

Rev

Revenue (1893) Department.

CONFIDENTIAL.

G.O., No. 2151

Confidential No. 596

DATED 12 June 1893

[Despatch Abstract.]

According to the remarks B.S. submitting
report from Mr. de Fama 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.

$\frac{0}{18}$ —2,000—13-3-93.

(1893.)

ABSTRACT.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Current Number. 42.

From

E. Gibson 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



My dear Dalton -

4.6. 2/5/93 says "the
12-6-93

long delay on the part of the
Board of Revenue - I am
not concerned to defend the delay
and surely 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.

Not unsuccessfully as you must
be aware - to clear off an
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
kind of fore they are not
applied to

Yours very sincerely

Hibson

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

Madras, 20 June 1893



My dear Sir -

G. B. 2151/1111 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
months, has been striving hard.

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

He has even suggested
that he was responsible
as he has had charge
of the Prison at Lough
for a comparatively short
time - He says he
is proud accordingly.

The few who could hardly
pass over such a misde-
meanor with any
comment and the
remainder could hardly
have been less strongly

yes
WM

certainly not

under. I tried to

retrace in cutting the original report which
mentioned - I am
surprised at Gibson's
excusing it as a
personal reflection on
him.

Ch
23/6/55

W. J. Jones
23 June

Ch
21 June

Do not accordingly

Ch
24/6

On the 18th of the month

FOR ORDERS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Current No.

D. V. from L. Gibson

From

Dated 20 June 1893.

FOR ORDERS.

Hide from report on
the condition of the liquor
culture population of
western Canada in 1890
and 1891/92 was
not reported until
10 May 1893. (as in
travel 1 3 years / and
in recording the papers
in was concerned that
the long delay on the part
of the Board in getting
order is very unsatisfactory

Enclench I.

Vellore, 8th March 1890

Sir

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

Sir

W. J. H. Le Gann 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 Chitpali
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 Brahamans. 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:— these 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 88.5; the percentage to total population was 15.

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

it is chiefly interesting thus 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, brought 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 Timamangalam 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
first 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 44 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 (i.e.) 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, i.e. 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 Wandurash 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 Pudurpathi with a population of 175; of these 19 were present and all were selected, (i.e.) 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 anæmic 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 their 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

a cannot do the work of railways
a, Coolies: others cannot leave their
a, 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 have etc

(signed) John Lancaster
District Surgeon, A. A. A.

(True Copy)

per H. Le. Haum
Collector

(True Copy)

Myanmaw
Secretary

8

Confidential



Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture).

Dated 18th May 1893.

No. 2942 Mis

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 Mis; 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

1893.
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.
Enclosure No. 1
To Current No. 3297

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, Kommasaundram, 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 deport them to Natal, 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}

the unmistakably ill-fed and feeble numbered 141. In Kommasaundram, of 111 adults and 93 children inspected, 101 persons belonged to the distressed class. This is the more remarkable, as Kommasaundram is an exceptionally favoured 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 Sahaidar, muster only a handful. It is evident, however,

that even in the most prosperous villages there is a large residuum of distressed persons. In Pullur,

of 154 persons examined, 64 were qualified for Relief Camp. In

Tandrantangal, I found 120 persons fit for Relief, out of 187 examined.

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

In Brahmapuram the number was 70 out of 40 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. Leoukhin, an experienced Missionary, as conclusive on such matters, I requested Dr. Lancaster, the Civil 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 Nagal tank and near a channel from off the Palar; its population is 1000.

I examined about 268 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 anæmic, 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
the village.

We then started across
a rather poor country with a Kaurambo
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
Subsidiary and I inspected the
village of Vandrantangal, 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
pariahs. The percentage of poverty-
stricken people in this village
may be calculated at about 22
percent.

The next village (Bommamuram)
we visited was a very picturesque
one and well cultivated situated
about 2 miles from the Chittoor
Road. I examined about 105 men,
women and children, chiefly pariahs,
and about 5 ^{or} 6 Mohamadan.
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 Chittoor 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 gang
looked ill-fed and poor. About
20 per cent of the village may be
considered under-fed.

The next village was
Kothapalle, 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. Taking 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. Nekhuins as to the large percentage
of habitually ill-fed people. Even
leaving 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

very worst type of famine children;

Prominent collar bones and shoulders
staring ribs; rough scaly skin, with
yellowish hair on the back, and great
hollows at the arm-pits, a typical sign
of under-feeding. I would also quote
the opinion of the Reverend Father
Damas, who has worked without
interruption among the people for
upwards of 30 years, the last 12 of
which were spent at Lhetpuk, the
chief place of distress inspected.

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 pariahs
according to him are habitually
in distress - "Dangla Duxie" Lhetpuk
is on the road from Arui to Lungee,
and about 2 miles from the
South

South Arak frontier.

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

9. The Board wished me
to examine the track mentioned
by Dr. Hekkins. That gentleman
mentioned no special track, and
as he was a medical missionary
confined to Ranipet I have no quite
to the track 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^d Mr. Leontkin has returned to
America, I believe for good.

Resolution.

Submitted to Government
with

with reference to para 4 of G. O. No. $\frac{366}{20-5-88}$

and in continuation of Board's Proceedings

No. $\frac{49}{27-2-90}$ No. $\frac{386}{2-6-90}$

2. The Acting Commissioner understands that Mr. Belogstoun 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 Polar 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 Polar. In the face of these facts, it seems unnecessary to carry out a detailed examination of the village analysis registers.

(Enclosure & Extract)

My dear Sir,
Secretary

I The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department

Copy to the Collector, N. W. M. 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 — 1893,
No. 2942 his

Subject.

Submitting the report called for in
S.O. 366 regarding the condition of
the agricultural population
of the Madras District submitted
by the Board of Revenue.
It is unnecessary to carry out
the detailed examination of the
village anagram 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 G.O. No 366 of 27th
May 1888 it was stated
(para 23) that Mr
L. 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."

On this the last observed, in
para 4 of L.O no 366
of 27th May 1888, that
the opinions of these two
ministers merited careful
consideration & directed the
Collector to ascertain definitely
the sections of the district
alluded to by these gentlemen,
satisfy himself personally,
report the result.

Mr. Le Faun submitted his
report to the Board in April
1890 the Board after keeping
it for 3 years now sends
it up to Govt with a brief
Proceedings. Mr. Le Faun has not had much to do upon
as Mr. Conklin is now in
America & Mr. Hopkins
died of hydrophobia in
1888. ~~Mr. Hopkins~~ ^{his} report
deals only with the tract
referred to by Mr. Conklin
which appears to consist
of 20 villages - 6 near
Chitoor, and 14 in the
vicinity of Amri. Mr. Le Faun's
enquiries were made in
conjunction with the District
Surgeon Dr. Lances & the
result of them ~~is~~ is to

reveal a considerable
amount of poverty amongst
the lowest classes. Mr.
Le Faun's conclusion
is that only about 20
to 25 per cent of the
inhabitants of each village
are habitually ill-fed
though the percentage of
such people in the Paich
caste alone is very high,
being 75 per cent. The
Board, in submitting
Mr. Le Faun's report the

Govt points out that
the Census of 1891 shows
a large increase in the
population of the villages
to which the report relates,
and that the number of
Coolies on relief works,
in the two talukas in which
these villages are situated,
was very small even
during the height of the
drought - the inference is that poverty
is very marked in the tract in question.
No action seems necessary

on the report which may,
it is submitted be recorded
with a remark regarding the
great delay in its submission by
the Board July 1

I was through Wandiwash & Amri in
March 1891 - but did not know of this
enquiry. The result of my tour was that
chief work & kiln were started - but
the proportion of the population 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
11 June

W. S. J. S.
W. S. J. S.

I am glad from his letter
 to see 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
 inconsiderable. The people
 inspected were chiefly
 perishes now and then
 here the bulk of the class
 lives from hand to mouth +
 in bad seasons they are
 seen suffering of food.
 Notwithstanding this fact
 the population increases
 as was pointed out in
 the note on the condition
 of the perishes in Christchurch.
 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

MMS

Order No 2151 d 12-6-93.

Recorded with the remark
 that the long delay
 in the part of the Board of
 Revenue in passing orders
 on Mr. de laune's report
 embodied in the Propo read
 above is ~~very~~ ^{very} unsatisfactory

9-6-93 Culy

To the Board of Revenue (A. S. M.)

12/6/93

sent to Press.

for Signature.

ed.

G.O., N.

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