people was also very valuable.

I am etc

(Signed) John Lancaster
District Surgeon, A. N. S.

(True Copy)

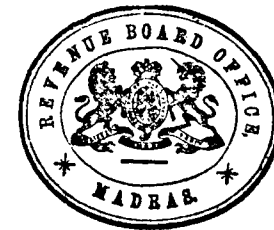
per A. de Haan
Collector

(True Copy)

My assistant
Secretary

8

Confidential



Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture).

Dated 18th May 1893.

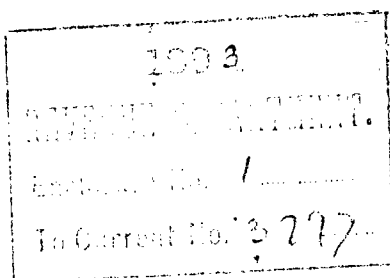
No. 2942 M.S.

READ the following letter from the collector
of North Arcot, dated 8th April 1890,

N^o. 396 : -
En.

I have the honour to submit
the report called for by the Board
in its Proceedings N^o. 4866 M.S.; dated
6th December 1889.

2. The two tracts mentioned
by the Reverend Mr. Conklin were
between Chittoor and Katpadi and
between Arni and Chetput. Mr. Conklin
is in America, but a subordinate of
the Mission - the Reverend Mr. Abraham -
was



was placed at my disposal for the purpose of the enquiry.

3. In the first named tract my attention was specially called to the villages of Kottapalli, Bommasaundram, Pallur, Vandrantangal, Karizeri and Brahmapuram. It was not possible to inspect the whole population in these villages, as a rumour got afloat that I had come to convert them to Katab, and another, due to the presence of Mr. Abraham, that I wanted to make them all turn Christians. Those, however, whom I did inspect were a very fair sample of the poorer classes. In Kottapalli, I inspected 324 persons, of whom 135 were adults and 189 were children. Of these,

the unmistakably ill-fed and feeble numbered 141. In Bommasaundram, of 111 adults and 93 children inspected, 101 persons belonged to the distressed class. This is the more remarkable, as Bommasaundram is an exceptionally favored village surrounded by hills, the tank of 9 months capacity - is well supplied and the soil, of a rich chocolate colour, is productive. The air was heavy with the scent of lime gardens for which this place is famous and the crops were promising. The new Railway ran within a mile and a half of the village, so that those fit for work ought to have been able to obtain it. It was in this

this village that the Relief Stampede took place, so that of a population of 3000 I could, though ably assisted by the Sahildar, muster only a handful. It is evident, however, that even in the most prosperous villages there is a large percentage of distressed persons. In Pullur, of 154 persons examined, 64 were qualified for Relief Camp. In Vandrantangab, I found 120 persons fit for relief, out of 187 examined.

In Marigiri I selected 38 out of 58 present as exceptionally distressed.

In Brahmapuram the number was 70 out of 140 inspected.

4. As Government has hesitated to

to accept my opinion, as an old and experienced District and Famine Officer, or that of the Reverend Mr. Leunklin, an experienced Missionary, as conclusive on such matters, I requested Dr. Lancaster, the Zillah Surgeon who served with me in the great famine, to examine these persons and favour me with his opinion. He writes as follows:-

"I started on Wednesday morning last for the little village of Brahmapuram about 2½ miles from Katpadi. It is rather a well-to-do village under Kayal tank and near a channel from off the Palar; its population is 1000.

I examined about 168 people mostly

mostly low caste, with 2 Kshatriyas and 6 Sudras. Among these, there were 15 about 50 years of age and upward who were feeble and old and not fit for any work. The remainder including the children looked ill-fed and poor. Apparently from 15 to 20 per cent in this village were extremely poor. Some of the children were ill-developed and anaemic, while others looked fairly well. The Railway works are not far off; so, for the able bodied, there can be no want of work. There was one leper in this village.

We then started across a rather poor country with a Muramba soil

soil to the village of Karigeri, where I examined 35 people; of these 7 were over 50 years of age and were only fit for very light work indeed. Both adults and children looked very poor and ill-fed. Those examined were evidently the poorest of the village and formed about 20 per cent of the population.

In the afternoon, the Subdar and I inspected the village of Pandrantangal, about 2 miles off Katpadi; this is on the whole a well-to-do village. I examined about 70 men, women and children; of these 17 were old and feeble, and of the whole number examined here about 80 per cent looked very poor.

poor and ill-fed: these were chiefly
pariats. The percentage of poverty-
stricken people in this village
may be calculated at about 22
percent.

The next village (Bommacamundram)
we visited was a very picturesque
one and well cultivated situated
about 2 miles from the Ichittor
Road. I examined about 105 men,
women and children, chiefly pariats,
and about 5 ~~to~~ 6 Mohamadians.
These were also the poorest from the
village and 80 percent of them
were in very poor condition. The
village and its hamlets contain
about 3104 inhabitants; the number
of those who are ill-fed and poor
may

may be taken at 25 to 27 percent.

Next morning we went to the
village of Pallur about 6 miles
on the Ichittor Road; this is a
well-to-do flourishing village under
large tanks. Its population is about
300. I examined about 65 men,
women and children: of these 7
were over 50 years of age and were
emaciated and not fit for any
work, the remainder of the group
looked ill-fed and poor. About
20 per cent of the village may be
considered under-fed.

The next village was
Kottapalle, which with its hamlets
has a population of about 771.
We examined 126 men, women and
children of the poorest class; 15
of

of these were very old and feeble and unfit for work and out of the whole of these 126 souls, about 70 percent were ill-fed and poor. The native Christians in all these villages are very poor. In King the whole village, the percentage of the ill-fed may be considered to be about 25 percent.

Physical condition. The people in all these villages who were assembled for my inspection were chiefly Pariahs and were all very poor in appearance, and evidently, with few exceptions, ill-fed. Many of them showed signs of a chronic want of food. They were lanky with dry harsh skins, pinched faces and great hollows

hollows under the arm-pits and below the ribs. They did not show signs of actual starvation but that they were ill-fed and poor there could be no reasonable doubt.

I cannot, however, agree with the Reverend Mr. Leasklin and Dr. McKinnis as to the large percentage of habitually ill-fed people. Even leaning to the side of humanity, as I am doing, I cannot think the general percentage of this class exceeds 20 to 25 percent of each village.

The percentage of ill-fed among the Pariahs is very high. I put it down as 75 percent of this class, and the Reverend Mr. A. Williams, a Tamil Missionary of the American Mission

Driscoll, who has laboured among these people for 30 years, considers the percentage of ill-fet people among the pariahs of these villages, to be 90 percent."

5. It should be remembered, in connection with the above remarks, that the track examined is on each side of the main Road leading to the Madras Railway from Chittoor, and parallel to the new Villupuram Gurdakal Railway which has been under construction for the last 18 months.

6. The 2nd track was inspected by me in company of Dr. Laurence and with the assistance of Mr. Chatata Sahib. From the following tabular statement

statement it will be seen that we inspected 1636 persons, of whom 1330 were fit objects for relief.

Serial Number			Name of village	Population according to last census	Number inspected	Number selected	Particulars			Percentage of the selected to total population (Col. 705)	Percentage of the selected to the inspected (Col. 706)
1	2 Cont. or Jajir	3 Name of Pariah Division					Males	Females	Children		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Jajir	Arum Division	Kalliripattu	162	102	72	19	20	33	44	70
2			Lundirikampattu	96	45	26	5	13	8	27	57
3			Siteri	229	119	62	14	29	19	27	52
4			Velai	287	50	15	11	-	4	5	30
5			Tasab	253	32	32	5	14	13	12	100
6			Pudupattu	175	19	19	4	2	13	10	100
7			Vinnamangalam	883	177	168	70	62	36	19	94
8			Raudam	304	123	79	24	47	8	25	64
9	Government	Pariahs	Kadapamantab and	624	161	141	36	49	56	22	87
10			Brahmanakatteri								
11			Settipattu	4638	808	716	102	266	348	15	88
12			Edayarkolattu								
13			Kannanur								
14			Palampettai								
Total				7651	1636	1330	290	502	538	17	81

7. Both here, as in the previous track, leprosy was common. Some actual skeletons were seen, and children here, as there, presenting almost, and in a few instances, the very

very worst type of famine children;
Prominent collar bones and shoulders
staring ribs; rough scaly skin, with
yellowish hair on the back, and great
hollowness at the arm-pits, a typical sign
of under-feeding. I would also quote
the opinion of the Reverend Father
Darras, who has worked without
interruption among the people for
upwards of 30 years, the last 12 of
which were spent at Lehetpuk, the
chief place of distress in the district.
His opinion is that 20 per cent of the
population get food enough for
7 months of the year and suffer privation
for the other five. Half the parish
according to him are habitually
in distress - "Dauela Muxere" Lehetpuk
is on the road from Arui to Lungee,
and about 2 miles from the
South

South Arcoth frontier.

8. I cannot do better, with reference
to the tract in question, than submit a
copy of Dr. Lancaster's letter, dated
8th March 1890.

9. The Board wished me
to examine the tract mentioned
by Dr. McKinnis. That gentleman
mentioned no special tract, and
as he was a medical missionary
convinced to Ranipet. I have no quite
to the tract to which he referred.
He died so far back as August
1888, and I have no means of
ascertaining further what he meant.
His colleague too, at Ranipet, the
Rev. Mr. Conklin has returned to
America, I believe for good.

Resolution.

Submitted to Government
with

with reference to para 4 of G. O. No. ³⁶⁶/₂₀₋₅₋₈₈
and in continuation of Board's Proceedings

No. ⁴⁹/₂₇₋₁₋₉₀ No. ³⁸⁶/₄₋₁₋₉₀

2. The Acting Commissioner understands that Mr. Kelloggston intended to have the village analysis registers sent for and examined in the Office but this was unfortunately overlooked, owing to pressure of work. The Board has examined the statistics of the population of the villages referred to in the letter and observes that the census of 1891 shows a large increase in population over the figures of 1881. In regard to the villages situated in the Brandiwash and Polor Taluks, it may be noted that the total number of coolies on

on relief works in each of the taluks as a whole never exceeded 3.14 and 1.52 per cent respectively of the population, even during the height of the distress. The numbers on gratuitous relief were less than one per cent in Brandiwash, and almost insignificant in Polor. In the face of these facts, it seems unnecessary to carry out a detailed examination of the village analysis registers.

(Enclosure & Extract)

M. J. M. M.
Secretary

The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department

Copy to the Collector, N. W. M. M.

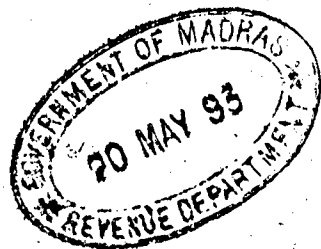
81

Confidential No 29
1893.

Board of Revenue
(Revenue Settlement, Land Records
and Agriculture),
MADRAS.

Current Number 3797

To
The Secretary to
Government
Revenue Department



No. of Enclosures. |

Proceedings, dated 18-5-1893

No. 2942 his

Subject.

Submitting the report called for in
Sle 366 regarding the condition of
the agricultural population
of the North Arcot district submitted
by the Board of Revenue that
it is unnecessary to carry out
the detailed examination of the
village survey registers, in the
face of certain facts cited.

Confidential

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Current No. 3797/93

From The Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement)

Dated 20th May 1893

FOR ORDERS.

It is submitted that the
current may be recorded.
The report now submitted
was called for as far
back as 1888, in con-
nection with the confidential
enquiry instituted, under
the orders of the Govt of India,
into the economic condition
of the agricultural classes.
In the Board's report on
this subject disposed of
in L.O. No 366 dt 27th
May 1888 it was stated
(para 23) that Mr
Le Faure, Collector of North
Arcot, had been informed
by two American Missionaries,
Messrs Conklin & Hekkins,
that there were in certain
sections of North Arcot -
"many poor people, who
though they do not ^{actually} starve,
go through life on insufficient food."

ॐ

N
P

Sub
 the
 of
 in the
 it
 the
 with
 face

I was through Wandiwash & Arrived in
March 1891. but did not know of this
League. The result of my tour was that
Messrs. Brooks & Kitchener were startled - but
the proportion of the population drawn in was
but small. I have no doubt though that
many of the low caste people lead a very
hard life in this district - but they do live
and multiply in a surprising manner.

W
June

Wm Spence

It is clear from his letter
 up to that very great
 poverty exists in the tract
 to which his report refers
 despite the fact that during
 the recent distress the pro-
 portion of the population
 which came on relief was
 considerable. The people
 inspected were chiefly
 perishes, and admitted
 that the bulk of this class
 lives from hand to mouth &
 in bad seasons they are
 fast approaching starvation.
 Anticipating this fact
 the population increases
 as was pointed out in
 the note on the condition
 of the perishes in this tract.
 It is difficult to see what
 can be done to improve their
 condition -

Culy
 3 June.

FOR ORDERS.

Confidential

C No. 3787

Report regarding the
 alleged poverty in
 certain sections of the
 North Coast District

Heads

Order No 2151 d 12-6-93.

Recorded with the remarks

2. The long delay
 in the passing of orders
 on Mr. de la Rue's report
 embodied in the Prop read
 above is ~~unacceptable~~
 and is ~~very unsatisfactory~~

9-6-93 Culy

To the Board of Revenue (P. S. 14)

12/6/93

sent to Press.

for Signature.

ed.

G.O. N.

DATED

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USE OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO

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