Revenue (1897) Department.

PRESS SERIES.

G.O., No. 969

DATED 17th November.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Requisitioning the Famine Commr to report whether the emaciation of the famine stokers noticed by him was due to insufficient feeding before coming on the works, or to insufficient or unsuitable feeding after coming on the works, &c.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	(No. 1052)						

Revenue

~~Local & Munl.~~ (1897) Department.

~~The Hon: Mr Crosthwaite~~

CURRENT No. 2020

H. C. Stuart
27-10-97

From

The Sanitary Commissioner for Madras

To **Orders.**

No. 2120/S

Dated 19th Octo 1897

Received

Registered

Enclosures one.

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Forwards for information of Government his inspection notes as to the condition of famine relief workers in certain parts of the Kurnool Cuddapah & Bellary Distts

The Sanitary Commr forwards his notes of ~~the~~ inspections made in July and August as to the condition of the relief workers in Kurnool Cuddapah and Bellary. He has ~~has~~ learned a good deal of ~~famine~~ labour on these rules and has elaborated them carefully mainly in defence of himself and Mr La Fanu.

2. The Famine Commr inspected the Adoni works + Killeken in company with Dr King in July, and found 90 emaciated babies on the work and 6 in the Killeken (Vide para 2 of P. in G.O. 686 10-8-97). On learning this Mr Stuart visited Adoni on the 1st August but could find only 11 emaciated babies;

he again visited the place on the 9th august in company with Mr Cole but could find no more cases. (vide Remks. at page 5 of the narrative in G.O. 789 16-9-97) Mr Stuart and Mr Cole have also written to Govt D.O. hinting that messrs Le Fanu & King are giving exaggerated and incorrect accounts to the Govt. subject of the duration & the efficiency of relief measures. The case with which Dr King has established his inspection notes afforded the means by which he defended himself and Dr Le Fanu against the above intended line

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

C. No. 90

Inspection Notes of the Sanitary Commissioner for Madras on the condition of Relief-workers.

CUDDAPAH.

Inspected, 14th and 15th July 1897.

The relief work in the neighbourhood of Cuddapah, originally opened on the 25th May, were inspected by me on the 14th July. The official rate for cholum was 11·45 imperial seers per rupee. The B wage for men was therefore 1 anna 6 pies, women 1 anna 5 pies, and working children 9 pies.

2. The following gives a statement of their physical condition :—

Gang No. 2 (Started 25th May).

—	Percentage good.	Percentage thin.	Percentage emaciated.	Percentage scorbutic.	Percentage anæmic.	Remarks.
Men	66·7	33·3	..	..	..	
Women	27·8	61 1	11·1	33·3	11·1	
Children	71·4	22 9	5·7	..	..	
Women with infants	28·6	71·4	..	57·1	..	

Gang No. 3 (Started 25th May).

—	Percentage good.	Percentage thin.	Percentage emaciated.	Percentage scorbutic.	Percentage anæmic.	Remarks.
Men	78·6	21·4	..	..	..	
Women	60·7	35·7	3·6	..	7·1	
Children	67·7	23·5	8 8	..	2·9	

Gang No. 4.

—	Percentage good.	Percentage thin.	Percentage emaciated.	Percentage scorbutic.	Percentage anæmic.	Remarks.
Men	62·5	37·5	..	..	12·1	
Children	53·3	40·0	6·7	..	..	

Gang No. 11 (Distance from village, 5 miles).

—	Percentage good.	Percentage thin.	Percentage emaciated.	Percentage scorbutic.	Percentage anæmic.	Remarks.
Men	11·1	88 9	..	..	..	Out of eighteen examined in this gang for scurvy, seven or 38·8 per cent. were found with spongy gums.
Women ..	53·3	40·0	6·7	..	6·7	
Children ..	55·2	44·8	..	..	..	

Gang No. 44.

—	Percentage good.	Percentage thin.	Percentage emaciated.	Percentage scorbutic.	Percentage anæmic.	Remarks.
Men	63·6	27·2	9·1	..	..	
Women	56·3	37·5	6·2	6·2	..	
Children	64·8	32·3	2 9	2 9	2 9	
Women with infants ..	27·3	72 7	..	..	..	

Gang No. 45.

—	Percentage good.	Percentage thin.	Percentage emaciated.	Percentage scorbutic.	Percentage anæmic.	Remarks.
Men	46·2	34·6	19·2	..	3·9	
Women	66·6	16·7	16·7	..	11·1	
Children	60·7	35·7	3·6	..	..	

3. The above shows that the general condition of health of the gangs cannot be regarded as satisfactory, notwithstanding the receipt of B wage. The Collector, Mr. Tate, who accompanied Mr. Higham and myself during part of the inspection of these works, maintained that they were all in their usual condition of health. I am equally strongly of opinion that this is not so; as I had the opportunity in 1894 of specially examining the state of health of the inhabitants of Cuddapah, and although, as shown in my notes embodied in G.O., No. 182 M., dated 7th February 1895, enlargement of the spleen was common, the peculiar signs of mal-nutrition which the present examination revealed were not exhibited. That there should be no difficulty in reconciling my opinion with facts, I excluded from the above tables all cases of manifestly malarial cachexia and enlargement of the spleen, and persons of both sexes where old age rendered the question of normal physical condition open to doubt. Indeed, the inhabitants of Cuddapah, so far as climatic conditions are concerned, have had an exceptionally good time of it for the past eighteen months as, owing to drought being inimical to the growth of the malarial germ, fever has undergone decided decline, with the effect of markedly diminishing the death-rate and improving the birth-rate, as shown by the following data :—

	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.
1893	16·0	46·9
1894	15·7	33·9
1895	22·6	32·9
1896	24·4	21·7

Nor has the improvement been confined to Cuddapah town; in the district during 1896, 2,154 deaths less from fever were recorded than in the preceding year. Having regard to the condition of persons on the works, more especially women and infants, my impression is that *far from the people being in their normal condition, relief had been offered at too late a period to enable the people to maintain it.*

4. The following are the remarks made by me on the kitchen :—

"The arrangement of the kitchen reflects credit upon Mr. Elliott, Chairman, Municipal Council, under whose personal superintendence arrangements have been made. The cases for admission have been judiciously chosen. Excluding all aged and otherwise broken down persons, it is found that of *Muhammadans* 45 per cent. are in good health, 28 per cent. in poor health, that 14 per cent. have spongy gums and 11·4 per cent. are markedly anæmic; of the children 16 per cent. were in poor health. In the latter respect the Malas presented a great contrast to the Muhammadans—45 per cent. of their children being in poor health and 6 per cent. in bad. Amongst the Madiga children, 32 per cent. were in poor health and 5 per cent. in bad. Trench latrines in the adjoining fields should be provided; a filter trench for the kitchen waste water should be constructed. No dipping of lotahs in the stock of water should be allowed."

BELLARY.

Adóni Relief Works.

Inspected 16th to 19th July and 21st and 22nd August 1897.

1. These works have been opened since November 1896. On a former inspection, in December 1896, I found the gangs had generally the appearance of being pinched for food. Most of the individuals included in that inspection were on the gangs from No. 1 to 22; they were then on the C wage and subject to severe fining. There can be no manner of doubt from their appearance at that time what would have been the

result had this course been continued. As matters stand, these gangs, taken as a whole, have improved in appearance, for they have been on the B wage within easy reach of their houses, and apparently have not been severely treated as to fining for some months. It might, therefore, be concluded that the B wage allows a considerable margin for recovery of health. This, I think, is not the case. Were sufficient money allowed for the purchase of fresh vegetables and fuel, it would just suffice for moderate labour; but, under the favourable circumstances stated, it has evidently failed to supply a margin *when once the strength has been really affected.* Thus, of the gangs from No. 1 to 22, all weakly persons were collected into gang 17, and this gang at time of my inspection was in very indifferent condition, as shown in the table given below. Not only is this difference noticeable as to the period at which persons have come on the work, but also with reference to the distances they have to walk to the works. Thus, the women with infants—not necessarily officially classed as nursing mothers—in gang 20 showed only one woman "thin" out of 19, which result contrasts with conditions found in other gangs. These women, however, were working within a furlong of their own village, Kulabari. It may happen in this case that the inhabitants of this special village are better off than elsewhere :—

A.

STATEMENT showing the condition of famine workers in the gangs inspected at Adóni.

Gang numbers.	Total number in the examined gang.	Good.								Thin.								Emaciated.			
		Men.		Women.		Children.		Women with infants.		Men.		Women.		Children.		Women with infants.		Men.		Women.	
		Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
No. 1	78	23	100·0	31	88·6	8	57·1	4	66·7	..	..	4	11·4	5	35·7	2	33·3	..	..	..	..
„ 4	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	20·0	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	80·0	..	..	..	..
„ 17	87	4	30·8	11	61·1	22	50·0	..	..	6	46·2	4	22·2	15	34·1	9	75·0	3	23·0	3	16·7
„ 20	19	..	..	..	..	..	..	18	94·7	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	5·3	..	..	..	..
„ 21	101	17	100·0	18	72·0	46	93·9	8	80·0	..	..	7	28·0	3	6·1	1	10·0	..	..	..	..
„ 22	49	..	..	17	60·7	7	58·3	1	11·1	..	..	10	35·7	4	33·3	5	55·6	..	..	1	3·6
„ 25	74	3	75·0	22	73·3	24	77·4	3	33·3	..	..	7	23·3	5	16·1	2	22·2	1	25·0	1	3·3
„ 27	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	66·7	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	33·3	..	..	..	..
„ 29	91	15	78·9	28	67·6	28	87·5	8	50·0	4	21·1	9	26·5	2	6·2	3	50·0	..	..	2	5·9
„ 31	48	5	100·0	15	93·7	12	85·7	7	53·8	..	..	1	6·2	2	14·3	6	46·2	..	..	..	..
„ 38	57	8	61·5	7	46·7	18	62·1	..	..	4	30·8	4	26·7	9	31·0	..	..	1	7·7	4	26·7
„ 39	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	100·0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
„ 45	72	6	60·0	..	..	9	81·8	33	64·7	4	40·0	..	..	2	18·2	16	31·3	..	..	..	..
„ 60	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	50·0	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	37·5	..	..	..	..
„ 68	45	20	80·0	10	83·3	7	87·5	..	..	3	12·0	2	16·7	..	..	..	..	2	8·0	..	..
„ 73	50	22	91·7	13	76·5	..	..	3	33·3	2	8·3	4	23·5	..	..	4	44·4	..	..	..	..
Total ..	792	123	80·4	167	72·6	181	74·2	92	55·8	23	15·0	52	22·6	47	19·3	57	34·5	7	4·6	11	4·8

Statement showing the condition of famine workers in the gangs inspected at Adóni—*cont.*

Gang numbers.	Emaciated—*cont.*				Scorbutic.								Anæmic.								Number of emaciated infants.	Remarks.
	Children.		Women with infants.		Men.		Women.		Children.		Women with infants.		Men.		Women.		Children.		Women with infants.			
	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44
No. 1	1	7·1	..	..	..	..	3	8·6	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2·9	..	..	..	..	..	B wage since 16th January 1897; probably later.
„ 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
„ 17	7	15·9	3	25·0	..	..	2	16·7	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	11·1	..	..	..	..	3	
„ 20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	One furlong from Kulubari village.
„ 21	..	..	1	10·0	..	..	3	12·0	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	4·0	..	..	..	..	2	One and a half miles from Bassipur.
„ 22	1	8·3	3	33·3	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	33·3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	
„ 25	2	6·5	4	44·4	..	..	3	10·0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	
„ 27	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Near Adóni.
„ 29	2	6·2	..	..	1	5·3	3	8·8	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	11·8	..	..	..	..	1	
„ 31	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	6·2	..	..	..	..	..	
„ 38	2	6·9	..	..	..	..	1	6·7	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	13·3	..	..	..	..	3	
„ 39	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
„ 45	..	..	2	3·9	1	10·0	..	..	2	18·2	2	3·9	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	11·8	1	Five miles distant from village.
„ 60	..	..	1	12·5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	
„ 68	1	12·5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Distance three miles.
„ 73	..	..	2	22·2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Total ..	16	6·5	16	9·7	2	1·3	16	7·0	2	0·8	5	3·0	..	..	11	4·8	..	..	6	3·6	18	

2. Having inspected thus far, my attention was particularly drawn to the condition of women with infants, and I therefore abandoned further systematic gang to gang inspection, in favour of an inspection of this special class. Hence, the following statement shows the condition of women with infants without reference to gangs:—

B

—	Total number examined.	Good.		Thin.		Emaciated.		Scorbutic.		Anæmic.		Number of emaciated infants.
		Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	
Women with infants examined in gangs	177	104	58·8	57	32·2	16	9·0	..	..	..	..	43
Works kitchen	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4

Enquiry showed that the scant advantage of not being fed below the equivalent lb. 2 of grain which the Madras Code permits as the sole privilege of this class, was not in all cases derived, as the overseer was apparently under the impression that if a mother did not give milk or what is the same thing, was not *able* to give milk to her infant, she could not be classed as a "nursing mother."* As it happens, this is the very class that requires special consideration. The systematic work demanded, and the absence of any appreciable margin in the diet exhibits its effects on the famine worker mother (*vide* columns 18, 26 of table A, and table B) either by cessation of secretion of milk, or the secretion of milk of so poor a quality as to afford insufficient nourishment to the infants—a fact clearly proved by comparative analyses of human milks in famine relief camps during 1877. The result of this want, or defect in quality, of milk soon evinces itself in infants in mal-nutrition, although the mother of an infant brought into even a dangerous condition of mal-nutrition need not necessarily herself be in markedly low condition.† The action of Nature is merely conservative, that is, she refuses to supply matter for the support of a parasite, when she requires all that is available for the nutriment of the individual on which the parasite depends; or, in other words, lactation being a minor function, and not performed for the benefit of the individual, is suspended in whole or in part. But to this class must be added another, namely, the infant at and beyond the age of teething, when it is dependent upon easily digestible articles of diet of which milk forms the chief. Where mothers are not able to afford the necessary *quality* of diet for infants, the attempt is made to force upon them coarse food which they are unable to assimilate, and in spite of its possession such food, whether given by the mother or by injudicious efforts in famine-relief kitchens, brings about mal-nutrition. In a third way, conditions affect infants—again illustrating Nature's determination to economise in the presence of a scant supply. It is well-known that pregnancy rapidly diminishes during famine, but when it occurs, the progeny of ill-nourished mothers are dwarfed beings that are conveniently weighed by ounces and not by pounds. As to the latter description of infant, it may be briefly said that its general appearance is that of an unhealthy fœtus. In the other two forms, the chief characteristics are an arrested development resulting in the body appearing far too small for so old a head, which looks unnaturally enlarged; the skin is dry, or is very thin and wrinkled; the folds of the arm-pits become more than usually evident, the buttocks gradually are flattened to the point of disappearing, and frequently they are represented by mere folds of harsh highly pigmented flesh. The belly becomes prominent, and the ribs are much in evidence, whilst the shoulders no longer possess surplus fat that hides the shoulder joints, and the slender collar bones. The hair is frequently deprived of its pigment. In acute cases, the cheeks are sunken, and the forehead projects so as to produce a striking resemblance of the affected infants to monkeys.

* On my second visit, the overseer had ready a definition as to "infants without teeth."

† Since the above was in the press, I am in receipt of the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 648, dated 5th October 1897. In Mr. Stuart's report therein embodied, he shows that the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras found of "babies with the nursing mothers" 12·90 per cent. "thin" and 3·23 per cent. "emaciated." But, according to Mr. Stuart, this result cannot be due to famine, "because all the nursing mothers were in good condition." This remark, involving, as it does, a medical deduction, shows that the Collector not acquainted with the physiology of lactation.—W.G.K.

3. After my inspection with him at Adóni between the 16th and 19th July, the Famine Commissioner, in the marginally-noted Proceedings, reported that there were "76 babies at Adóni and on the works adjoining, too far advanced in emaciation," &c., that "there were 70 emaciated babies on the works and six in the kitchen at Adóni" and that "there is an urgent need of help for famine babies at the Adóni work, there are some 70 of them, and more in the kitchens." But the existence of a single case of the character of an emaciated baby on the works at Adóni has been denied by the Honourable Mr. Crole, who has made the following statements to the Famine Commissioner in a letter, dated 9th August: "I have the honour to inform you that I have been for the last two days occupied in searching for these infants, and that I have been unable to find them. *The utmost which I have discovered is* *, that in accordance with an old standing order of the Collector, three women new-comers apparently have been (since the date of your visit) sent back from the works to their villages along with orders for gratuitous relief, because their infants were considered by the overseer to be weakly and to require home care."

Board's Proceedings, No. 553, dated 5th August 1897.
Board's Proceedings, No. 539, dated 30th July 1897.
Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 5550, dated 20th July 1897.

4. This statement appeared to me so inconsistent with facts, that I considered it necessary to return to Adóni and ascertain how this sudden disappearance of the emaciated infants had come about between the date of my inspection from the 16th—19th July and the 9th August; as, in my inspection, I had found 61 "emaciated infants" on the works and four in the works kitchen. The remaining infants of the 76 mentioned by Mr. LeFanu were those found "at Adóni" in the kitchens there, which were also inspected by us. It has been suggested to me that the question is not one of facts but of definition, as to what is a "famine infant," "emaciated infant," "famine baby," and "emaciated baby," respectively! It is possible in this manner the difference of opinion by the Honourable Mr. Crole has arisen; but it is worthy of remark that this officer, as I was informed by the Collector in response to a direct inquiry as to the method of search employed, did not in a single instance remove clothing from the infants examined, and I need not say that, without this precaution being taken, it would be possible to pass unobserved the infants looked for. The matter, however, being one where it is desirable professional opinion should be exercised, I asked the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras to favour me with his opinion after personal inspection in my company. It so happened, unfortunately, that the Surgeon-General could only spare a certain day, and, as it turned out, this was a rest day for workers. Lest this fact be open to misinterpretation, I may state that the day originally fixed for visiting Adóni was the 22nd of August, but that the Surgeon-General found it necessary to alter this in a telegraphic communication to me to the 21st August. The works therefore could not be examined, but the kitchens at Adóni were of course open. The statement given in paragraph 13 will show that the Surgeon-General fully agreed with me as to the existence, in the only one of the three kitchens examined on the 21st August, of thirteen "famine infants." In addition, there were two emaciated infants in arms, which he considered sufficiently advanced in years to be classed as emaciated children. This examination by the Surgeon-General and myself was conducted in the presence of the Collector.

5. On the following morning, the 22nd August, Mr. Stuart accompanied me to the works. The explanation of the disappearance of the majority of emaciated infants referred to was not far to seek. The Collector, on the 1st August, after receiving a report as to the presence of emaciated infants had visited the works, had searched for them, and had called the overseer's attention to an order of his, dated the 2nd July, in continuation of one of the 29th of May, demanding that women with infants in "sickly and poor condition" should be removed from the works. These orders I quote below:—

Circular, dated 29th May 1897.

In the course of his inspection during the past fortnight, the Collector has noticed that a number of the infants in arms were sickly and in poor condition. In such cases milk has been ordered to be given at the kitchen on the works, but it is improbable

* Italics not in the original. It is inferred from this statement that the Hon'ble Mr. Crole failed to find a single "emaciated baby."

that the children will improve so long as they are obliged to be with their mothers on the works. On the other hand, they cannot be separated from their mothers and in order that these sickly babies may have proper attention, the mother must be relieved in some other manner than by employment on works. Where possible the relief should be given at kitchens, but where this is not possible the women should be given grain doles in their villages.

2. Divisional officers and Tahsildars are requested to give immediate effect to this order, but in doing so, care should be taken that the women do not lose their wage as relief workers before arrangements are made for the grant of grain-doles to them.

Circular No. 23, *dated 2nd July* 1897.

Officers in charge of relief works are empowered to give to the classes of workers specified below an order for gratuitous relief. The order should be addressed to the Reddi of the village in which the worker lives.

2. On receipt of the order the Reddi will give the usual grain-dole to the person mentioned therein and he will bring the case to the notice of the Circle Inspector when he next visits the village. If there is a kitchen in the village, and the case is a suitable one for relief at a kitchen, the worker should be admitted to the kitchen and not given a grain-dole.

3. The Circle Inspector will enter the name on the gratuitous relief register, and if relief is to be given for a time only (as in the case of women who have been confined) a note of the date on which the relief is to cease should be made. The Circle Inspector will retain the order of the officer in charge of the work.

4. If the Circle Inspector considers that the case is not one for relief, he should at once make a special report to the Divisional officer.

5. The following are the classes of persons to whom orders may be given:—

(1) Women in an advanced state of pregnancy.
(2) Mothers of sickly infants.
(3) Mothers of young children suffering from small-pox, measles, the after effects of vaccination and the like, if the children are so young that they required the mothers' attention.
(4) All workers suffering from any contagious disease including sore-eyes.
(5) All workers who are temporarily rendered incapable of work by an accident.
(6) All persons whom the Medical officer in charge of the work considers incapable of work.

6. In his report of his inspection of the Adóni work, Mr. Stuart states that he carefully examined the babies on the works but could find only eleven in any way emaciated, and that, on the inspection with the Honourable Mr. Crole on the 9th August, he found no more cases It would be noticed that Mr. Stuart's circulars are framed in accordance with the views he has from time to time publicly expressed. There is no place here for emaciated infants—the product of famine; subordinates are directed to remove from the works "sickly infants," children suffering from "small-pox," "measles" "the after effects of vaccination," &c., and it is not to be wondered at therefore that his subordinates class infants sent from the works under one or other of these permissible causes for removal, and these only. Thus, between the date of the Collector's visit on the 1st August and that by the Honourable Mr. Crole on the 9th August, the overseer's register shows that there were removed three infants (the overseer uses the term child *throughout* this list—even when referring to an infant of two days' old) under the head of sickly, two as "emaciated," six as suffering from "small-pox," two suffering from country sore-eyes; so that evidently the Honourable Mr. Crole had been misinformed when he made his statement as to three persons only having been removed. Indeed, Mr. Stuart states (B.P., No. 592, dated 27th August 1897,) that on his inspection on the 1st August the mothers of eleven emaciated children were "at once" put on gratuitous relief, showing that at least up to that date there were "emaciated infants" on works. In the same report, Mr. Stuart states that "it was difficult to persuade the mothers of these children to leave the works, even when the grain-dole was the equivalent of the B wage [an absolutely misleading and incorrect estimate—W.G.K], for they prefer money to the dole." Mr. Stuart, however, forgets that if these women were reluctant to leave the works and thus obtain less food

for themselves and offspring, there was another course open to them, namely, that of leaving at home their infants, for whom, in any case, they could have had little nourishment to give from the breast; and I believe from the small number of infants, emaciated or otherwise, found on the relief works on my second inspection on the 22nd August, that the general searching for infants which had occurred on the three occasions in the interval had effectually scared the mothers.

7. According to the abstract made personally by me of the overseer's list I find that, between my first visit on 16th—19th July and the 22nd August, there were removed from the works by the overseer the following infants requiring a mother's care:—

Registered serial numbers under				
Small-pox.	Emaciated children.	Sickly children.	Suffering from contagious disease (sore eyes).	Children too young to retain on work.
17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 55, 56, 57, 87.	8, 26, 35, 31, 45, 49, 50, 61, 62, 71, 72, 73, 77, 79 (*a*), 79 (*b*), 81, 83, 84, 85, 36, 88.	12, 13, 14.	24, 25, 78, 80, 82,	43, 46, 47, 48.

Therefore, there was a total of 43 infants removed from the works under the operation of the Collector's order between my visit on the 21st August and that of the 16th—19th July. Of these, a total of 21 is stated in the overseer's list to be "emaciated." It is, however, necessary for me to state that this abstract and that furnished by the Tahsildar do not agree as to numbers 8, 31, 45 and 83; these are classed by the latter under "small-pox." It is quite possible I may be the person at fault in making the abstract, but of this fact I am certain, namely, that number 79 has been incorrectly stated by the Tahsildar. I noted at the time of making my abstract that the number 79 was entered in the register *twice*, and finding this so, I particularly observed and made a note to this effect that these two cases had different names. I therefore naturally and, I think, correctly too, concluded that the mistake in the register had been in the double entry of the same number, and that the mistake did not imply that the second case had not existed.

8. Now as to the entry of "small-pox," I may state that this disease existed only in the imagination of the overseer. Had that disease existed, and had the overseer scattered cases suffering from it by sending them to their villages, a serious epidemic would have arisen. But, granting this also is a mistake in definition, and that "measles" was really meant, the fact remains that even that disease was not prevalent on the works during my first visit and, according to the Civil Apothecary, none had existed from three weeks to a month previous to my inspection from the 16th—19th July. The "small-pox" infants were, therefore, removed by the overseer at a period not less than a month from the time of attack by measles. It is therefore fair to assume that they were not suffering from any specific disease such as implied by the use of the word small-pox, but had possibly undergone attacks from measles ranging over various periods—of which the latest to date of removal was one month. To verify this fact, I visited five cases in the town, in the face of many protests from the Sub-Magistrate as to the difficulty of ascertaining their addresses. Of these, four answered the description of emaciated infants. Taking therefore the overseer as an authority for what is an emaciated infant, and accepting the Tahsildar's abstract with the exception of the correction as to the number 79, there are 17 of the missing infants that answer the description accounted for. Further, I hold that the erroneously described "small-pox" cases may probably be correctly included, as well as the so-called "sickly" children or a total of 13; and if the Tahsildar's 4 small-pox cases be added, a total of 34 is accounted for as having been removed from the works. Again, on my inspection with the Collector on the 22nd August, I pointed out 31 cases of varying grades of mal-nutrition in infants; of these, 13 I regarded as exhibiting symptoms so pronounced as to be worthy of the term "famine," "starved" or "emaciated infants." With the exception of 10, I therefore apparently identified the 40 infants left on the works *varying in age from 1 to 2 years*, who were in receipt of milk as a medical comfort, of the total 62 that had been so prescribed for by the Civil Apothecary, *and of whom a list had been made after my first inspection on the 16th—19th July.* If then the 13 still

remaining on the works be added, the total accounted for would amount to 47. But Mr. LeFanu's statement "at Adóni" and the "works adjoining" meant that the kitchens at Adóni were included in his statement of mothers given by him. Avoiding therefore all disputed cases, it is possible to show that on my second inspection 43 could be accounted for by another method of enquiry, thus—13 "Famine infants" as diagnosed by the Surgeon-General, 17 "emaciated" as diagnosed by the overseer—as corrected by the Tahsildar—and 13 cases held by myself to be typical on the works —notwithstanding the contention that none existed. In the Mussalman kitchen, I found one case of an emaciated infant transferred from the works (and one that cannot be counted again was also found transferred from works in the Sudra kitchen). Considering that on my former inspection the total strength of the works was 7,821, and that on my second inspection the number was 5,396—47 or 43 cases now accounted for by either method is a very fair approximation to 52·44 which that population would represent at the same rate, and this without my taking advantage of cases that though reduced were not so emaciated as to form typical specimens of "famine infants."

9. One twin on the work and one infant in the Mussalman kitchen died since my visit, and I was informed two other infants of those selected by me had also died, but as this cannot be proved, I do not press any of these additions. Indeed, sufficient evidence of the mortality which famine conditions have brought about amongst those of tender age (viz., from 1 to 5 years) is exhibited in the following table, in which I have taken the opportunity of showing that deaths have not been confined to the Adóni works :—

Municipal towns.	Actual number of deaths during January to August of 1896 (1—5 years).	Actual number of deaths during January to August of 1897 (1—5 years).	Rate of mortality during 1896 per mille per annum on the census population of that age.	Rate of mortality during 1897 per mille per annum on the census population of that age.	Rate of mortality during 1896 per mille per annum on the estimated population of that age on 31st August 1896.	Rate of mortality during 1897 per mille per annum on the estimated population of that age on 31st August 1897.
Adóni	78	191	38·4	94·3	35·3	85 2
Kurnool	50	220	2·5	116 7	24·0	103·7
Cuddapah	12	24	8·9	17·9	* 8·9	* 17·9

10. The Collector of Bellary has, in his fortnightly reports, consistently placed all instances of ill-health or falling off in condition of the people not to famine conditions, but to some form of sickness, and I presume that my present statements as to "emaciated infants" will be duly met by a list drawn up by the Tahsildars, who are well acquainted with the opinions of the Collector, showing that such cases are not due to famine but to illness, such as measles, fever and teething, and it will be shown that the famine wage is earned, and it may be more too, by members of families concerned. I can only place on record the statement that granted certain diseases have been the exciting cause of these infants' condition, it is none the less absolutely correct to assign the predisposing cause to famine conditions, and that therefore it is correct to term these products of famine conditions "emaciated infants," or if it be so preferred "famine babies." As to age, the term "infant" might well be restricted to children up to two years of age; but, as a matter of fact, it would represent a very poor way of using time, unless blank denials of facts to be reported were expected, if an inspecting officer were to demand that before he classed each starveling found in arms as an emaciated infant or emaciated child its age should be verified. Indeed, so long as the term "babies" is used in its popular sense, I see no reason why it should not embrace children requiring a mother's care and usually in arms, and this presumably is the sense in which the Famine Commissioner has used that familiar term. Mr. Stuart's own use of the term "infants in arms," indeed, meets requirement sufficiently well.

11. All this is however mere quibbling as to definition, and the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras expressed in plain terms the simple facts involved to Mr. Stuart, by stating that infants in the emaciated conditions seen by us are not

* As the census showed the Cuddapah population was undergoing decrease, no calculation has been made in the "estimated population."

found in times other than those of famine in the midst of the population—"teething," "fever," "measles," "small-pox" and "after effects of vaccination" notwithstanding. Those who look for cases of acute starvation during an Indian famine may look in vain; what is dealt with are cases of mal-nutrition, and disease making inroads into constitutions undermined by insufficient nutrition, or absence of nutrition of a character that can be readily assimilated. However, that there should be no doubt as to what I imply by emaciated infants or famine infants, or the Famine Commissioner by "emaciated babies," I submit herewith, for the information of Government, the survivals of certain abortive efforts at photography by myself which will speak for themselves. These emaciated infants were found "at Adóni" and "on the adjoining works." The photographs are marked, so that those taken on my first and second visits respectively may be identified.

12. Finally, I would state that this is not the first time I have inspected gangs in the Bellary district; I inspected the works on the Mocho and Siruguppam and Alúr roads, &c., and also the very works which are the subject of my observations. But this was as far back as December 1896 and January 1897. The women did not fail to bring infants with them in those days, and yet I did not report the presence of "famine infants"—for the good reason that they had not yet been produced as a result of famine. Curiously enough also the Collector's attention seems to have been drawn to the existence of emaciated infants, not when he first joined the district in February 1897, but by the end of May* (*vide* fortnightly report embodied in Board's Proceedings, No. 435, dated 14th June 1897), and by the 2nd July the order as to their withdrawal from works as a sequel was issued. If these "famine" infants are not the result of the gradual tightening upon the people of famine conditions, why were they not observed before May 1897? As a fact although my tour through Bellary, Kurnool and part of Anantapur took me from 19th December 1896 to 8th March 1897, I saw not a single "famine" infant; since July, I have found them in Adóni, Kurnool, Tadpatri † and Cuddapah. Is this then famine, or are we to accept Mr. Stuart's ideas as to normal teething, fever, measles, small-pox and the "after effects of vaccination"?

13. But I have been confronted not only with the denial of the existence of emaciated infants but of the existence of scurvy in the kitchens at Adóni. The Collector having received a copy of my remarks to the effect that "13 per cent. of the inmates of the branch kitchen at Adóni and 5 per cent. of those in the main kitchen were suffering from scurvy," considered it necessary to consult a local sanitary adviser—the Civil Apothecary. According to this subordinate's statement given to the Collector, there were only three cases in a population of 131, and the Collector evidently content with the opinion thus obtained significantly adds, "out of 131 persons examined he found only three with any signs of scurvy, and the symptoms were so slight that he (the Civil Apothecary) was not prepared to say that they were actually suffering from that disease; one of the cases was that of a child admitted a month ago when just recovering from an attack of measles, he has had vegetables in addition to the ordinary ration for the past four weeks, so that the scurvy, if it be scurvy, can hardly be due to want of vegetable diet in this instance. [This remark, involving, as it does, a medical deduction, shows that the Collector is not acquainted with the etiology of scurvy—W.G.K.]. Another case was that of a little boy who was much emaciated when admitted, but is now plump and cheerful. Three cases out of 131 gives a

* Vital statistical returns for the district of Bellary show an increase in May above average of mortality of infants from 1 to 5 years of age—W.G.K.

† Brigade-Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel Branfoot, as a result of weighment of 1,000 new born native babies, found the average weight to be "just under 6 lbs." in normal periods. The following is the weights of "famine babies" as ascertained by the Tahsildar, in instances pointed out to him by me on the Veerapuram relief works :—

Name of mother.	Name of child.	Age in months.	Weight in pounds.
		MONTHS.	LBS.
Veerapuram Mala Nagi	Lakshmi	10	8·72
Akkinapully Talari Nagamma ..	Chinniah	14	11·25
Akkinapully Asethamma	Sunkamma	2	6 125
Tadpatri Bangu Subbakka ..	Venkataramamma ..	5	8·125
Tadpatri Namaiboo	Khaja Bee	7	7·8
Tadpatri Rasulma	Fakeersa	15	11·0
Madigu Nagi Veerapuram ..	Achi	24	13·75

proportion of 2½ per cent." In the same paragraph he quotes the opinion of Surgeon-Major Evans that scurvy did not exist amongst children in the Brucepet kitchen—as to whom I have made no assertion in regard to scurvy.* Did Mr. Stuart understand the full significance of the *appearance* of scurvy in famine, he would not thus quibble at the percentage of cases in the kitchen, but would grasp the important bearing the mere existence of this condition has upon the question of the feeding of the famine-stricken. In this sense, the valuable opinion of the Civil Apothecary, although evidently not quoted by Mr. Stuart with this object, in reality supports mine. In view of the unusual official attitude of this officer, I asked the Surgeon-General to favour me by examining with me the children in the kitchen at Adóni. He had not time to examine those in the kitchen where I had said 13 per cent. were affected, but kindly undertook the examination of children in the kitchen where I had said that there were 5 per cent. The result of this examination will be found below. This shows that the Surgeon-General was of opinion that 4·7 per cent. of the children were scorbutic, which is about as close an approximation to my opinion of 5 per cent. as could well be imagined. He also held that 7 out of 13 women examined, or 53·8 per cent., were scorbutic :—

—	Total number examined.	Good.		Thin.		Emaciated.		Anæmic.		Scorbutic.		Number of famine infants.
		Number.	Percentage to total examined.	Number.	Percentage to total examined.	Number.	Percentage to total examined.	Number.	Percentage to total examined.	Number.	Percentage to total examined.	
Men	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Women	13	7	53·8	6	46·2	..	..	(a) 1	15·4	..	..	..
Children	127	85	66·9	32	25·2	10	7·9	5	3·9	6	4·7	..
Women with infants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	(b) 13

(a) One classed as slightly anæmic. (b) Includes a case of twins.

14. Taking the above facts into consideration, there is no doubt in my mind that in the arrangements for meeting the condition of women with infants and of infants themselves in this Presidency, there is much that wants careful revision, and this matter I shall enter into more fully in a report on the subject of famine administration in Bombay, where I was glad to find a more humane method of meeting requirements in this respect prevails than in the Madras Presidency.

KURNOOL.

Kocheru.

Inspected, 21*st July* 1897.

I found it necessary to ask the Famine Commissioner to accompany me on a special tour to the Kurnool district, with the object of his verifying the condition of affairs pointed out by me in my notes embodied in G.O., No. 115, Revenue, dated 23rd February 1897. Notwithstanding the direction in that order, the area referred to in Ramallakot taluk to this day is regarded as unaffected. This is certainly not due to any want of wish to aid where aid is necessary on the part of the Collector, but to misrepresentation to which he has been subjected of a character that can hardly be regarded as the result of a chapter of accidents. The Tahsildar of Ramallakot on my first inspection was, I found, of the optimistic type of famine officials; yet, I trusted the plain and unvarnished description of facts, as observed and reported by me to Government, would serve to obtain the necessary help for the population concerned. I however calculated without my host. The Tahsildar has attempted to discredit my statements generally, by showing that the men I had stated were aiding their daily dietary by the use of tamarind seed were in reality well off. Thus, selecting the case of Wudda Mudegadu (paragraph 7 of my

* Notwithstanding Surgeon-Major Evans' testimony, however, thus quoted by the Collector of Bellary, I find that the Brucepet kitchen has, since that officer's inspection, been visited by the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, who states that 8·7 per cent. of the children have "scorbutic gums" [Board's Proceedings (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 648, dated 5th October 1897].—W.G.K.

notes embodied in G.O., No. 115, Revenue, dated 23rd February), he asserted that this man, so far from requiring to feed on tamarind seed, was in good circumstances, as shown by the fact that he had lent a neighbour 200 measures of grain, and further that he had himself lent Rs. 100 to one Punjana Papadu. The Tahsildar, to leave no doubt of the truth of his statements and the falsehood of mine, procured from the reddi a document as to the 200 measures having been lent—ingenuously omitting any date as to when the transaction took place; but this same reddi, when confronted with the villagers in the presence of the Tahsildar and the Famine Commissioner, stated whilst it was true that the loan of 200 measures of grain had been made *it was four years previously*, and that the debtor this year had only paid back an instalment of fourteen measures. As to the loan of Rs. 100 being given, it was shown to be a deliberate falsehood. This having been selected by the Tahsildar as a typical case of affluence in the midst of what I had attempted to make Government believe was a seriously affected tract, I thought it worth while pursuing further the history of the man, who, on my visit in February 1897, was content to eke out his food by use of tamarind seeds. If the distance test be of any value, certainly this man has been in distress since my visit; as he has abandoned the village and gone to a work about thirteen miles off with his wife and five children, leaving one child to look after two cattle. He uses his *rest-day* to walk thirteen miles and back to give his child a share of his famine ration. The two cattle thus cared for are the remnants of the four he possessed at the commencement of the famine — two having died. The man is a pattadar of two acres. For the two acres he has to pay Rs. 3, for which having received "notice" he paid Rs. 1-8-0. This he managed by selling two sheep; he originally possessed four, but all are now sold. A more explicit case of the breaking up of a cultivator's house as a result of famine conditions could not well be stated. So determined has this Tahsildar been in his opinion as to absence of necessity for aid in this tract, that although no less than 38 applications for loans had been made—the first batch dating from November 1896—in not a single instance had an endorsement been received by the petitioners, although several months had elapsed in uncertainty as to results, and repeated reminders had been sent by the ryots—and this notwithstanding that the Tahsildar stated to the Famine Commissioner that all had been "settled." As an instance of the condition of an ordinarily fairly well-to-do ryot may be stated the case of Kuruwa Kondanah. This is an old and respectable man. When I first inspected the village the people in his house were living upon ("umbali") cholam conjee, and it takes little knowledge of the Deccan ryot to say that he does not resort to this until necessity compels him. On my first visit, his statement was that he had secured only 800 measures of grain from his land instead of about 12,000 and that having twenty souls in his house to support, he would soon be put into great straits, unless he received a loan for which he had applied. I at the time examined his house and saw the remnants—then 400 measures—and believe that it was a very fair estimate. On my second inspection—and this was conducted with the Tahsildar—no more grain than would suffice for one or two days was found in any part of this man's house. His history since my last visit was that to meet the demand for the kist of Rs. 70, *which was made on the assumption that the tract was not affected*, he had been obliged to borrow Rs. 100 at 18 per cent., after waiting in vain for help from Government, which interest, however, he added, must accumulate as he could not now pay the current demand. If the statement as to 800 measures be accepted, this ryot paid more kist than the value of the produce of his land—at 15 measures per rupee procurable at commencement of the famine. In enquiring as to why in this case a small loan of Rs. 100 was refused, notwithstanding the existence of land and movable property that would cover it many times over, the Tahsildar admitted that although he might up to that date have made personal enquiries before advising rejection of applications *in three or four cases in his whole taluk*, he had made none in the Kocheru tract. The matter was left to the Revenue Inspector, who contented himself, according to the villagers, by sitting in the village chavadi without inspecting the houses of those distressed, and although advised by the reddi as to the necessity, came to the conclusion that loans should not be given. Even in the three or four cases said to have been enquired into personally by the Tahsildar, the result has not been the giving of any decision, as, according to him, in these instances, he had referred to the Registration department, whose replies *were still pending*. Even if loans were granted to ryots who applied for help in November, it follows that whether they desired to buy fodder or grain, Rs. 100 would have been worth nearly 50 per cent.

more to them in 1896 than in July 1897. A most curious exhibition of how matters can be conducted in an area that a Tahsildar chooses to describe as "unaffected" occurred here. The crops were examined by the Famine Commissioner as far as evidence from existing "kurby" (cholam stalks) would allow facts to be judged. Although the Tahsildar was desired to proceed to any part of the village he might wish, it was impossible to find anything but "kurby" of the most stunted nature, and as to the failure of production of grain on which there could be no possible doubt, the excuse then asserted was that the villagers had sold all the good and retained all the bad "kurby"—a most unlikely course in the presence of steadily rising prices. The Tahsildar further maintained that he had heard from some village servants that several cart-loads of splendid cholam stalks had been seen coming from this village. The statement was however received with shouts of derision by the villagers, who told the Tahsildar that the stalks in question had simply passed through the village, and had been produced under wells in the neighbouring taluk of Pattikonda. The question being put as to how the crop in this "unaffected area" (!) had been assessed, it came out that the kurnam had stated it was from 1 to 4 anna crop, the Revenue Inspector that it was a 4 to 8 anna crop, and the Tahsildar that it was an 8 to 12 anna crop. As no other officer beyond the Tahsildar had inspected the crops, there was no further rise in their supposed value. When asked whether he valued the crops from personal knowledge, his replies were exceedingly dubious and were promptly denied by ryots in his presence. Thus he claimed to have examined the crops in September, although evidently much idea of matters could not have been gained then; but the kurnam maintained his inspection was confined to village accounts. Again, he maintained that he had inspected the crops when cut and still standing on the field; but the ryots declared that on his inspection no crops remained in the fields, and that they had been cut and stacked. The inspection that he made in September evidently referred solely to seeing certain outlying fields of the village of Kocheru when examining the village of Malkapuram, which is in a different valley. Of the petty ryots assembled—and this of course by no means embraced the total number in the village—the following men claimed to have had to borrow money from sowcars to pay the revenue demands, besides one Wudda Jalama, who had been obliged to sell two out of four bullocks for the same cause:—

Bomani Tippanah.	Pinjari Distigeri.
Taliari Seedadu.	Kumera Naganah.
Bingola Nanganah.	Wudda Raguwadu.
Godumuru Kondadadu.	

A large number of petty ryots assembled during our inspection, and repeatedly stated that if they could get work close enough to their homes to let them look after their cattle, they would be only too glad to go on road work, as the works available were distant 10, 7 and 13 miles respectively from their homes. As it was, those who could leave the village had done so to the extent of over 200 for the Naraolakonada work—13 miles off.

2. If when on my first inspection I found persons eking out their food by use of tamarind seed, when I returned on this visit I found them using leaves known in the vernacular as Chensalaku (చెన్సలాకు) Guru Guku. The absolutely destitute had however I believe chiefly left the village to go to the works as stated, and although these leaves were employed, it meant in the special cases simply an addition to insufficient diet—not that this was the only diet available.

3. I need not burden this already too long report with details as to the condition of the villagers, as their state was duly reported in the notes embodied in G.O., No. 115, Revenue, dated 23rd February 1897. I would only add that the appearance amongst them of scorbutic gums was now decided. Thus of 73 men examined for this purpose 43 had spongy gums, and of 44 women 28 had spongy gums. In my opinion, there can be no manner of doubt that the Tahsildar in neglecting to either efficiently inspect his taluk, or as a result of obstinate adherence to preconceived opinions, has misled his superior officers, and that there has resulted much suffering to human beings and cattle, and indebtedness by respectable men that might have been avoided had a subordinate with less fixed determination as to there being "no famine" been in this place. Moreover, judging from what I grant to be the slender

evidence secured by examining persons arriving from out-stations for relief at Dhone, I consider the physical condition of many dole recipients was such as would have resulted had works been available and properly distributed over this taluk, in less expenditure on gratuitous relief, had this Tahsildar's optimistic opinion not been given to his superiors.

4. The Collector, on the above facts being brought to his notice, at once personally inspected the area, and took necessary action in regard to relief works.

Kurnool Town.

Inspected 24th and 25th July 1897.

5. This place was visited as cholera had been reported on the works, which were crowded with relief workers and were dangerously near the town. The Collector in communication with the District Sanitary Officer had acted promptly in the matter, and had carried out the majority of the suggestions contained in this office circular on "cholera prevention on famine relief works," with the result that an epidemic that might have proved a widespread disaster was effectually stayed.

Condition of Workers.

6. It was found that the condition of health ranged from that of the robust labourer to the most wretched specimens of famine-stricken women and children. This was due to the fact that not only the population of Kurnool and its surroundings was dealt with, but that also an undetermined number—probably a fifth of the whole population—were from the Nizam's Dominions, where no relief works seem to have been opened for the people. In view of the large numbers on the works (10,460) in two extremes of health, it was determined to select (instead of examining each individual) all persons who appeared to merit special observation, and then re-examine these. This was pursued with the help of the Famine Commissioner, and I need not say implied prolonged labour for both of us even when the duty was thus divided. All selected cases were ultimately examined by me. The following is the result of inspection of 506 *selected* cases:—

—	Total number examined.	Good.		Thin.		Emaciated.		Scorbutic.		Anæmic.		Number of emaciated infants.
		Number.	Percentage of total examined.	Number.	Percentage of total examined.	Number.	Percentage of total examined.	Number.	Percentage of total examined.	Number.	Percentage of total examined.	
Men	105	3	2·9	73	69·5	29	27·6	17	16·2	..	..	71
Women	203	20	9·8	154	75·9	29	14·3	65	32·02	3	1·5	
Children	198	19	9·6	133	67·2	46	23·2	25	12 6	..	..	

This means, therefore, that of the total present of 10,460 of all ages and sexes 4·8 per cent. were in a condition that gave evidence on casual examination of the influence of mal-nutrition, and that of these on more detailed examination 8·3 per cent. were found to be in good health; 71·1 per cent. proved to be thin, 20·6 per cent. emaciated, 21·1 per cent. scorbutic, and 0·6 per cent. anæmic. In the whole assembly there were present 71 infants of the character which I have attempted to define in my statement as to the condition of Adóni workers as "emaciated" or "famine infants"; the rate per mille of this class at Kurnool was therefore upon the whole body of workers 0·7 and at Adóni 1·0. I attach photos taken by Mr. Lodge, of the Forest Department, of cases of famine infants selected by himself. No. A is a characteristic sample of the "monkey" face type.

The following was the condition of the Muhammadans found in the kitchen—which was opened later than it should have been, viz., 25th May 1897:—

—	Total number examined.	Good.		Poor.		Bad.	
		Number.	Percentage of total examined.	Number.	Percentage of total examined.	Number.	Percentage of total examined.
Children	43	27	62·8	12	27·9	4	9·3

The following was the condition of Sudras :—

—	Total number examined.	Good.		Poor.		Bad.	
		Number.	Percentage of total examined.	Number.	Percentage of total examined.	Number.	Percentage of total examined.
Men	3	..	..	2	33 3	3	100·0
Women	6	2	33·3	5	15 2	2	33·3
Children	33	22	66·7			6	18·2

Cholum was being sold at 6 local measures (114 tolahs) or 17·1 lb. per rupee against lb. 60, the normal price for the district (Statistical Atlas for Madras). Buyers complained to me that even at this rate they could not buy it, as a system of retail dealers selling on commission for wholesale dealers exists. It was found that ambari bagee—one of the most common of country greens—cost, after cleaning so as to secure only edible parts, three pies for six ounces. All wood is brought from a distance of over ten miles, and famine workers have undoubtedly to buy it. Enquiries were made in the presence of the Collector and Famine Commissioner at shops where the famine workers buy wood, and it was found that two pounds of green wood cost three pies, and it was held that two such bundles would be required per day for each person per two meals. One old woman who had just bought not solid wood but mere twigs was found, on the purchase being weighed, to have bought one pound for one pie. A bundle or headload at four annas was weighed, and found to cost 1·5 pies per pound. In another case, a woman of good class had purchased wood for which she had given seven pies. Here part was in the form of twigs and part solid wood. The total weight was seven pounds. The necessity for the "ample margin," that would provide vegetables and fuel as hoped by the Government of India, is therefore self-evident.

W G King

17th Sept 1897
dispd. 19th Oct 1897

Surgeon Lieut. Col.,
Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.

1250—1-11-97.

OFFICE OF SANITARY COMMISSIONER,

No. 2120/S

Fort St. George, 19th October 1897.

From

SURGEON-LIEUT.-COL. W. G. KING, M.B., C.M., D.P.H.,

SANITARY COMMISSIONER FOR MADRAS,

To

THE

Secretary to Govt Revenue Department,

Enclosure.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward for the information of Government a report embodying my Inspection Notes as to the condition of famine relief workers in certain parts of the Kurnool, Cuddapah, and Bellary Districts.

I have the honour to be

sir

Your most obedient Servant

W G King

Surgeon Lt Col.

Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.

C. No. 9020 of 97.

FOR ORDERS.

The Sanitary Commissioner for-wards the notes of the inspection made by him in July and August as to the condition of the relief workers in Kurnool, Cuddapah and Bellary.

2. The Famine Commissioner inspected the Aloni works and kitchen in company with Dr. King in July, and found 70 emaciated babies on the work and 6 in the kitchen (vide para [illegible] D. P. in G.O.No. 686, d/10th [illegible]

The Hon'ble Mr. Crosthwaite

Sir,

With regard to "famine Babies" it was impossible to have a famine so extensive as that last without their being some. Of course, the mere fact that there were "famine Babies" does not prove that relief was insufficient. They may not have been employed on that last work, or it may not have been given them as often as it ought. Dr. King's pictures show that his idea of a "famine Baby" is that same that it was in the Great Famine. The Coolie orders, Mr. Dr. King quotes — of the 29th May & the 2nd July — account for the fact that the famine B[illegible] Mr. ?

— NOVEMBER.

[illegible] 22nd [illegible] hese, [illegible] "fam[illegible] [illegible] total of [illegible] cases [illegible]

[illegible] reasons for selecting four [illegible] leaders'

Fanu and King are giving ~~it~~ erroneous and incorrect accounts as to extent of the distress and the efficiency of relief ~~measures~~. The care with which Dr. King has elaborated his inspection notes appears to be mainly in defence of himself and Mr. Le Fanu against the above imputation.

If Dr. King found 76. Emaciated babies it is matter for consolation that he could not find many more. If he found but so many (as Messrs Stuart & Cole state) it is matter for reflection & consolation: but it hardly seems the province of Govt to

about the Pearbatic tax uncertain. Mr Le Fanu has a D.O. but Mr Hipkins has shown much interest in this matter & taken notes about it; but it is not mentioned in his report. I did like him who asked about it D.O.

I am afraid this report cannot be simply recorded. So far as the Famine Babies go, it might be; but at pages 12, 13 & 14 Dr King makes accusations against a Tahsildar Mr if true will make it necessary to degrade him. I think two Commissioners should be directed to hold an inquiry.

JG
28.10.97

I think Dr King might be asked to say whether the emaciation of the famine babies was due to insufficient

insufficient

Govt

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd.

Regd.

1897.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 969, 17th November 1897.

NOVEMBER.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following letter from Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. KING, M.B., C.M., D.P.H., Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Fort St. George, 19th October 1897, No. 2120-S. :—

I have the honour to forward, for the information of Government, a report embodying my inspection notes as to the condition of famine-relief workers in certain parts of the Kurnool, Cuddapah and Bellary districts.

Enclosure.

Inspection Notes of the Sanitary Commissioner for Madras on the condition of Relief-workers.

CUDDAPAH.

Inspected, 14th and 15th July 1897.

The relief work in the neighbourhood of Cuddapah, originally opened on the 25th May, were inspected by me on the 14th July. The official rate for cholum was 11·45 imperial seers per rupee. The B wage for men was therefore 1 anna 6 pies, women 1 anna 5 pies, and working children 9 pies.

2. The following gives a statement of their physical condition :—

Gang No. 2 (Started 25th May).

—	Percentage good.	Percentage thin.	Percentage emaciated.	Percentage scorbutic.	Percentage anæmic.	Remarks.
Men	66·7	33·3	..	..	..	
Women	27·8	61·1	11·1	33·3	11·1	
Children	71·4	22·9	5·7	..	..	
Women with infants	28·6	71·4	..	57·1	..	
					..	

Gang No. 3 (Started 25th May).

—	Percentage good.	Percentage thin.	Percentage emaciated.	Percentage scorbutic.	Percentage anæmic.	Remarks.
Men	78 6	21·4	..	..	..	
Women	60·7	35·7	3·6	..	..	
Children	67·7	23·5	8·8	..	..	

22nd ... a total of ... cases ... hese, ... ld l[ast] "fan[ine]" ... [on] that ...

Gang No. 11 (Distance from village, 5 miles).

—	Percentage good.	Percentage thin.	Percentage emaciated.	Percentage scorbutic.	Percentage anæmic.	Remarks.
Men	11·1	88·9	..	..	..	Out of eighteen examined in this gang for scurvy, seven or 38·8 per cent. were found with spongy gums.
Women ..	53·3	40·0	6·7	..	6·7	
Children ..	55·2	44·8	..	..	..	

Gang No. 44.

—	Percentage good.	Percentage thin.	Percentage emaciated.	Percentage scorbutic.	Percentage anæmic.	Remarks.
Men	63·6	27·2	9·1	..	..	
Women	56·3	37·5	6·2	6·2	..	
Children	64·8	32·3	2·9	2·9	2·9	
Women with infants ..	27·3	72·7	..	..	..	

Gang No. 45.

—	Percentage good.	Percentage thin.	Percentage emaciated.	Percentage scorbutic.	Percentage anæmic.	Remarks.
Men	46·2	34·6	19·2	..	3·9	
Women	66·6	16·7	16·7	..	11·1	
Children	60·7	35·7	3·6	..	..	

3. The above shows that the general condition of health of the gangs cannot be regarded as satisfactory, notwithstanding the receipt of B wage. The Collector, Mr. Tate, who accompanied Mr. Higham and myself during part of the inspection of these works, maintained that they were all in their usual condition of health. I am equally strongly of opinion that this is not so; as I had the opportunity in 1894 of specially examining the state of health of the inhabitants of Cuddapah, and although, as shown in my notes embodied in G.O., No. 182 M., dated 7th February 1895, enlargement of the spleen was common, the peculiar signs of mal-nutrition which the present examination revealed were not exhibited. That there should be no difficulty in reconciling my opinion with facts, I excluded from the above tables all cases of manifestly malarial cachexia and enlargement of the spleen, and persons of both sexes where old age rendered the question of normal physical condition open to doubt. Indeed, the inhabitants of Cuddapah, so far as climatic conditions are concerned, have had an exceptionally good time of it for the past eighteen months as, owing to drought being inimical to the growth of the malarial germ, fever has undergone decided decline, with the effect of markedly diminishing the death-rate and improving the birth-rate, as shown by the following data :—

	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.
1893	16·0	46·9
1894	15·7	33·9
1895	22·6	32·9
.. ..	24·4	21·7

nfined to Cuddapah to … the district during

and otherwise broken down persons, it is found that of *Muhammadans* 45 per cent. are in good health, 28 per cent. in poor health, that 14 per cent. have spongy gums and 11·4 per cent. are markedly anæmic; of the children 16 per cent. were in poor health. In the latter respect the Malas presented a great contrast to the Muhammadans—45 per cent. of their children being in poor health and 6 per cent. in bad. Amongst the Madiga children, 32 per cent. were in poor health and 5 per cent. in bad. Trench latrines in the adjoining fields should be provided; a filter trench for the kitchen waste water should be constructed. No dipping of lotahs in the stock of water should be allowed."

BELLARY.

Adóni Relief Works.

Inspected 16th to 19th July and 21st and 22nd August 1897.

1. These works have been opened since November 1896. On a former inspection, in December 1896, I found the gangs had generally the appearance of being pinched for food. Most of the individuals included in that inspection were on the gangs from No. 1 to 22; they were then on the C wage and subject to severe fining. There can be no manner of doubt from their appearance at that time what would have been the result had this course been continued. As matters stand, these gangs, taken as a whole, have improved in appearance, for they have been on the B wage within easy reach of their houses, and apparently have not been severely treated as to fining for some months. It might, therefore, be concluded that the B wage allows a considerable margin for recovery of health. This, I think, is not the case. Were sufficient money allowed for the purchase of fresh vegetables and fuel, it would just suffice for moderate labour, but, under the favourable circumstances stated, it has evidently failed to supply a margin *when once the strength has been really affected.* Thus, of the gangs from No. 1 to 22, all weakly persons were collected into gang 17, and this gang at time of my inspection was in very indifferent condition, as shown in the table given below. Not only is this difference noticeable as to the period at which persons have come on the work, but also with reference to the distances they have to walk to the works. Thus, the women with infants—not necessarily officially classed as nursing mothers—in gang 20 showed only one woman "thin" out of 19, which result contrasts with conditions found in other gangs. These women, however, were working within a furlong of their own village, Kulabari. It may happen in this case that the inhabitants of this special village are better off than elsewhere :—

… a total of …

A.

STATEMENT showing the condition of famine workers in the gangs inspected at Adóni.

	Good.								Thin.								Emaciated.			
	Men.		Women.		Children.		Women with infants.		Men.		Women.		Children.		Women with infants.		Men.		Women.	
	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
78	23	100·0	31	88·6	8	57·1	4	66·7	..	..	4	11·4	5	35·7	2	33·3	..	..	..	..
5	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	20·0	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	80·0	..	..	..	..
87	4	30·8	11	61·1	22	50·0	..	..	6	46·2	4	22·2	15	34·1	9	75·0	3	23·0	..	16·7
19	..	..	..	..	..	..	18	94·7	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	5·3	..	..	..	..
101	17	100·0	18	72·0	46	93·9	8	80·0	..	..	7	28·0	3	6·1	1	10·0	..	..	..	3·6
49	..	..	17	60·7	7	58·3	1	11·1	..	..	10	35·7	4	33·3	1	55·6	..	..	1	3·3
74	3	75·0	22	73·3	24	77·4	3	33·3	..	..	7	23·3	5	16·1	5	22·2	1	25·0	..	..
3	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	66·7	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	33·3	..	..	1	5·9
91	15	78·9	23	67·6	28	87·5	3	50·0	4	21·1	9	26·5	2	6·2	1	50·0	..	..	..	..
48	5	100·0	15	93·7	12	85·7	7	53·8	..	..	1	6·2	2	14·3	3	46·2	1	7·7	2	26·7
57	8	61·5	7	46·7	18	62·1	..	..	4	30·8	4	26·7	9	31·0	6	..	..	..	..	..
	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	6	60·0	..	..	9	81·8	5	100·0	..	..	..	..	2	18·2	16	31·3	1	..	..	..
	..	..	..	..	..	..	33	64·7	4	40·0	..	..	..	..	3	37·5	..	..	..	..
	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	50·0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	8·0	..	..
	20	80·0	10	83·3	7	87·5	..	..	3	12·0	2	16·7	..	..	4	44·4	..	..	..	..
50	22	91·7	13	76·5	..	..	3	33·3	2	8·3	4	23·5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
792	123	80·4	167	72·6	181	74·2	92	55·8	23	15·0	52	22·6	47	19·3	57	34·5	7	4·6	11	4·8

Statement showing the condition of famine workers in the gangs inspected at Adóni—*cont.*

	Emaciated—*cont.*				Scorbutic.								Anæmic.								Number of emaciated infants.	Remarks.
	Children.		Women with infants.		Men.		Women.		Children.		Women with infants.		Men.		Women.		Children.		Women with infants.			
	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.		
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44
.. ..	1	7·1	..	..	..	..	3	8·6	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2·9	..	..	•	..	..	B wage since 16th January 1897; probably later.
.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
.. ..	7	15·9	3	25·0	..	..	3	16·7	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	11·1	..	..	..	..	3	
.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	One furlong from Kulubari village.
.. ..	..	..	1	10·0	..	..	3	12·0	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	4·0	..	..	..	..	2	One and a half miles from Bassipur.
.. ..	1	8·3	3	33·3	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	33·3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	
.. ..	2	6·5	4	44·4	..	..	3	10·0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	
.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
.. ..	2	6·2	..	..	1	5·3	8	8·8	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	11·8	..	..	..	..	..	Near Adóni.
.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	6·2	..	..	..	..	1	
.. ..	2	6·9	..	..	..	..	1	6·7	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	13·3	..	..	..	..	..	
.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	
.. ..	..	..	2	3·9	1	10·0	..	..	2	18·2	2	3·9	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	11·8	1	Five miles distant from village.
.. ..	..	..	1	12·5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	Distance three miles.
.. ..	1	12·5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
.. ..	..	..	2	22·2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
..	16	6·5	16	9·7	2	1·3	16	7·0	2	0·8	5	3·0	..	..	11	4·8	..	..	6	3·6	18	

2. Having inspected thus far, my attention was particularly drawn to the condition of women with infants, and I therefore abandoned further systematic gang to gang inspection, in favour of an inspection of this special class. Hence, the following statement shows the condition of women with infants without reference to gangs:—

B

—	Total number examined.	Good.		Thin.		Emaciated.		Scorbutic.		Anæmic.		Number of emaciated infants.
		Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	
Women with infants examined in gangs	177	104	58·8	57	32·2	16	9·0	..	..	..	..	43
Works kitchen	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4

Enquiry showed that the scant advantage of not being fixed below the equivalent lb. 2 of grain which the Madras Code permits as the sole privilege of this class, was not in all cases derived, as the overseer was apparently under the impression that if a mother did not give milk or what is the same thing, was not *able* to give milk to her infant, she could not be classed as a "nursing mother."* As it happens, this is the very class that requires special consideration. The systematic work demanded, and the absence of any appreciable margin in the diet exhibits its effects on the famine worker mother (*vide* columns 18, 26 of table A, and table B) either by cessation of secretion of milk, or the secretion of milk of so poor a quality as to afford insufficient nourishment to the infants—a fact clearly proved by comparative analyses of human milks in famine relief camps during 1877. The result of this want, or defect in quality, of milk soon evinces itself in infants in mal-nutrition, although the mother of an infant brought into even a dangerous condition of mal-nutrition need not necessarily herself be in markedly low condition.† The action of Nature is merely conservative, that is, she refuses to supply matter for the support of a parasite, when she requires all that is available for the nutriment of the individual on which the parasite depends; or, in other words, lactation being a minor function, and not performed for the benefit of the individual, is suspended in whole or in part. But to this class must be added another, namely, the infant at and beyond the age of teething, when it is dependent upon easily digestible articles of diet of which milk forms the chief. Where mothers are not able to afford the necessary *quality* of diet for infants, the attempt is made to force upon them coarse food which they are unable to assimilate, and in spite of its possession such food, whether given by the mother or by injudicious efforts in famine-relief kitchens, brings about mal-nutrition. In a third way, conditions affect infants—again illustrating Nature's determination to economise in the presence of a scant supply. It is well-known that pregnancy rapidly diminishes during famine, but when it occurs, the progeny of ill-nourished mothers are dwarfed beings that are conveniently weighed by ounces and not by pounds. As to the latter description of infant, it may be briefly said that its general appearance is that of an unhealthy fœtus. In the other two forms, the chief characteristics are an arrested development resulting in the body appearing far too small for so old a head, which looks unnaturally enlarged; the skin is dry, or is very thin and wrinkled; the folds of the arm-pits become more than usually evident, the buttocks gradually are flattened to the point of disappearing, and frequently they are represented by mere folds of harsh highly pigmented flesh. The belly becomes prominent, and the ribs are much in evidence, whilst the shoulders no longer possess [illegible] hides the shoulder joints, and the slender collar bones. The hair is [illegible] ignment. In acute cases, the cheeks are sunken, and the [illegible] striking resemblan[illegible] infants to

3. After my inspection with him at Adóni between the 16th and 19th July, the Famine Commissioner, in the marginally-noted Proceedings, reported that there were "76 babies at Adóni and on the works adjoining, too far advanced in emaciation," &c., that "there were 70 emaciated babies on the works and six in the kitchen at Adóni" and that "there is an urgent need of help for famine babies at the Adóni work, there are some 70 of them, and more in the kitchens." But the existence of a single case of the character of an emaciated baby on the works at Adóni has been denied by the Honourable Mr. Crole, who has made the following statements to the Famine Commissioner in a letter, dated 9th August: "I have the honour to inform you that I have been for the last two days occupied in searching for these infants, and that I have been unable to find them. *The utmost which I have discovered is* *, that in accordance with an old standing order of the Collector, three women new-comers apparently have been (since the date of your visit) sent back from the works to their villages along with orders for gratuitous relief, because their infants were considered by the overseer to be weakly and to require home care." This statement appeared to me so inconsistent with facts, that I considered it necessary to return to Adóni and ascertain how this sudden disappearance of the emaciated infants had come about between the date of my inspection from the 16th—19th July and the 9th August; as, in my inspection, I had found 61 "emaciated infants" on the works and four in the works kitchen. The remaining infants of the 76 mentioned by Mr. LeFanu were those found "at Adóni" in the kitchens there, which were also inspected by us. It has been suggested to me that the question is not one of facts but of definition, as to what is a "famine infant," "emaciated infant," "famine baby," and "emaciated baby," respectively! It is possible in this manner the difference of opinion by the Honourable Mr. Crole has arisen; but it is worthy of remark that this officer, as I was informed by the Collector in response to a direct inquiry as to the method of search employed, did not in a single instance remove clothing from the infants examined, and I need not say that, without this precaution being taken, it would be possible to pass unobserved the infants looked for. The matter, however, being one where it is desirable professional opinion should be exercised, I asked the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras to favour me with his opinion after personal inspection in my company. It so happened, unfortunately, that the Surgeon-General could only spare a certain day, and, as it turned out, this was a rest day for workers. Lest this fact be open to misinterpretation, I may state that the day originally fixed for visiting Adóni was the 22nd of August, but that the Surgeon-General found it necessary to alter this in a telegraphic communication to me to the 21st August. The works therefore could not be examined, but the kitchens at Adóni were of course open. The statement given in paragraph 13 will show that the Surgeon-General fully agreed with me as to the existence, in the only one of the three kitchens examined on the 21st August, of thirteen "famine infants." In addition, there were two emaciated infants in arms, which he considered sufficiently advanced in years to be classed as emaciated children. This examination by the Surgeon-General and myself was conducted in the presence of the Collector.

Board's Proceedings, No. 553, dated 5th August 1897.
Board's Proceedings, No. 539, dated 30th July 1897.
Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 5550, dated 20th July 1897.

5. On the following morning, the 22nd August, Mr. Stuart accompanied me to the works. The explanation of the disappearance of the majority of emaciated infants referred to was not far to seek. The Collector, on the 1st August, after receiving a report as to the presence of emaciated infants had visited the works, had searched for them, and had called the overseer's attention to an order of his, dated the 2nd July, a continuation of one of the 29th of May, demanding that women with infants [illegible], a total of [illegible] and poor condition [illegible] be removed from the works [illegible] out 31 cases of [illegible] below:—

[illegible]-nutrition [illegible] regarded as [illegible] "famine"

that the children will improve so long as they are obliged to be with their mothers on the works. On the other hand, they cannot be separated from their mothers and in order that these sickly babies may have proper attention, the mother must be relieved in some other manner than by employment on works. Where possible the relief should be given at kitchens, but where this is not possible the women should be given grain doles in their villages.

2. Divisional officers and Tahsildars are requested to give immediate effect to this order, but in doing so, care should be taken that the women do not lose their wage as relief workers before arrangements are made for the grant of grain-doles to them.

Circular No. 23, *dated 2nd July* 1897.

Officers in charge of relief works are empowered to give to the classes of workers specified below an order for gratuitous relief. The order should be addressed to the Reddi of the village in which the worker lives.

2. On receipt of the order the Reddi will give the usual grain-dole to the person mentioned therein and he will bring the case to the notice of the Circle Inspector when he next visits the village. If there is a kitchen in the village, and the case is a suitable one for relief at a kitchen, the worker should be admitted to the kitchen and not given a grain-dole.

3. The Circle Inspector will enter the name on the gratuitous relief register, and if relief is to be given for a time only (as in the case of women who have been confined) a note of the date on which the relief is to cease should be made. The Circle Inspector will retain the order of the officer in charge of the work.

4. If the Circle Inspector considers that the case is not one for relief, he should at once make a special report to the Divisional officer.

5. The following are the classes of persons to whom orders may be given:—

(1) Women in an advanced state of pregnancy.
(2) Mothers of sickly infants.
(3) Mothers of young children suffering from small-pox, measles, the after effects of vaccination and the like, if the children are so young that they required the mothers' attention.
(4) All workers suffering from any contagious disease including sore-eyes.
(5) All workers who are temporarily rendered incapable of work by an accident.
(6) All persons whom the Medical officer in charge of the work considers incapable of work.

6. In his report of his inspection of the Adóni work, Mr. Stuart states that he carefully examined the babies on the works but could find only eleven in any way emaciated, and that, on the inspection with the Honourable Mr. Crole on the 9th August, he found no more cases. It would be noticed that Mr. Stuart's circulars are framed in accordance with the views he has from time to time publicly expressed. There is no place here for emaciated infants—the product of famine; subordinates are directed to remove from the works "sickly infants," children suffering from "small-pox," "measles" "the after effects of vaccination," &c., and it is not to be wondered at therefore that his subordinates class infants sent from the works under one or other of these permissible causes for removal, and these only. Thus, between the date of the Collector's visit on the 1st August and that by the Honourable Mr. Crole on the 9th August, the overseer's register shows that there were removed three infants (the overseer uses the term child *throughout* this list—even when referring to an infant of two days' old) under the head of sickly, two as "emaciated," six as suffering from "small-pox," two suffering [illegible] country sore-eyes; so that evidently the Honourable Mr. Crole had been mis[illegible]he made his statement as to three persons only having been removed. [illegible]P., No. 592, dated 27th [illegible] are 897,) that on his [illegible] of eleven ema[illegible] at once"

for themselves and offspring, there was another course open to them, namely, that of leaving at home their infants, for whom, in any case, they could have had little nourishment to give from the breast; and I believe from the small number of infants, emaciated or otherwise, found on the relief works on my second inspection on the 22nd August, that the general searching for infants which had occurred on the three occasions in the interval had effectually scared the mothers.

7. According to the abstract made personally by me of the overseer's list I find that, between my first visit on 16th—19th July and the 22nd August, there were removed from the works by the overseer the following infants requiring a mother's care:—

Registered serial numbers under				
Small-pox.	Emaciated children.	Sickly children.	Suffering from contagious disease (sore eyes).	Children too young to retain on work.
17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 55, 56, 57, 87.	8, 26, 35, 31, 45, 49, 50, 61, 62, 71, 72, 73, 77, 79 (*a*), 79 (*b*), 81, 83, 84, 85, 86, 88.	12, 13, 14.	24, 25, 78, 80, 82,	43, 46, 47, 48.

Therefore, there was a total of 43 infants removed from the works under the operation of the Collector's order between my visit on the 21st August and that of the 16th—19th July. Of these, a total of 21 is stated in the overseer's list to be "emaciated." It is, however, necessary for me to state that this abstract and that furnished by the Tahsildar do not agree as to numbers 8, 31, 45 and 83; these are classed by the latter under "small-pox." It is quite possible I may be the person at fault in making the abstract, but of this fact I am certain, namely, that number 79 has been incorrectly stated by the Tahsildar. I noted at the time of making my abstract that the number 79 was entered in the register *twice*, and finding this so, I particularly observed and made a note to this effect that these two cases had different names. I therefore naturally and, I think, correctly too, concluded that the mistake in the register had been in the double entry of the same number, and that the mistake did not imply that the second case had not existed.

8. Now as to the entry of "small-pox," I may state that this disease existed only in the imagination of the overseer. Had that disease existed, and had the overseer scattered cases suffering from it by sending them to their villages, a serious epidemic would have arisen. But, granting this also is a mistake in definition, and that "measles" was really meant, the fact remains that even that disease was not prevalent on the works during my first visit and, according to the Civil Apothecary, none had existed from three weeks to a month previous to my inspection from the 16th—19th July. The "small-pox" infants were, therefore, removed by the overseer at a period not less than a month from the time of attack by measles. It is therefore fair to assume that they were not suffering from any specific disease such as implied by the use of the word small-pox, but had possibly undergone attacks from measles ranging over various periods—of which the latest to date of removal was one month. To verify this fact, I visited five cases in the town, in the face of many protests from the Sub-Magistrate as to the difficulty of ascertaining their addresses. Of these, four answered the description of emaciated infants. Taking therefore the overseer as an authority for what is an emaciated infant, and accepting the Tahsildar's abstract with the exception of the correction as to the number 79, there are 17 of the missing infants that answer the description accounted for. Further, I hold that the erroneously described "small-pox" cases may probably be correctly included, as well as the so-called "sickly" children or a total of 13; and if the Tahsildar's 4 small-pox cases be added, a total of 34 is accounted for as having been removed from the works. Again, on my [illegible] with the Collector [illegible] 22nd August, I pointed out 31 cases of [illegible] mal-nutrition [illegible] these, 13 I regarded as [illegible] "famine"

[illegible] for selecting from

remaining on the works he added, the total accounted for would amount to 47. But Mr. LeFanu's statement "at Adóni" and the "works adjoining" meant that the kitchens at Adóni were included in his statement of mothers given by him. Avoiding therefore all disputed cases, it is possible to show that on my second inspection 43 could be accounted for by another method of enquiry, thus—13 "Famine infants" as diagnosed by the Surgeon-General, 17 "emaciated" as diagnosed by the overseer—as corrected by the Tahsildar—and 13 cases held by myself to be typical on the works —notwithstanding the contention that none existed. In the Mussalman kitchen, I found one case of an emaciated infant transferred from the works (and one that cannot be counted again was also found transferred from works in the Sudra kitchen). Considering that on my former inspection the total strength of the works was 7,821, and that on my second inspection the number was 5,396—47 or 43 cases now accounted for by either method is a very fair approximation to 52·44 which that population would represent at the same rate, and this without my taking advantage of cases that though reduced were not so emaciated as to form typical specimens of "famine infants."

9. One twin on the work and one infant in the Mussalman kitchen died since my visit, and I was informed two other infants of those selected by me had also died, but as this cannot be proved, I do not press any of these additions. Indeed, sufficient evidence of the mortality which famine conditions have brought about amongst those of tender age (viz., from 1 to 5 years) is exhibited in the following table, in which I have taken the opportunity of showing that deaths have not been confined to the Adóni works :—

Municipal towns.	Actual number of deaths during January to August of 1896 (1—5 years).	Actual number of deaths during January to August of 1897 (1—5 years).	Rate of mortality during 1896 per mille per annum on the census population of that age.	Rate of mortality during 1897 per mille per annum on the census population of that age.	Rate of mortality during 1896 per mille per annum on the estimated population of that age on 31st August 1895.	Rate of mortality during 1897 per mille per annum on the estimated population of that age on 31st August 1897.
Adóni	78	191	38 4	94·3	35·3	85 2
Kurnool	50	220	26·5	116 7	24 0	103 7
Cuddapah	12	24	8·9	17·9	* 8·9	* 17·9

10. The Collector of Bellary has, in his fortnightly reports, consistently placed all instances of ill-health or falling off in condition of the people not to famine conditions, but to some form of sickness, and I presume that my present statements as to "emaciated infants" will be duly met by a list drawn up by the Tahsildars, who are well acquainted with the opinions of the Collector, showing that such cases are not due to famine but to illness, such as measles, fever and teething, and it will be shown that the famine wage is earned, and it may be more too, by members of families concerned. I can only place on record the statement that granted certain diseases have been the exciting cause of these infants' condition, it is none the less absolutely correct to assign the predisposing cause to famine conditions, and that therefore it is correct to term these products of famine conditions "emaciated infants," or if it be so preferred "famine babies." As to age, the term "infant" might well be restricted to children up to two years of age; but, as a matter of fact, it would represent a very poor way of using time, unless blank denials of facts to be reported were expected, if an inspecting officer were to demand that before he classed each starveling found in arms as an emaciated infant or emaciated child its age should be verified. Indeed, so long as the term "babies" is used in its popular sense, I see no reason why it should not embrace children requiring a mother's care and usually in arms, and this pretty nearly is the sense in which the Famine Commissioner has used that familiar term. the head of [illegible] own use of the term "infants in arms," indeed meets requirement [illegible] country sore-eyed, [illegible] he made his statem[illegible] P., No. 592, [illegible] to definiti[illegible] are 897,) [illegible] eleven ema[illegible]

found in times other than those of famine in the midst of the population—"teething," "fever," "measles," "small-pox" and "after effects of vaccination" notwithstanding. Those who look for cases of acute starvation during an Indian famine may look in vain; what is dealt with are cases of mal-nutrition, and disease making inroads into constitutions undermined by insufficient nutrition, or absence of nutrition of a character that can be readily assimilated. However, that there should be no doubt as to what I imply by emaciated infants or famine infants, or the Famine Commissioner by "emaciated babies," I submit herewith, for the information of Government, the survivals of certain abortive efforts at photography by myself which will speak for themselves. These emaciated infants were found "at Adóni" and "on the adjoining works." The photographs are marked, so that those taken on my first and second visits respectively may be identified.

12. Finally, I would state that this is not the first time I have inspected gangs in the Bellary district; I inspected the works on the Mocho and Siruguppam and Alúr roads, &c., and also the very works which are the subject of my observations. But this was as far back as December 1896 and January 1897. The women did not fail to bring infants with them in those days, and yet I did not report the presence of "famine infants"—for the good reason that they had not yet been produced as a result of famine. Curiously enough also the Collector's attention seems to have been drawn to the existence of emaciated infants, not when he first joined the district in February 1897, but by the end of May* (*vide* fortnightly report embodied in Board's Proceedings, No. 435, dated 14th June 1897), and by the 2nd July the order as to their withdrawal from works as a sequel was issued. If these "famine" infants are not the result of the gradual tightening upon the people of famine conditions, why were they not observed before May 1897? As a fact although my tour through Bellary, Kurnool and part of Anantapur took me from 19th December 1896 to 8th March 1897, I saw not a single "famine" infant; since July, I have found them in Adóni, Kurnool, Tadpatri † and Cuddapah. Is this then famine, or are we to accept Mr. Stuart's ideas as to normal teething, fever, measles, small-pox and the "after effects of vaccination"?

13. But I have been confronted not only with the denial of the existence of emaciated infants but of the existence of scurvy in the kitchens at Adóni. The Collector having received a copy of my remarks to the effect that "13 per cent. of the inmates of the branch kitchen at Adóni and 5 per cent. of those in the main kitchen were suffering from scurvy," considered it necessary to consult a local sanitary adviser—the Civil Apothecary. According to this subordinate's statement given to the Collector, there were only three cases in a population of 131, and the Collector evidently content with the opinion thus obtained significantly adds, "out of 131 persons examined he found only three with any signs of scurvy, and the symptoms were so slight that he (the Civil Apothecary) was not prepared to say that they were actually suffering from that disease; one of the cases was that of a child admitted a month ago when just recovering from an attack of measles, he has had vegetables in addition to the ordinary ration for the past four weeks, so that the scurvy, if it be scurvy, can hardly be due to want of vegetable diet in this instance. [This remark, involving, as it does, a medical deduction, shows that the Collector is not acquainted with the etiology of scurvy—W.G.K.]. Another case was that of a little boy who was much emaciated when admitted, but is now plump and cheerful. Three cases out of 131 gives a

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proportion of 2½ per cent." In the same paragraph he quotes the opinion of Surgeon-Major Evans that scurvy did not exist amongst children in the Bruceper kitchen—as to whom I have made no assertion in regard to scurvy.* Did Mr. Stuart understand the full significance of the *appearance* of scurvy in famine, he would not thus quibble at the percentage of cases in the kitchen, but would grasp the important bearing the mere existence of this condition has upon the question of the feeding of the famine-stricken. In this sense, the valuable opinion of the Civil Apothecary, although evidently not quoted by Mr. Stuart with this object, in reality supports mine. In view of the unusual official attitude of this officer, I asked the Surgeon-General to favour me by examining with me the children in the kitchen at Adóni. He had not time to examine those in the kitchen where I had said 13 per cent. were affected, but kindly undertook the examination of children in the kitchen where I had said that there were 5 per cent. The result of this examination will be found below. This shows that the Surgeon-General was of opinion that 4·7 per cent. of the children were scorbutic, which is about as close an approximation to my opinion of 5 per cent. as could well be imagined. He also held that 7 out of 13 women examined, or 53·8 per cent., were scorbutic :—

—	Total number examined.	Good.		Thin.		Emaciated.		Anæmic.		Scorbutic.		Number of famine infants.
		Number.	Percentage to total examined.	Number.	Percentage to total examined.	Number.	Percentage to total examined.	Number.	Percentage to total examined.	Number.	Percentage to total examined.	
Men	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Women	13	7	53·8	6	46·2	..	..	(a) 2	15·4	7	53·8	..
Children	127	55	66·9	32	25·2	10	7·9	5	3·9	6	4·7	(b) 13
Women with infants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

(a) One classed as slightly anæmic. (b) Includes a case of twins.

14. Taking the above facts into consideration, there is no doubt in my mind that in the arrangements for meeting the condition of women with infants and of infants themselves in this Presidency, there is much that wants careful revision, and this matter I shall enter into more fully in a report on the subject of famine administration in Bombay, where I was glad to find a more humane method of meeting requirements in this respect prevails than in the Madras Presidency.

KURNOOL.

Kocheru.

Inspected, 21*st July* 1897.

I found it necessary to ask the Famine Commissioner to accompany me on a special tour to the Kurnool district, with the object of his verifying the condition of affairs pointed out by me in my notes embodied in G.O., No. 115, Revenue, dated 23rd February 1897. Notwithstanding the direction in that order, the area referred to in Ramallakot taluk to this day is regarded as unaffected. This is certainly not due to any want of wish to aid where aid is necessary on the part of the Collector, but to misrepresentation to which he has been subjected of a character that can hardly be regarded as the result of a chapter of accidents. The condition of Ramallakot on my first inspection was, I found, of the optimistic type noted in G.O., officials; yet, I trusted the plain and unvarnished description of fa[illegible] appearance [illegible] examined for [illegible]ted by me to Government, would serve to obtain the ne[illegible]ngy gums. In my [illegible]nod I however calculated without my [illegible] neglecting to either [illegible] statements generally, by [illegible] were the use[illegible] [illegible]ad

notes embodied in G.O., No. 115, Revenue, dated 23rd February), he asserted that this man, so far from requiring to feed on tamarind seed, was in good circumstances, as shown by the fact that he had lent a neighbour 200 measures of grain, and further that he had himself lent Rs. 100 to one Punjana Papadu. The Tahsildar, to leave no doubt of the truth of his statements and the falsehood of mine, procured from the reddi a document as to the 200 measures having been lent—ingenuously omitting any date as to when the transaction took place; but this same reddi, when confronted with the villagers in the presence of the Tahsildar and the Famine Commissioner, stated whilst it was true that the loan of 200 measures of grain had been made *it was four years previously*, and that the debtor this year had only paid back an instalment of fourteen measures. As to the loan of Rs. 100 being given, it was shown to be a deliberate falsehood. This having been selected by the Tahsildar as a typical case of affluence in the midst of what I had attempted to make Government believe was a seriously affected tract, I thought it worth while pursuing further the history of the man, who, on my visit in February 1897, was content to eke out his food by use of tamarind seeds. If the distance test be of any value, certainly this man has been in distress since my visit; as he has abandoned the village and gone to a work about thirteen miles off with his wife and five children, leaving one child to look after two cattle. He uses his *rest-day* to walk thirteen miles and back to give his child a share of his famine ration. The two cattle thus cared for are the remnants of the four he possessed at the commencement of the famine — two having died. The man is a pattadar of two acres. For the two acres he has to pay Rs. 3, for which having received "notice" he paid Rs. 1-8-0. This he managed by selling two sheep; he originally possessed four, but all are now sold. A more explicit case of the breaking up of a cultivator's house as a result of famine conditions could not well be stated. So determined has this Tahsildar been in his opinion as to absence of necessity for aid in this tract, that although no less than 38 applications for loans had been made—the first batch dating from November 1896—in not a single instance had an endorsement been received by the petitioners, although several months had elapsed in uncertainty as to results, and repeated reminders had been sent by the ryots—and this notwithstanding that the Tahsildar stated to the Famine Commissioner that all had been "settled." As an instance of the condition of an ordinarily fairly well-to-do ryot may be stated the case of Kuruwa Kondanah. This is an old and respectable man. When I first inspected the village the people in his house were living upon ("umbali") cholam conjee, and it takes little knowledge of the Deccan ryot to say that he does not resort to this until necessity compels him. On my first visit, his statement was that he had secured only 800 measures of grain from his land instead of about 12,000 and that having twenty souls in his house to support, he would soon be put into great straits, unless he received a loan for which he had applied. I at the time examined his house and saw the remnants—then 400 measures—and believe that it was a very fair estimate. On my second inspection—and this was conducted with the Tahsildar—no more grain than would suffice for one or two days was found in any part of this man's house. His history since my last visit was that to meet the demand for the kist of Rs. 70, *which was made on the assumption that the tract was not affected*, he had been obliged to borrow Rs. 100 at 18 per cent., after waiting in vain for help from Government, which interest, however, he added, must accumulate as he could not now pay the current demand. If the statement as to 800 measures be accepted, this ryot paid more kist than the value of the produce of his land—at 15 measures per rupee procurable at commencement of the famine. In enquiring as to why in this case a small loan of Rs. 100 was refused, notwithstanding the existence of land and movable property that would cover it many times over, the Tahsildar admitted that although of cases [illegible] to that date have made personal enquiries before advising rejection of the "monkey *in three or four cases in his whole taluk*, he had made none in the Kocheru

The follow[illegible]tter was left to the Revenue Inspector, who contented himself, according which was opened by sitting in the village chavadi without inspecting the hou[illegible] [illegible]although advised by the reddi as to the neces[illegible] [illegible]ld not be given. Even i[illegible] [illegible]ersonally h[illegible]

more to them in 1896 than in July 1897. A most curious exhibition of how matters can be conducted in an area that a Tahsildar chooses to describe as "unaffected" occurred here. The crops were examined by the Famine Commissioner as far as evidence from existing "kurby" (cholam stalks) would allow facts to be judged. Although the Tahsildar was desired to proceed to any part of the village he might wish, it was impossible to find anything but "kurby" of the most stunted nature, and as to the failure of production of grain on which there could be no possible doubt, the excuse then asserted was that the villagers had sold all the good and retained all the bad "kurby"—a most unlikely course in the presence of steadily rising prices. The Tahsildar further maintained that he had heard from some village servants that several cart-loads of splendid cholam stalks had been seen coming from this village. The statement was however received with shouts of derision by the villagers, who told the Tahsildar that the stalks in question had simply passed through the village, and had been produced under wells in the neighbouring taluk of Pattikonda. The question being put as to how the crop in this "unaffected area" (!) had been assessed, it came out that the kurnam had stated it was from 1 to 4 anna crop, the Revenue Inspector that it was a 4 to 8 anna crop, and the Tahsildar that it was an 8 to 12 anna crop. As no other officer beyond the Tahsildar had inspected the crops, there was no further rise in their supposed value. When asked whether he valued the crops from personal knowledge, his replies were exceedingly dubious and were promptly denied by ryots in his presence. Thus he claimed to have examined the crops in September, although evidently much idea of matters could not have been gained then; but the kurnam maintained his inspection was confined to village accounts. Again, he maintained that he had inspected the crops when cut and still standing on the field; but the ryots declared that on his inspection no crops remained in the fields, and that they had been cut and stacked. The inspection that he made in September evidently referred solely to seeing certain outlying fields of the village of Kocheru when examining the village of Malkapuram, which is in a different valley. Of the petty ryots assembled—and this of course by no means embraced the total number in the village—the following men claimed to have had to borrow money from sowcars to pay the revenue demands, besides one Wudda Jalama, who had been obliged to sell two out of four bullocks for the same cause:—

Bomani Tippanah.	Pinjari Distigeri.
Taliari Seedadu.	Kumera Naganah.
Bingola Nanganah.	Wudda Raguwadu.
Godumuru Kondadadu.	

A large number of petty ryots assembled during our inspection, and repeatedly stated that if they could get work close enough to their homes to let them look after their cattle, they would be only too glad to go on road work, as the works available were distant 10, 7 and 13 miles respectively from their homes. As it was, those who could leave the village had done so to the extent of over 200 for the Naraolakonada work—13 miles off.

2. If when on my first inspection I found persons eking out their food by use of tamarind seed, when I returned on this visit I found them using leaves known in the vernacular as Chensalaku (చంసలాకు) Guru Guku. The absolutely destitute had however I believe chiefly left the village to go to the works as stated, and although these leaves were employed, it meant in the special cases simply an addition to insufficient diet—not that this was the only diet available.

3. I need not burden this already too long report with details as to the [illegible] of the villagers, as their state was duly reported in the notes embod[illegible] G.O., No. 115, Revenue, dated 23rd February 1897. I would only add that [illegible]pearance amongst them of scorbutic gums was now decided. Thus of 73 m[illegible]mined for [illegible] had spongy gums, and of 44 women 28 had sp[illegible]ms. In my [illegible] made [illegible] [illegible]pper of doubt that the Tahsilda[illegible]ecting to either [illegible] of obstinate [illegible]

evidence secured by examining persons arriving from out-stations for relief at Dhone, I consider the physical condition of many dole recipients was such as would have resulted had works been available and properly distributed over this taluk, in less expenditure on gratuitous relief, had this Tahsildar's optimistic opinion not been given to his superiors.

4. The Collector, on the above facts being brought to his notice, at once personally inspected the area, and took necessary action in regard to relief works.

Kurnool Town.

Inspected 24th and 25th July 1897.

5. This place was visited as cholera had been reported on the works, which were crowded with relief workers and were dangerously near the town. The Collector in communication with the District Sanitary Officer had acted promptly in the matter, and had carried out the majority of the suggestions contained in this office circular on "cholera prevention on famine relief works," with the result that an epidemic that might have proved a widespread disaster was effectually stayed.

Condition of Workers.

6. It was found that the condition of health ranged from that of the robust labourer to the most wretched specimens of famine-stricken women and children. This was due to the fact that not only the population of Kurnool and its surroundings was dealt with, but that also an undetermined number—probably a fifth of the whole population—were from the Nizam's Dominions, where no relief works seem to have been opened for the people. In view of the large numbers on the works (10,460) in two extremes of health, it was determined to select (instead of examining each individual) all persons who appeared to merit special observation, and then re-examine these. This was pursued with the help of the Famine Commissioner, and I need not say implied prolonged labour for both of us even when the duty was thus divided. All selected cases were ultimately examined by me. The following is the result of inspection of 506 *selected* cases:—

—	Total number examined.	Good.		Thin.		Emaciated.		Scorbutic.		Anæmic.		Number of emaciated infants.
		Number.	Percentage of total examined.	Number.	Percentage of total examined.	Number.	Percentage of total examined.	Number.	Percentage of total examined.	Number.	Percentage of total examined.	
Men	105	3	2·9	73	69·5	29	27·6	17	16·2	..	..	71
Women	203	20	9·8	154	75·9	29	14·3	65	32·02	3	1·5	
Children	198	19	9·6	133	67·2	46	23·2	25	12·6	..	..	

This means, therefore, that of the total present of 10,460 of all ages and sexes 4·8 per cent. were in a condition that gave evidence on casual examination of the influence of mal-nutrition, and that of these on more detailed examination 8·3 per cent. were found to be in good health; 71·1 per cent. proved to be thin, 20·6 per cent. emaciated, 21·1 per cent. scorbutic, and 0·[illegible] per cent. anæmic. In the whole assembly there were present 71 infants of the character which I have attempted to define in my statement as to the condition of Adóni workers as "emaciated" or "famine infants"; the rate per mille of this class at Kurnool was therefore upon the whole body of workers 0·7 and at Adóni 1·0. I attach photos taken by Mr. Lodge, of the Forest Department, of cases of famine infants selected by himself. No. A is a characteristic sample of the "monkey" face type.

The following was the condition of the Muhammadans found in the kitchen—which was opened later than it should have been, viz., 25th May 1897:—

	Good.

[illegible] for selecting four

The following was the condition of Sudras :—

—	Total number examined.	Good.		Poor.		Bad.	
		Number.	Percentage of total examined.	Number.	Percentage of total examined	Number.	Percentage of total examined.
Men	3	..	..	..	..	3	100 0
Women	6	2	33·3	2	33 3	2	33·3
Children	33	22	66·7	5	15 2	6	18·2

Cholum was being sold at 6 local measures (114 tolahs) or 17·1 lb. per rupee against lb. 60, the normal price for the district (Statistical Atlas for Madras). Buyers complained to me that even at this rate they could not buy it, as a system of retail dealers selling on commission for wholesale dealers exists. It was found that ambari bagee—one of the most common of country greens—cost, after cleaning so as to secure only edible parts, three pies for six ounces. All wood is brought from a distance of over ten miles, and famine workers have undoubtedly to buy it. Enquiries were made in the presence of the Collector and Famine Commissioner at shops where the famine workers buy wood, and it was found that two pounds of green wood cost three pies, and it was held that two such bundles would be required per day for each person per two meals. One old woman who had just bought not solid wood but mere twigs was found, on the purchase being weighed, to have bought one pound for one pie. A bundle or headload at four annas was weighed, and found to cost 1·5 pies per pound. In another case, a woman of good class had purchased wood for which she had given seven pies. Here part was in the form of twigs and part solid wood. The total weight was seven pounds. The necessity for the "ample margin," that would provide vegetables and fuel as hoped by the Government of India, is therefore self-evident.

Order—No. 969, Revenue, dated 17th November 1897.

Miscellaneous.

The Sanitary Commissioner will be requested to report whether the emaciation of the famine babies noticed by him was due to insufficient feeding *before* coming on the works, or to insufficient or unsuitable feeding *after* coming on the works.

2. The Collector of Kurnool will be directed to hold an enquiry into the charges against the Tahsildar of Ramallakot to be found at pages 14, 15 and 16 of the inspection notes and submit an early report to Government.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Secretary to Government.

To the Sanitary Commissioner.
„ the Famine Commissioner.
„ the Collector of Kurnool.

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