

EAST INDIA (FAMINE CORRESPONDENCE).

PART IV.

COPY OF CORRESPONDENCE

BETWEEN

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,

ON THE SUBJECT OF

THE FAMINE IN WESTERN AND
SOUTHERN INDIA.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.



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194	Letter -	29 Aug	Government of India Revenue Secretary.	N W Provinces, Secretary to Government.	Expressing approval of measures taken to meet threatened famine in N W Provinces, replying to No 169	151
195	Telegram -	30 Aug	Viceroy, Madras -	Secretary of State	The situation throughout India Recipients of relief in Madras and Mysore, 2,490,025	152
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197	Telegram -	31 Aug	Secretary of State	President, Simla	Western Rajputana Railway plant	152
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200	Letter -	31 Aug	Government of India Revenue Additional Secretary	Madras Revenue Secretary	Forwarding copy of the foregoing, and asking for fuller information as to the specific objects to which the famine fund is to be devoted	157
201	Letter -	31 Aug	Madras Chief Secretary to Government.	Government of India Revenue Additional Secretary.	Administrative arrangements decided on by the Duke of Buckingham after conference between his Grace and the Viceroy	158

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203	Notification -	-	-	-	Major-General M K Kennedy, B E., appointed personal assistant to the Governor of Madras in famine matters	161
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207	Telegram -	2 Sept.	Viceroy, Madras -	Secretary of State	Summary of Nos 201-2 -	168
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209	Telegram -	3 Sept.	Governor, Bombay	Secretary of State	Improvement in Bombay	169
210	Letter -	3 Sept.	Madras Revenue Additional Secretary	Government of India Revenue Additional Secretary	Replying to No 200 on the subject of the Famine Fund.	169
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214	Telegram -	5 Sept.	Viceroy, Madras -	Secretary of State	Madras Railway requirements -	171
215	Letter, No (Revenue)	5 Sept.	Governor-General	Secretary of State	Giving account of Viceroy's proceedings from date of his leaving Simla (Aug 16) to his arrival at Madras (Aug 29), of the condition of the country through which he passed, carrying power of G I P Railway insufficient for export trade in addition to grain deliveries, consequent danger to commerce, alleged corruption among station-masters, condition and prospects of Hyderabad, want to relief camps; private charity in connexion with famine relief, grain calculations and carrying power of railways, the N W Provinces, Baroda, grain export from Native States, Mysore famine administration; 2,998,808 persons receiving relief. Prospects throughout India generally improved	171
216	Letter, No (Revenue)	5 Sept.	Governor-General	Secretary of State	Description of the arrangements concluded, after conference with the Governor, for the purpose of systematising the policy and strengthening the administration of State relief throughout Madras.	179
217	Telegram -	6 Sept.	President, Simla -	Secretary of State	Public works engineers on furlough to be warned to be ready to return.	183
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219	Telegram -	6 Sept.	Secretary of State	Viceroy	In same sense as the foregoing	183
220	Telegram -	7 Sept.	Secretary of State	Viceroy	Dates of delivery of locomotives -	183
221	Telegram -	8 Sept.	Viceroy	Secretary of State	Locomotives -	183
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223	Letter	8 Sept.	Government of India Revenue Additional Secretary, Bangalore	Chief Commissioner, Mysore.	Mysore, pointing out defects in famine administration, indiscriminate gratuitous relief, want of sufficient relief works, officers appointed to strengthen administration	184

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225	Telegram - -	9 Sept.	Viceroy - - -	Secretary of State - - -	Attention will be paid to question of exacting task work in Madras (No 219)	186
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231	Letter - -	14 Sept	Drs Lewis and Cunningham	Dr S C Townsend	The fever lately prevalent in Bombay	188
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233	Letter - -	16 Sept.	Drs Lewis and Cunningham	Dr S C Townsend	Altered prospects render unnecessary despatch of 20 locomotives	189
234	Letter - -	16 Sept	Government of India Revenue Additional Secretary, Cootacamund.	Madras Revenue Additional Secretary	Works for relief of distress in Wynnad	189
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243	Telegram - -	22 Sept	Viceroy - - -	Secretary of State	Madras affairs - - -	201
244	Telegram - -	22 Sept	Secretary of State	Governor, Madras	Madras Rice imports and warehouse room	201
245	Telegram - -	22 Sept	Viceroy - - -	Secretary of State	Mysore relief	201
246	Letter No (Revenue)	86 22 Sept	Governor-General	Secretary of State	Government policy in regard to grain supply. Explanation of principles which guide the Government of India in declining under present circumstances to purchase and import grain, yet must not be understood to say that occasion never did and never can arise when Government purchases might be necessary	202
247	Telegram - -	22 Sept.	Governor, Madras	Viceroy - - -	Charitable relief agency - - -	205

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249	Telegram -	24 Sept	Secretary of State	Viceroy	Inquiry as to cost of famine (No 242)	206
250	Madras Revenue Proceedings	24 Sept.	- - -	- - -	Revised instructions for the administration of relief in the Madras Presidency	206
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252	Letter -	25 Sept	Government of India Revenue Additional Secretary, Umballa.	Madras Revenue Additional Secretary	Specific objects in detail to which Committee propose to devote their funds still incompletely supplied, no absolute prohibition against Government officers taking part in disbursement of funds, but trusts Madras will regulate demands of Committee upon local officers	211
253	Letter No 87 (Revenue)	27 Sept	Governor-General, Dharnapore	Secretary of State	Reports completion of his visit to Southern India, improvement in conduct of Mysore relief, Madras famine relief fund, general situation improved.	213
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256a	Endorsement	2 Oct	Commissioner, Pegu Division	Chief Commissioner, British Burmah	Forwarding reports on floods in the Henzada and Bassen districts	220
257	Notification	2 Oct	Famine Commissioner, Mysore	- - -	Publishing Mysore Famine Code 1877	222
258	Letter -	4 Oct	Secretary to Government, N W Provinces and Oudh.	Government of India Revenue Additional Secretary	Further report on condition and prospects of N W Provinces and Oudh, distress increased so much since middle of Sept that works must soon be opened in every division	246
259	Telegram -	5 Oct	Viceroy - - -	Secretary of State	The situation throughout India Sept 25-Oct 3 1,830,898 persons receiving relief.	249
260	Telegram -	6 Oct	Governor, Bombay	Viceroy, Simla -	Bombay Chamber of Commerce. As to maintenance of preference to famine traffic	250
261	Telegram -	7 Oct.	Governor, Bombay	Secretary of State	Rainfall throughout Presidency, except Khandesh and Sind. Prospect cheering	250
262	Letter	8 Oct	Government of India Revenue Additional Secretary	Madras Revenue Secretary	Expressing satisfaction of Viceroy with arrangements made by Madras Government	250
263	Telegram -	8 Oct.	Viceroy - - -	General Kennedy	Referring to No. 260, will it be safe to reduce preference to famine traffic?	251
264	Telegram -	8 Oct.	Viceroy - - -	President, Hyderabad	Hyderabad grain supply -	251
265	Telegram -	8 Oct.	Viceroy - - -	Governor, Bombay	Anxious to meet wishes of Bombay trade	251
266	Telegram -	9 Oct.	Major-General Kennedy	Viceroy -	Referring to No 263, no change at present advisable	252
267	Telegram	9 Oct.	Resident, Hyderabad	Viceroy, Simla -	Nizam's Government assents to reduction of obligatory famine demand on railway	252
268	Telegram	10 Oct.	Viceroy -	Governor, Bombay	Replying to No 260, Madras unwilling at present to reduce grain sent to Madras, Hyderabad agrees to reduction, Madras Government asked to watch prices, and reduce as soon as possible.	252
269	Telegram -	10 Oct	Viceroy	General Kennedy	In sense of the foregoing-	252

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270	Letter -	1877 10 Oct.	N W Provinces and Oudh Secretary to Government.	N W Provinces Board of Revenue	Kharif revenue to be exacted from those who can pay, and suspended in case of those who would otherwise be unable to cultivate their lands in the cold season	259
271	Letter No 88 (Revenue)	11 Oct.	Government of India	Secretary of State	Reporting upon the condition of Western and Southern India and of the other provinces threatened with famine, from all of which danger has been averted by abundant rainfall throughout India in the first week of October	258
272	Letter -	11 Oct.	N W Provinces and Oudh Secretary to Government.	Government of India Financial Secretary	Low state of cash balance in N W Provinces owing to failure of kharif crops, and expenditure for relief of distress, impossible to press for immediate payment of revenue demand from village communities	258
278	Telegram -	13 Oct.	Viceroy - - -	Secretary of State -	Season report, 4th to 11th Oct General rainfall throughout India, and reduction in numbers receiving relief. At present, 2,658,886	259
✓ 274	Madras Revenue Proceedings.	15 Oct.	- - - -	- - - -	Calling upon collectors to facilitate the return of people to their homes and occupations	259
✓ 275	Telegram -	16 Oct	Viceroy - - -	Secretary of State -	Misapprehension in English newspapers about mortality in Madras	260
276	Telegram -	17 Oct.	Governor, Bombay	Secretary of State	Rainfall sufficient, prospects good, trade still active	261
✓ 277	Letter -	17 Oct.	Government of India Revenue Additional Secretary	Madras, Bombay, and Mysore	Census to be taken at end of the famine to ascertain mortality	261
278	Letter -	18 Oct.	N W Provinces and Oudh Secretary to Government	Government of India Revenue Additional Secretary	Forwarding instructions as to suspension of revenue demand in consequence of failure of crops	261
✓ 279	Letter -	19 Oct.	Bombay Government Chief Secretary	Government of India Revenue Additional Secretary	Land revenue in Bombay Presidency, excluding Sund. Out of Rs 2,62,99,590 demand, Rs. 2,38,40,250 collected on 31st Aug 1877 without undue pressure Remissions granted, Rs. 2,15,110, residue recoverable	262
280	Letter -	19 Oct.	Government of India Revenue Additional Secretary	Chief Commissioner, Mysore.	Acknowledges receipt of Famine Code, and expressing satisfaction of Governor-General.	263
281	Telegram -	20 Oct	Viceroy - - -	Secretary of State -	The situation throughout India still improving, 2,372,457 persons receiving relief Reduction of 856,790 during week causes decrease of 11 lakhs in monthly expenditure	263
283	Letter -	22 Oct	Government of India Revenue Additional Secretary	N W Provinces Secretary to Government.	Replying to No 272, measures will be taken to meet the needs of the Government of the N W Provinces, experience of past famines in N W Provinces warrants belief that wholesale suspensions are not required; leaving the matter to the discretion of the Lieut-Governor, Government of India trust the great bulk of the autumn instalment will be collected, and suspensions granted only where absolutely necessary	264
283	Letter -	24 Oct.	Government of India Additional Secretary	Madras Revenue Additional Secretary	With every prospect of full winter and spring crops, Government of India trust the arrears of 1876-77 and the full demand of the current year may be collected without harshness	266
284	Telegram -	26 Oct.	Bombay Chief Secretary	Mr Bernard, Simla	Bombay land revenue collections	267
285	Telegram -	26 Oct.	Viceroy - - -	Secretary of State	Situation throughout India 19th to 25th Oct. 1,948,725 persons receiving relief Relief expenditure decreasing rapidly	267
286	Letter -	26 Oct.	Government of India Revenue Additional Secretary	Madras Revenue Additional Secretary	Expressing satisfaction of Government of India at Madras (Government orders to facilitate return of people to their homes, and reduce expenditure (No 274)	267

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287	Letter - -	1877 29 Oct -	Government of India Revenue Additional Secretary	Bombay Government Chief Secretary	Congratulating Bombay Government upon result of land revenue collections	268
288	Letter No 39 (Revenue)	30 Oct -	Government of India	Secretary of State	Forwarding correspondence and reporting upon the condition of the several provinces which have been affected or threatened by famine, large reduction in numbers receiving relief in Madras, mortality in and around Bangalore. The mortality in Madras.	268 ✓
289	Letter No 40 (Revenue)	30 Oct -	Government of India	Secretary of State	The differences of practice between the several provinces of India in regard to collection, suspension, and remission of land revenue during a year of drought, and the need for some general ruling on the subject. The loss of revenue in 1876-77 was in Madras 38 per cent, in Bombay 10 per cent, a difference due in great part to difference of practice	273
290	Despatch No 74 (Revenue)	31 Oct -	Secretary of State	Government of India	Replying to No 164	275
291	Despatch No 82 (Revenue)	8 Nov -	Secretary of State	Government of India	Replying to No 215 Expressing concurrence with views of Government of India with respect to private subscriptions in aid of relief funds	275
292	Despatch No 83 (Revenue)	8 Nov -	Secretary of State	Government of India	Replying to No 239	277 #
293	Despatch No 85 (Revenue)	23 Nov -	Secretary of State	Government of India	Replying to No 216 Arrangements concluded by the Viceroy for systematising the policy and strengthening the administration of State relief throughout the famine stricken districts of Madras appear to have been well calculated to secure the objects in view and meet with the appreciation of Her Majesty's Government.	278
294	Despatch No 86 (Revenue)	22 Nov -	Secretary of State	Government of India	Replying to No. 253	279
295	Despatch No 88 (Revenue)	29 Nov	Secretary of State	Government of India	Replying to No 271	279
296	Despatch No 98 (Revenue)	27 Dec -	Secretary of State	Government of India	Replying to No 288	280
297	Despatch No 99 (Revenue)	27 Dec -	Secretary of State	Government of India	Replying to No. 269	281

NOTE.—*This Return is a continuation of Part III, and contains letters of the Government of India subsequent to No 25 of the 4th of June 1877, with their enclosures, and the Despatches of the Secretary of State in reply.*

The arrangement is chronological. It will be seen that the earlier correspondence herein contained is of prior date to some already published; this is explained by the marginal references. The documents in question form enclosures to letters which were not received when Part III. was prepared.

CORRESPONDENCE.

No. 1.

Encl. in
No. 79.

EXTRACT from the PROCEEDINGS of the GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY in the Public Works Department (Local), No. 268 C. W.—1,038, dated 13th December 1876.

READ again—

Government Resolution No. 186 C W—827 of 15th November 1876, and Government Resolution No. 206 C. W.—869 of 21st November 1876.

RESOLUTION—Looking to the large and increasing number of people who, at this early period, have sought, and are seeking, relief on works, it seems probable that these works are rendered too attractive, either by the rate of wages to be earned upon them, or because from want of efficient superintendence, or from other causes, a proper amount of labour is not exacted from the persons who resort to them.

2 It is not the desire or intention of Government to render these relief works attractive, they have been commenced on the scale on which they are in progress, not because the Government desire to carry them on to so large an extent, but in order that they may afford an opportunity of earning wages to persons who are without means, and cannot elsewhere (owing to the absence of agricultural employment) find the means of procuring money, to enable them to purchase sufficient food to preserve themselves from starvation.

3 Government are most desirous that these works should be carried on in such a manner that, without pressing too hardly upon the people, and without requiring from them an amount of work which would over-strain in any way their physical powers, there should still be required of the persons who come upon relief works, a fair return for the aid which Government is making great sacrifices to afford them.

4. Government, in short, do not propose to afford gratuitous relief to those who can work, but expect a fair return for the present drain upon the treasury, and are also most solicitous not to pauperise the people by supporting them in idleness, or comparative idleness.

5 First as regards the rate of wages—

In accordance with orders already issued, the rates have been fixed at 2 annas a man, 1½ annas for a woman, and 1 anna for a boy or a girl old enough to be able to work, and a sliding scale has been authorised, by which the rate of wages increases when the staple food-grain becomes dearer than 16 lbs for a rupee.

6 Government have no desire to alter the principle of this arrangement, and, looking to the fact that in ordinary times a labourer can earn on works about 3 annas per diem, and to the prevailing price of food, the rates of wages fixed, though ample, are not excessive, and were intended to supply a reliable test of the need of the persons who accepted them. But Government consider that as the scale increases, as the price of grain rises above 16 lbs for the rupee, so it should, to be consistent with the principle adopted, decrease when the price of grain falls much below that point.

7 In this view they are pleased to rule, that whenever the price of grain is not lower than 18 lbs per rupee, the existing order shall remain in force, but in all cases when the price of grain is 18 lbs or more for a rupee—

a man shall be paid at the rate of 1 anna + the value of ½ a seer of 80 tolas, or 1 lb of grain,

a woman shall be paid at the rate of ½ an anna + the value of ½ a seer of 80 tolas, or 1 lb of grain; and

a boy or girl employed on the works shall be paid at the rate of the value of ½ a seer of 80 tolas of grain, or, at the option of the directing officer, at the rate of ½ an anna + the value of ¼ seer of 80 tolas, or ½ a lb of grain.

8 As regards superintendence—

Government fear that, in consequence of the sudden and great pressure that has come upon the District Officers, Civil and Public Works, they have not been able to arrange for efficient and trustworthy superintendence in sufficient quantity. The question is a most important one, unless there be a proper check and control, Government will not obtain the whole object they have in view, they may support the people who really require

assistance, and may also be led into providing for persons who do not need support. There will be no security that the State will receive a proper return for the large expenditure it is incurring, and the people will suffer in their morale.

9 Immediate reports, should be made by Civil and Public Works Department Officers on the superintendence available, and it should be shown how the existing establishments are composed, what further aid is actually needed, not only to meet present, but to satisfy probable prospective wants, and how much is required on each considerable work and in each district. Collectors should be reminded that, under existing orders, they are empowered to place the Mamlatdar of each affected taluka on special duty as a Relief Mamlatdar, and to appoint a temporary Mamlatdar in his place, also that a Relief District Deputy Collector has been allowed for each seriously affected district.

10. On receipt of the reports regarding establishment now called for, Government will endeavour to make the necessary arrangements; the kind of assistance that will, in all probability, be chiefly needed will be that of intelligent persons capable of making and recording simple measurements, and who are to be trusted to disburse payments to workpeople.

No 2.

EXTRACTS FROM PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS. 9th February 1877.

No. 245.—Read the following telegram from the Government of India, Department of Commerce, dated Calcutta, 26th January 1877.—

Sir Richard Temple represents importance of not promising to the people remissions of land revenue, but only suspending the demand. We commend question to your notice in consultation with him.

Resolved that the following reply be despatched as a telegram —

No 246 —“ Yours 26th, about remissions of land revenue. Principle of assessment is a share of crop. Wet land, when crop is lost for want of water, receives remission by prescriptive custom. Dry land when crop is lost receives remission under special order of Board Revenue. To introduce now suspension where remission customary, would tend to check attempts at cultivation, which it is desirable to stimulate. Letter follows.”

No. 247.—MINUTE by the Honourable SIR W. ROBINSON, K.C.S.I.

In dealing with this telegram we ought, I think, distinctly to state the broad principle of our land revenue demand under ryotwari settlement, viz, a right to a share of the crop of each field for the year in which it is grown, commuted into a money payment. No margin is allowed for extraordinary vicissitudes of season, and the demand is so heavy and searching that little room is left for the accumulation of agricultural capital to meet contingencies such as have overtaken the population. The proposal is, therefore, inconsistent with the principle of our settlement, and alike impolitic and impracticable in a season like this, when the crop has utterly failed, the cattle are perishing, and nothing remains to exact from the bulk of our poorer ryots in whose interest remission is being made.

The acreable demand on wet land is high throughout the presidency, averaging upwards of 5 rupees per acre. On dry land the demand is less, but averages upwards of 1 rupee per acre. The total is heavy, and in this presidency 30 millions pay about 4½ millions sterling of land revenue; while 60 millions in Bengal pay, I understand, considerably less.

Under the principle of our settlement when the crop, whether wet or dry, is lost, there is nothing to share. The ryot has lost his labour, seed, and profits, the Government necessarily forego their demand against his unaided toil; thus remission, not postponement, is the unwritten and prescriptive law of the land when failure is so serious as to require abandonment of the State demand.

In the case of wet land, for which water—which Government is bound to supply—has failed, remission is absolute and of right. There is no crop to share, and the rent-charge is high, and water supply has not been maintained.

As regards dry land, the claim to remission is probably no less of right, but it is less completely conceded by Government, because the demand is, on the whole, lighter, and there is no guarantee in respect to needful water. Only when serious loss occurs in very bad years therefore, and under special orders, is remission for failure of dry crop

conceded—such a season as the one we are passing through now—and circumstances render remission unavoidable on dry land where crop has wholly failed.

On these grounds I entirely dissent from Sir Richard Temple's proposals, as contrary to the principle of a ryotwari settlement and customary immemorial law of the country, and as being specially unjust under the circumstances of the season and of agricultural population at this time.

A season like the present one must, irrespective of the loss of seed, labour, and profits necessarily incurred, and of debt already contracted, plunge the whole population in pecuniary difficulty of no ordinary magnitude for the maintenance of life; and still further pecuniary demand is before the agriculturists to enable them to resume their agricultural operations, and obtain seed and cattle. To keep a debt of a million sterling and more hanging over their heads in the shape of suspended taxations will prove most disastrous to the well-being of the country, and must postpone its future restoration. I do not believe that in the long run it would be found possible to recover the suspended demand, and plenary remission must prove the final necessity. Why, in the meantime, hold so injurious a demand *in terrorem* over the country? The policy now pressed upon us by Sir Richard Temple is the objectionable practice of native zamindars, which so burdens the serfs they make of their cultivators—a policy which we take every opportunity of deprecating and, as opportunity (Court of Wards) occurs, of abrogating. Nothing has been more strongly deprecated and discouraged by our administration than the accumulation of arrears and State debts against our ryots, and this is specially a time for adhering to this policy.

It may not be out of place here to call attention to the enormous drain on the means of our people for mere subsistence which is going on at this moment, and promises before the end of our distress to assume gigantic proportions. The imports of food-grain in the single port of Madras amounted, during the six months between July and December 1876, to Rs. 1,45,00,000, against an average for the same six months of the previous three years of about Rs. 9,50,000. The exports of agricultural produce have, of course, fallen off very greatly, in respect to some articles ceased, and this import of food is being met from the small savings of the people. They will have spent millions on foreign food ere the country recovers, and I ask from whence is this suspended demand to be met?

31st January 1877

(Signed) W ROBINSON.

ORDER thereon by the GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS, dated 9th February 1877, No. 575.

No 248.—Ordered that the following letter be despatched to the Government of India —

No 576, dated Fort St George, the 9th February 1877.

From the Secretary to the Government of Madras, to the Additional Secretary to the Government of India

Referring to the telegrams marginally noted, arising out of a representation to the Government of India by Sir Richard Temple on the subject of remissions of land revenue which are being made in respect of the present famine, I am directed by his Grace the Governor in Council to submit the following additional observations.

2 During the existence of the heavy assessments which prevailed in this presidency down to the time of Lord Harris's Government, and before the introduction of the revenue settlement now in progress, and which has already taken effect in five districts, and in considerable portions of four others—remissions were large and numerous, administered under a complicated system, and forming part of the annual and ordinary *janabandi*. Under the revised assessment, it was anticipated that the necessity for making them would cease, except under rare and special circumstances. A distinct order settled—the following are the sole rules on the subject, viz, —

- (1) *Wet land*—Full remission when the land is left waste, or the crop totally lost owing either to deficiency or excess of water
- (2) *Dry land*—None, except in very exceptional circumstances of distress, and under the express sanction of the Board of Revenue in each case

In unsettled districts, the second rule applies to them also; but to wet lands in unsettled districts partial loss of crops entitles the occupant to partial remissions; the additional concession in favour of unsettled districts in this respect being based on

the fact that the rates there are often high and unequal; and no allowance was made, in fixing them, for vicissitudes of season.

3 Taking the accounts of the fash year ending 30th June 1875, it appears that the remissions under the first head came to Rs. 2,70,000 only, and were caused principally by disastrous floods in Nellore, and that those under the second head amounted to 1 lakh. Sundry small remissions of a miscellaneous character brought up the total to 4½ lakhs, being about ½ per cent on the total assessment of ryotwari holding of Rs. 3,88,46,315. Such were the results of the system in an ordinary year.

4 With regard to the proposal to saddle the ryot with the sum that would now, under customary law, be remitted—the assessment on a crop which was never grown—as a debt to be paid by him in the following year—the Governor in Council is entirely opposed to the suggestion.

In the first place, as respects wet land, it is obvious that the Government is under an implied covenant to supply the necessary irrigation. In making the settlement, which proceeds in all cases on the basis of sharing the crop between the Government, and the ryot, a certain allowance is made to the ryot for ordinary vicissitudes of season; and this being so, the full assessment is exacted even in bad years where the loss of crop is partial only; but where the water to be supplied fails altogether, the attempt at such exaction would be universally resisted as at variance with the bargain and a grave injustice.

2ndly. As regards dry lands, although, from the nature of the case, there is no similar implied covenant here, the objections to the policy of exacting the full assessment in a season like the present are manifold—

(a) The Madras ryot is very heavily taxed; 5 rupees per acre for wet (single crop) and 1 rupee per acre for dry being his average assessment. Moreover, under other terminable settlements, the whole of the waste land is given up by Government for the term of thirty years—and under the zemindari settlement it is given up in perpetuity, in addition to the per-centage for the zemindar's commission. But in Madras, not only is every acre of waste liable to its full quota of tax, as soon as brought under cultivation, but there is no allowance whatever for fallow, or for land in a ryot's occupation which is *bonâ fide* set apart by him for the pasturage of his cattle. For instance, during the fash year last reported on, as much as 2,134,110 acres with an average assessment of 15 annas, left waste by the ryots of this presidency out of their holdings chiefly for the purpose last mentioned, was fully charged against them, and fully collected.

(b.) Let the extent and nature of their holdings be considered. The number of leases is 2,392,064, of these 38,825 only are above 100 rupees, while upwards of one million and a quarter are below 10 rupees. The average extent of a holding is 8 acres, and the average assessment payable is 15 rupees, or thirty shillings sterling. How are two million peasant proprietors of this kind to pay sixty shillings apiece next year—after a season of unprecedented calamity, which, in addition to other sufferings and losses, has brought about already the destruction of a great portion of their cattle—and will cause the loss of many more? So far from supposing it possible to collect the assessment from the great body of impoverished ryots, the Government anticipate having to make considerable advances for the assistance of cultivators in the purchase of agricultural stock and seed grain.

(c.) It is, at all events, impossible to inaugurate any new system *per saltum* or without full and sufficient notice; and where such notice is given the ryot has at hand a procedure by which he can readily protect himself. By immemorial custom the Madras ryot is at liberty to readjust the extent of his holding within a certain day of each year, which day is selected with special reference to the monsoon on which his district principally depends for its rains. In Bellary, for instance, the south-west monsoon is looked for in the first week of June; and the ryot is allowed till the 15th of July to contract his holding. There can be no doubt that, if Bellary cultivators had foreseen that however bad the coming season, they would, sooner or later, be called upon to pay the full assessment on their holdings, those holdings would, in the vast majority of cases, have been contracted, and very many altogether relinquished. Nobody has anything to fear from competition, for his neighbours are as straitened as himself, and in this way the Government would be a far greater loser in direct collection of revenue than it is at present, would have many hundreds of thousands more on relief works, and would lose for the common good the produce of the cultivation which is still carried on. Many a reputable ryot, who is now digging a well and toiling on as best he may with the help of the village money-lender, would immediately fall into the utter destitution which characterises the great majority of his fellows, he will not try to help himself, if his possible failure is to be followed by the swift and inexorable demands of the State.

for the full assessment of his land, nor would any sane money-lender advance him a loan in such circumstances

5 His Grace in Council trusts that in the foregoing remarks he has demonstrated the utter impossibility in part, and the inexpediency in all, of attempting to vary the usual undertaking and custom by substituting, suddenly and without notice, suspension for remission of revenue in a specially disastrous season. He would, however, point in conclusion to the large figures yielded by the land revenue of Madras—the highest in any part of India—and to its annually steady increase. He believes that its management is thoroughly well in hand by those to whom the system pursued has long been familiar, and that the wholesale innovation proposed had nothing to recommend it, except that it would retain apparently to the credit of Government a claim which would never be realised. It is as incompatible, in his opinion, with justice to the ryots as with the prosperity of the general revenues of the presidency; not only the land revenue, but that under every other head—Salt, Stamps, Abkari—rises or falls with the condition of the ryot, and of the vast agricultural and mercantile populations linked with his interests

6. The people, it has been shown, can protect themselves by relinquishing their lands in bad years, and would certainly in self defence do so, if the unusual course proposed by Sir Richard Temple were adopted. Such action on the part of the ryots would be alike injurious to themselves and to the State, and his Grace the Governor in Council trusts that valid reasons have been advanced for making no change in the ordinary practice, which has always been observed in this presidency, of granting remission of the Government revenue on the occurrence of disastrous seasons.

7 A copy of this correspondence will be furnished for the information of the Secretary of State.

No. 3.

No. 1, dated Fort St. George, 10th February 1877.

From the GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS to HER MAJESTY'S SECRETARY OF STATE

We have the honour to submit for your Lordship's information copies of a recent correspondence* with the Government of India, arising out of a suggestion made by Sir Richard Temple on the subject of remissions of land revenue which are being made in respect of the present famine.

*Proceedings of Government, 9th February 1877, Nos 245 to 249

No. 4

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS of the BOARD OF REVENUE, MADRAS, dated 1st March 1877.

In separate proceedings the Board have passed orders on the recommendations of the several Collectors as to the remissions to be granted in the present season, but the amount of revenue at stake being, in the unfortunate circumstances of the present season, enormous, they deem it necessary to issue the following general instructions for the guidance of settling officers at the approaching Jamábandi

2 The demands for remission in the current year will be so great that the Board fear that sufficient scrutiny of them will be very difficult. Great care will have to be exercised in checking the disposition of tahsildars and subordinate revenue officers to recommend wholesale remissions. Nunjah remissions should be dealt with strictly according to the remission rules. As to punjah remissions, none should be granted where one crop of any kind has been obtained, even though it be not the principal crop of the year. In the southern districts, especially, a large extent of land has yielded a crop, though possibly one below the average, under the early rains, and the prices commanded by agricultural produce are now so great that a single crop of the kind will enable the ryots to pay the assessment on their lands as easily as in ordinary years. Percentage remissions for partial failure of crop have been sanctioned on the Collector's recommendations in some districts, but it is the Board's desire that the rates named should always be considered as maxima and not to be granted as a matter of course. The rates must be adjusted by the settling officers to the condition of the country and the circumstances necessitating indulgence to the people; and it must be remembered

that in settled districts a large reduction is already made to allow for vicissitudes of season. No remission should be granted when the crops have yielded 6 aithas or upwards, i.e., half or more than half of an average crop. The principle of dealing with claims with reference to whole villages, groups of villages, or tracts, must be carefully carried out. As regards *punyah waste*, care must be taken to exclude from remission lands usually left waste for pasture and other purposes which are known in some districts as *mamool waste*.

3. Collectors are requested to furnish to the Board, as soon as possible after the *Jamabandi* of each taluk is finished and in advance of the settlement report, a brief report showing the amount of remission for waste, shavi, and partial loss in dry and wet lands respectively in the taluk, with any remarks which the Collectors or settling officers may see fit to record, and to note in the reports, for comparison, the average remission granted in the three previous fashis. In these reports occasional remissions only should be given.

No 5

Telegram dated 18th March 1877.

From SIR R. TEMPLE, Sholapore, to REVENUE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY, Calcutta

The Madras Government were asked to decide question of remission of revenue after consulting with me. I have never been able to submit a proper opinion without seeing the papers. I should be obliged if the Madras Government were instructed to let me see the papers necessary for understanding the case. It is quite understood that the local Government is to decide question of remission or suspension at its discretion. Papers which I desire to see are Revenue Board orders on each district regarding remissions.

No. 6.

Telegram dated 21st March 1877.

From REVENUE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY, Calcutta, to REVENUE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY, Madras.

Sir Richard Temple telegraphs as follows:—

“The Madras Government were asked to decide question of remission of revenue after consulting with me. I have never been able to submit a proper opinion without seeing the papers. I should be obliged if the Madras Government were instructed to let me see the papers necessary for understanding the case. It is quite understood that the local Government is to decide question of remission at its discretion. Papers which I desire to see are Revenue Board orders on each district regarding remissions.”

Message ends

The Government of India will be obliged by his being supplied with desired information

No. 7

Telegram dated 23rd March 1877

From REVENUE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY, Calcutta, to SIR R. TEMPLE, Sholapur.

Your telegrams of 18th to me and 21st to Strachey. The former was repeated on 21st to Madras with request to supply desired information.

No 8

EXTRACT from the PROCEEDINGS of the GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, Financial Department,
No. 1,826, dated 28th March 1877

READ—

A letter from the Government of Madras, No 213, dated the 22nd January 1877, requesting that a special assignment of funds may be made to Provincial Services

Encl in
No. 51.

Encl in
No 51

Encl in
No 51.

Encl
No. 60

for the purpose to meet the extraordinary expenditure anticipated in 1877-78 owing to the high prices and distress prevailing in the Madras Presidency, and the consequent increase of crime.

RESOLUTION.—The Governor-General in Council observes that, as the provincial allotments are consolidated, no addition thereto can be made on the ground of the alleged insufficiency of any particular item used in the calculation upon which they were based.

2 When the Bengal famine occurred, the local Government was required to exhaust its entire resources, provincial and local, in contending against the calamity, and the same course should now be followed in the Madras and Bombay Presidencies.

3 To save the Government of Bengal from actual insolvency, such a contribution was eventually made from Imperial Revenues as left it after the famine with a net balance of five lakhs of rupees at credit of its Provincial Funds and the Local Funds at its disposal for provincial purposes together. His Excellency in Council will be prepared to treat the Governments of Madras and Bombay hereafter in the same way.

ORDERED,—that this Resolution be communicated to the Revenue Department, the Governments of Madras and Bombay, to the Accountants-General in those presidencies, and to the Comptroller-General, for information and guidance.

No. 351, dated Simla, 11th April 1877.

Endorsed by the DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, AGRICULTURE, AND COMMERCE.
Copy forwarded to the Home Department for information.

No. 352.

Copy forwarded to the Secretary to Sir R. Temple for his Honour's information.

No. 9.

Telegram dated 8th April 1877.

From SIR RICHARD TEMPLE TO VICEROY.

Mr Hope's message of 23rd March told me Madras Government was instructed to furnish me copies of Revenue Board's orders regarding land revenue remissions; thereupon I asked repeatedly for those papers without obtaining either answer or papers; to-day I learn that Madras Government object to furnish papers, and are submitting letter to Government of India on subject; my object in asking for these papers is to master present state of question I fully understand decision that local Government is to settle remission question, but I might press locally for economy within lines laid down by Madras Government, and I should be able to submit general question in shape for enunciation of rule for guidance in future famines. My time is drawing very short, I solicit that decision may be communicated by telegraph. If Government of India decides I shall have papers, a message might go to Madras accordingly. Unless telegraphic orders issue, I shall not have time to do anything. In either case I would solicit to be informed. The papers could be kept quite confidential for the present

No. 10.

Telegram dated 9th April 1877.

From VICEROY TO GOVERNOR, Madras.

The Government of India learn from Temple that Madras Government object to furnish him with the papers referred to in our telegram of 21st March. The Government of India think it very desirable that Temple should be furnished with these papers in order that he may be enabled to state his views fully. There is no intention of interfering with the discretion of local Government regarding remissions on present occasion, but a full discussion of the subject may be useful for future famines. The discussion can be treated as confidential for the present if the Madras Government desire. It seems due to Temple that his request should be complied with, and we trust that your Grace's Government will waive this objection.

No 1,382, dated Fort St. George, 10th April 1877

From the OFFICIATING CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
to the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

I am directed to reply to your telegram dated 21st ultimo. It communicates copy of a telegram received by you from Sir R. Temple, in which he states that this Government were asked to decide the question of remissions after consulting him, that in view to his understanding the question it is necessary for him to see all the orders that have been issued by the Madras Board of Revenue on each famine district, and he accordingly suggests that this Government may be instructed to supply him with such papers. The Government of India, you state, will be obliged by a compliance with Sir R. Temple's wishes.

2 Although Sir R. Temple does not mention it, it should be stated that when addressing you he had already received a communication from this Government declining to afford him the papers required, on the ground that the case was fully concluded by the terms of the Government of India Despatch to the Secretary of State, published at page 199 of the supplement to the "Gazette of India" of the current year; and to this opinion his Grace the Governor in Council continues to adhere.

3. It is desirable to trace the course which the correspondence on this question has taken.

It will be admitted that it was no part of Sir R. Temple's original commission, the objects of which are laid down in the Despatch marginally noted. It appears, however, that shortly after entering upon his duties in this presidency Sir R. Temple represented to the Government of India the importance of not promising to the people remissions of land revenue but only suspending the demand, and in their telegram to this Government, dated 26th January, the Government of India remark—"We commend question to your notice in consultation with Sir R. Temple." In reply the Government of Madras strongly deprecated the proposed reversal of policy, both by telegram* and by letter†. To the telegram the Government of India replied by a telegram dated 7th idem, viz.

* Dated 2nd February
† Dated 9th February
—"Your telegram of 2nd February merely commends Sir R. Temple's suggestion to your consideration"—no longer it is observed in consultation with him—"but will not interfere with the discretion of the local Government in a question of this kind;" and to the latter they replied by referring his Grace in Council to the answer conveyed in the telegram. When it is added that these communications were immediately followed up by the Despatch to the Secretary of State, already referred to as having been published in the "Gazette of India," in which, besides repeating their decision that the matter must be left to the discretion of this Government, the Government of India go much further and say—"We have now only to observe that the Madras Government have shown good reasons for the opinions which they so strongly hold"—it is impossible to conceive a case in which further discussion is more inadmissible than the present one.

4. If after a decision deliberately passed in communication with the Government of Madras the Governor-General in Council thinks proper to reopen the question as regards future years, his Grace the Governor in Council will be prepared to discuss it again with the Government of India; but as regards the present year the case is absolutely concluded.

5. A copy of this letter will be submitted for the information of the Secretary of State.

No. 12.

Telegram dated 17th April 1877.

Encl in
No. 51

FROM SIR R. TEMPLE, Arcot, to REVENUE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY, Simla.

Having learnt from Viceroy that Madras Government were instructed to give me the land revenue remission papers, I asked for them. Madras has again declined to furnish them pending answer to their official reference. Unless they obey orders of Government of India to send papers now, there will be no time for me to make a report, but I can do so afterwards whenever papers received.

No 13.

No. 1914, dated Bombay Castle, the 17th April 1877

Encl in
No. 60

FROM THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY TO SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, Financial Department.

I am directed by his Excellency the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of the Resolution of the Government of India, No. 1,826, dated 28th ultimo, regarding the appropriation of the Provincial and Local Funds towards the expenses incurred in consequence of the famine.

2 His Excellency the Governor in Council observes that the balance to the credit of the Provincial Funds at the close of 1876-77 amounts to Rs. 7,41,854, and if, out of that amount, the sum apparently contemplated by the Government of India, viz., Rs 5,00,000, be reserved to meet Provincial and Local charges, the sum which will be hereafter available for the final settlement of famine advances will amount to Rs 2,41,854.

3 It will at the same time be for consideration what proportion of the reserved balance of Rs 5,00,000 must be assigned to those Local Committees whose funds will have been exhausted, but his Excellency in Council takes it for granted that no claim can be made on the Local Funds of districts in which no famine charges have been incurred, as he considers that such a proceeding will be altogether at variance with the spirit of the Local Funds Act

4 His Excellency in Council feels it his duty to point out that by thus complying, when the time comes, with the present orders of the Government of India, the Provincial balance of the presidency will be reduced much below the amount which the Government of India have declared to be necessary, and that it has never been found practicable up to the present time to provide for the annual charges without drawing on the balance, although this Government have endeavoured to be as economical as possible. Provincial taxation appears therefore to be inevitable

5 Looking, however, to the figures for 1877-78, I am to state that a large portion of the balance referred to in paragraph 2 has been appropriated towards the expenditure estimated for the current year, and the balance estimated to the credit of the Provincial Services at the end of the current year thus amounts to Rs 5,62,555 His Excellency in Council does not think that any saving is possible, as this Government are not commencing a single new public work beyond the petty ones included in the Minor Works grant Reserving, therefore, Rs 5,00,000 out of this balance, the amount available towards the famine charges will amount to about Rs. 62,000

No 14.

Telegram dated 20th April 1877

Encl in
No 51

FROM REVENUE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY, SHILJI, to REVENUE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY, Madras

Your letter of 10th instant, number 1,382, has been received and considered. The Governor-General in Council decides that Sir Richard Temple ought to see the papers.

No. 15.

Telegram dated 25th April 1877.

FROM REVENUE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY, Madras, to REVENUE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY, Simla

According to desire of the Governor-General in Council, expressed in your cypher message dated 20th (in) reply to my letter of the 20th instant, copy (of) papers required will be sent for Sir Richard Temple's information

Encl in
No 51.

No 16.

No. 1,556, dated Fort St George, 25th April 1877

From the OFFICIATING CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT OF FORT ST GEORGE, Revenue Department, to the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Referring to my cypher telegram of this date I have the honour to confirm the same

G O, 16th Nov 1876, No 1695	G O, 23rd Feb. 1877, No 798
" 27th " " 1810	" 9th Mar " " 995
" 17th Jan. 1877, " 188	" 10th " " " 1016
" 23rd " " " 313	" 12th " " " 1085.
" 10th Feb " " " 607	" 19th " " " 1187
" 13th " " " 658	" 19th " " " 1188
" 15th " " " 654	" 20th " " " 1157
" 13th " " " 656	" 22nd " " " 1189
" 13th " " " 657	" 28th " " " 1255
" 13th " " " 665	" 3rd April " " 1295
" 13th " " " 666	" 3rd " " " 1296
" 15th " " " 698	" 4th " " " 1323
" 18th " " " 748	" 15th " " " 1461
" 19th " " " 748	

in writing, viz, that, agreeably to the instructions of the Government of India on my letter of 10th April instant, No. 1,382, the several orders marginally noted have been furnished for Sir Richard Temple's information direct to save the delay in transmitting them, in the more regular way, to the Government of India.

The correspondence will be reported to the Secretary of State

Encl in
No 51No^r 17

No CXVII—MEMORANDUM by MR C E BERNARD, Secretary to Sir Richard Temple, regarding the REMISSIONS OF LAND REVENUE in consequence of the failure of HARVESTS in 1876, Nagpur, April 28, 1877

One of the very first points which attracted the attention of Sir Richard Temple on his mission to the famine districts in January last, was the apparent disposition of revenue officers in Madras and Bombay to remit so much of the land revenue as could not fairly be collected this season from the ryots, who had lost their crops in consequence of the drought. It was understood that the higher revenue authorities of Madras and Bombay were opposed to the system of suspending (that is, postponing to future good years the collection of) any of the land revenue that the ryots could not be fairly called upon to pay this year

2 In permanently settled Bengal it had been the almost unvarying rule not to remit or suspend any land revenue in consequence of vicissitudes of season. In provinces of the Bengal Presidency, where the land revenue was settled for a term of years only, such as Orissa, the North-West Provinces, and the Punjab, it had been usual to grant certain suspensions (postponements of the collection) of land revenue in the most affected tract. In subsequent years the greater part of the suspended demand was collected; but some small* part was remitted in extreme cases.

* It may be well to adduce figures in support of the statement that in other parts of India it is customary to grant remission of land revenue very sparingly even in cases of very great failure of the crops. For the earlier famines, the records are not very clear, but so far as I can ascertain the subjoined figures are correct—

	Total land revenue remitted	Total land revenue demand of the afflicted area
North-West Provinces famine of 1803	30 lakhs (approximate)	156 lakhs
North-West Provinces famine of 1837-38	90 lakhs	350 "
North-West Provinces and Punjab famine of 1860	10 "	420 "
Bengal and Behar famine of 1866 (The figures for Orissa are not now accessible to me)	0 "	240 "
North-West Provinces famine of 1869	2½ lakhs	128 "
Central Provinces famine of 1869	—	30 "
Behar and Bengal famine of 1874	—	300 "

3. Sir Richard Temple drew the attention of the Government of India to this matter, and recommended that no remissions of land revenue should, for the present, be made or promised, but that the land revenue demand should be suspended whenever necessary; it being left for future decision how much of the suspended demand ought to be finally remitted, and how much might be properly collected from the ryots. The Government of India, after consulting the Governments of Madras and Bombay, decided that the matter should be left to the discretion of the local Governments.

4. In the exercise of this discretion the Bombay Government has arranged that its Collectors should distribute the land revenue arrears of the present year under the two heads of "to be remitted" and "to be suspended," hoping that, if the next two seasons are favourable, a part, at least, of the "suspended" revenue may be collected. It will probably turn out that less than 30 lakhs will be remitted out of a total land revenue demand of 115 lakhs in the distressed districts of Bombay.

5. The Madras Government, on the other hand, held that it was inexpedient to vary the usual custom, and to substitute suspension for remission of revenue in a disastrous season like that which has just passed. The Board of Revenue estimated that the remissions of land revenue, to be made on account of the recent failure of crops, would reach 143 lakhs of rupees (1,430,000*l*). The total (ryotwari) land revenue of the twelve districts affected by the drought is 192 lakhs. No remissions are proposed for permanently settled (zemindari) estates, the land revenue on which is distinct from the ryotwari land revenue. But the Board, in reviewing the remission proposals submitted from each district, and in their circular order of the 1st March, have inculcated great care in granting remission. In some districts the Collectors have postponed the jamabandi (that is, the verification of holdings and apportionment of remissions) in case the May showers might restore hope and credit to the ryots; and perhaps the actual remissions finally made may fall short of the Board's estimate. Possibly the discussion which has taken place may help revenue authorities to be firm in realising as much of the Government dues as can fairly be collected.

6. But the question has an important bearing on the finance of future famines, and it would be well that it should be considered how far the practice of the Madras Government, in regard to remissions of revenue, should be held as a precedent for the guidance of revenue authorities in future famines.

7. Before considering the reasons for or against the decision taken by the Madras Government in the present case, it may be well to review very briefly some of the statistics of and the system of the Madras revenue administration.

8. The land revenue of Madras is derived from three distinct sources, namely —

	Rs. •
Permanently settled quit rent and zemindari estates paying about	69,00,000
Irrigated lands paying land revenue at "wet" rates, about	1,70,00,000
Lands which are unirrigated, or are irrigated only from wells, paying at "dry" rates about	1,69,00,000
Total	4,08,00,000
Add for the two unmeasured West Coast districts	30,70,000
Ditto miscellaneous land revenue items	26,50,000
	57,20,000
Grand Total	4,65,20,000
Deduct average remissions granted in ordinary years	12,00,000
	4,52,20,000
Average land revenue of a good year for the Madras Presidency,	
or say 4½ millions sterling	

I do not lay much stress on the precedent set by permanently settled Bengal, where the land revenue bears a comparatively small proportion to the rental or the produce of the land. But the example of the North-West Provinces and the Punjab is surely to the purpose, for the land revenue there presses at least as hardly on the land as it does under present arrangements in Madras, and further, the profits of the land have in some cases to be divided among two or more sets of rightholders, instead of going straight into the pockets of the ryot (peasant proprietor) as they do in Madras.

It is noteworthy that, though in 1837-38 considerable remissions had to be given, yet the great improvement in the condition of the landed classes during the last 40 years has enabled them to make good from the surplus of favourable seasons the arrears of land revenue due on account of occasional years of drought and failure of harvest.

The figures in this note are taken from Geddes' "Famine Experiences" and from Girdlestone's "Past Famines of the N. W. P."

9 Over a part of the Madras Presidency (about nine districts out of the 21 which compose the presidency) the land revenue has been settled for 30 years. Under this settlement the land has been surveyed, holdings have been demarcated and mapped, the incidence of the land revenue has been made much more equitable; the Government has engaged not to demand land revenue at the settlement rates only for 30 years. But the ryot (or peasant proprietor) has not bound himself to pay the revenue for 30 years, he can, even in the settled districts, throw up his land when he likes. In the districts to which the 30 years' settlement of the land revenue has not been extended, the ryots theoretically are liable to have their land revenue altered from year to year. But practically, they are just as secure as their brethren in the settled districts. They can and do sell or mortgage their holdings; and their title as peasant proprietor is almost as good as a ryot's title in the settled districts. The land revenue in parts of these districts used formerly to press unequally, and in some cases it was heavy and the people were poor! But during the last 15 years the position of the Madras ryot, even in the districts which are not settled for 30 years, has very greatly improved, the revenue rates are fair and equitable; the high rates of Rs 27 or Rs 30 per acre have disappeared, and generally speaking the land revenue demand presses nearly as equally in the unsettled as in the settled districts.

10 In both the settled and the unsettled districts the land revenue on ryotwari lands is separated into—

(a.) The demand from "dry" or unirrigated lands,

(b.) The demand from "wet" or irrigated lands.

The demand on "wet" lands includes the revenue from the land, and also the rent for the water which Government supplies for irrigating the land. In two districts the land revenue is kept apart and distinct from the water-rent, but over the rest of the presidency the land revenue and water-rent are assessed together, and the one is not kept distinct from the other. Land which is fertilised by rain water only, or which is irrigated from wells, pays land revenue at "dry" rates. The concession whereby land irrigated from wells is assessed to land revenue at "dry" rates was granted about 15 years ago. Since then the number of irrigation wells has greatly increased, and in this respect the petty proprietors of Madras have a great advantage over their fellow subjects in most other parts of India, where land watered from wells is reckoned, and is assessed to land revenue, as "irrigated" land.

11. It was mentioned in paragraph 8 (above) that a certain proportion of the land revenue (averaging in good years about 12 lakhs of rupees per annum) is remitted on account of failure of harvest. There is some slight difference in the rules under which remissions of land revenue on "wet" lands are granted in the settled districts, as compared with the rules for districts where a 30 years' settlement of the land revenue rates has not been made. In districts of both classes the full land revenue is remitted on "wet" lands whereon the crop may have been totally lost owing to deficiency or excess of water. But in the settled districts no remission is granted for the partial loss of "wet" crops, whereas in districts where a long term settlement of the land revenue rates has not been made, partial remission is granted for partial failure of "wet" crops. The Madras revenue rules provide that on "dry" lands no remission of assessment shall be granted save "in very exceptional years and under very exceptional circumstances."

12. The manner in which remission of land revenue, when sanctioned, reaches the landholders of Madras differs from the practice of other parts of India. A certain percentage of remission (say 25 or 50 per cent. on the demand) is sanctioned for either the "dry" or the "wet" lands of a whole tract, and thereupon all the lands ("dry" or "wet" as the case may be) of that tract enjoy the sanctioned remission in full, quite irrespective of the excellent yield the ryots of that tract may have had in a year of high prices on their other lands, or by means of irrigation from wells. Obviously a ryot*

* It has been occasionally said that a Madras ryot does not ordinarily hold "wet" and "dry" land together, and that while one ryot's holding is all "wet," another's is all "dry." This may be the case in Bellary where the "wet" lands are so very small, barely 6 per cent. of the cultivated area. But in other districts outside the river deltas it is, I am told, common for a ryot to hold some "wet" and some "dry" land, or to have a part of his "dry" land irrigated from wells. At any rate, I see that Mr Dalryell, at paragraph 71 of his *Famine Memoir of 1866*, takes a representative Madras ryot as holding 6 acres of "dry" land and 2 acres of "wet" land, or 8 acres in all.

† It ought, perhaps, to be explained that "jamabandi" is the name given to certain operations conducted by a Madras Collector and his establishment every year. When the sowings are done, the village officers compile returns showing all the lands cultivated by each ryot. When the crops are reaped, additional entries are made to these returns, showing what crops may have failed, and why. The taluk revenue officials then test these papers, and report how much land ("wet" or "dry") each ryot has cultivated, and what land revenue he has paid and still has to pay. These returns are then tested on the spot by the Collector or his Assistants in the

with 2 acres of "wet" land and 4 acres of "dry" land may often have a bumper crop on his "dry" lands, while his "wet" crop is lost by reason of flood or from the bursting of the neighbouring tank. On the other hand his "wet" land may have yielded a capital crop, while his "dry" crop has failed by reason of the shortness of the early rain (south-west monsoon).

13 It is not necessary to explain here the reasons which have guided the Madras authorities in adopting this rule of practice. The existence of the rules is mentioned because it operates to make remissions, when granted, wider and more sweeping in Madras than in other parts of India.

14 As it has never been the practice in Madras to grant suspensions of the land revenue, so it follows that all the land revenue which is not remitted at the jamābandī (attestations of holdings) of each year, is leviable and practically is collected immediately. Processes for the collection of the unremitted arrears issue at once, and, theoretically,

the ryot has no opportunity to make the land revenue arrears of a bad year from the surplus profits of a good year. In other parts of India it is held to be fairer to the public treasury, and to be in some respects better for the landed classes, to suspend the greater part of the land revenue in a year for extreme drought, and to let the landholders make good the arrears from the surplus profits of future years.

15 The grounds on which it was held inexpedient to suspend instead of remitting such portion of the Madras land revenue as could not be fairly collected during the present famine year, were set forth in the Honourable Sir William Robinson's Minute of the 31st January, and in Mr Secretary Carmichael's letter No. 576, dated the 9th February 1877. It does not appear that the Revenue Board have recorded an opinion on the matter. These reasons are, in brief,—

- (1) The Government is under an implied obligation to supply water for irrigating "wet" lands, and if Government fails so to supply the necessary water, it cannot demand, either now or in future years, any land revenue in respect of lands which by reason of failure of irrigation have yielded no crop.
- (2) The theory of the land revenue in Madras is that the State share the produce of the land with the ryot, though the State share has been commuted for a cash payment, and, if there be no produce on the land, then there is nothing for the State to share, and it must forego its land revenue.
- (3) The Madras ryot is heavily taxed, and he has ordinarily no accumulations or surplus wherefrom to make good the land revenue due for a year of extreme drought.
- (4) Most of the Madras ryots have very small holdings, and so they could not pay the arrears of one year out of the surplus of the next. Moreover, they could, and probably would, throw up their holdings if they were called upon to pay the arrears due on account of a year of drought.

16 In regard to the first point, namely, the implied contract in respect of "wet" lands, it seems fair that, if no water is supplied for irrigation, the share of the land revenue which is reckoned as water-rent should be remitted. But it does not necessarily follow that the share of the land revenue debitable to the land should also be remitted. In other parts of India the canal revenue is remitted on lands which the canal water may have failed to reach, but the land revenue on such lands is usually collected as a matter of course. For instance, the land revenue of the North-Western Provinces falls on the average at about 1½ rupees per acre; while the canal revenue falls at an average of 3¼ rupees per acre. If the canal water fails, the canal rent is remitted; but the land revenue is payable and is generally paid all the same.

17 But it was in regard to the remission of land revenue due in respect of "dry" lands that Sir Richard Temple specially made representation. The remissions on the "wet" assessment will hardly reach 50 lakhs out of the total of 143 lakhs to be remitted

presence of the villagers interested. At the time of this attestation the Collector or his Assistants decides finally what remissions of revenue are to be given under the rules or under any special orders for the year, he hears all protests against the entries made in the papers, and decides such questions as may arise thereon. The questions so arising generally refer to ryots having cultivated lands to which they were not entitled, to ryots having encroached on their neighbours, to ryots having failed formally to surrender their lands, to the extent of loss suffered by failure of water in tanks or rivers. All this business has to be done in the fullest detail every year in every district, whether it has come under regular settlement or not.

under the Board's estimate. Happily the irrigation of the delta country in the Tanjore, Tinnevely, South Arcot, Godavery, Kistna, and Nellore districts was little affected by the drought of the past year.

18. The second argument is, that the land revenue is merely the State share of the produce, and that when there is no produce, there can be no State share therein, and consequently no land revenue. Doubtless, the principle that the State is entitled to a share of the produce of the land, underlies the land revenue system of India as of other countries. But in Madras, as in other parts of India, affairs have passed beyond the primitive stage when Government officials stepped in after each harvest and carried off an appointed share of the produce of each field. The theory of the Madras settlement and the rules of the Madras Revenue Board do not altogether proceed upon the principle which has just been recited. The settlement officers deduct 20 per cent from the estimated value of the average produce before they assess the money value of the State share in the produce, and the settlement rules set forth that this deduction is made to meet losses caused by vicissitudes of season. The Board's rules provide also that no remissions shall be granted on "wet" lands on account of partial failure of crops in settled districts, and that no remission at all shall be granted on account of failure of "dry" crops, save under very exceptional circumstances.

It appears then, that in Madras, as in other parts of India, the principle which underlies the land revenue system, is not ordinarily pushed to its logical conclusion, and, indeed, it would seem to be in practice but little observed. It appears questionable, therefore, whether this principle need in a famine year be held to bind the Government to remit all, or nearly all, its revenue on drought-stricken lands.

19. The next argument is, that the Madras ryot is heavily taxed, and that the heavy land revenue he has to pay leaves him in good years little margin wherewith to pay the arrears due for a year of failure. The severity or the lightness of any taxation is after all comparative; and all we can do is to compare the incidence of the land-tax in Madras with its incidence in other parts of India, and with the productive power of the land in Madras. The amalgamation of the water-rent with the land revenue into a single "wet" assessment rate, makes it somewhat difficult to compare the incidence of the Madras land revenue with other parts of India. Moreover, detailed statistics of Madras districts exist only for the ryotwari tracts, so that it is not possible to ascertain the incidence of the land revenue per acre for the whole presidency. The pressure of the land tax on a country or population must be gauged, not only by the rate per acre, but also by the rate per head of the population. For the margin of profit per acre to the farmer may be larger on the rich irrigated lands of Tinnevely and Cuddapah paying Rs 9 and Rs 7 an acre, than on the light "dry" lands of Bellary, paying an average of 10 annas per acre. Similarly, the Gujarat ryot, who pays an average of Rs 2½ an acre land revenue, is a richer man than the Sholapur ryot, who pays on the average only 10 annas per acre. Matters in this respect are often nearly equalised by the much larger size of holdings in poor soils; for instance, an average ryot's holding is 24 acres in the Nágpur country, while it is 4 or 5 acres in the rich delta lands of Lower Bengal.

20. Figures for instituting a comparison between the incidence of the land-tax are available from published reports. According to these figures* the incidence of the land-tax in six temporarily settled provinces in the Empire may be compared thus:—

	Incidence of Land Revenue per acre of cultivated land.		Incidence of Land Tax per head of the Total Population
	Rs		Rs
Madras, including water-rent - - -	1 75	} on Ryotwari lands only	1 4
" excluding water-rent - - -	1 1		1 03
North-West Provinces, including water-rent	1 88		1 44
" " excluding water-rent	1 72		1 32
Oudh - - -	1 8		1 3
Bombay (including Sind)	1 17		1 72
British Burmah - - -	3 0		2 55
Punjab - - -	1 38		1 14

* See appended note, which gives in detail the authorities for the figures offered in this paragraph. If the results here offered cause surprise, it is solicited that the authorities cited may be consulted before the deductions made in this paragraph are rejected.

21 It will be seen that even though the State has provided artificial irrigation for 4,000,000 of acres in Madras, as against 1,100,000 acres in the North-West Provinces, yet the incidence of the combined land-tax and water-rent in Madras is lighter than in the North-West Provinces. It is also lighter than the incidence of the land revenue proper in Oudh and Burmah, where the State has provided no irrigation whatever. If the water rent in Madras be taken at Rs 3 per acre (somewhat less than the average charge* for canal water actually paid in the North-Western Provinces) then the land revenue of Madras would stand thus —

	Rs
Land revenue and water-rent - - -	4,50,00,000
Deduct water-rent - - - - -	1,20,00,000
	<hr/>
Balance, or land revenue proper - - -	3,30,00,000

And the incidence of the land-tax (proper) in Madras would be Rs. 1 03 per head of the population, that is to say, the land-tax would fall more lightly on the land and on the population of Madras, than it does on the land and population of the North-West Provinces, or of Oudh, or of Bombay, or of the Punjab, or of Burmah. The land-tax in Madras is heavier on the land and on the people than the land-tax of permanently settled Bengal on its land and people. But in this respect Bengal taxation must always compare unfavourably with that of the rest of India.

22 Then, as to the Madras ryot being poor and unable to pay the arrear land revenue of a bad year from the surplus profits of a good year. It certainly seems that the Madras ryot was poor, and the land-tax often pressed heavily and unequally upon him in the first half of the century. But some of the older Madras revenue officers who have been consulted say that the position of the Madras ryot has improved very greatly since those days. The revenue rates have been revised and equalised, and the crushing revenue rates of Rs 27 and Rs 33 an acre, which used to be demanded are now unknown. A ryot has now to pay at "dry" revenue rates for the land he irrigates from his wells. And there has during the last 20 years been an enormous rise in the prices of all agricultural produce, without any commensurate rise (indeed, without any considerable rise at all) in the land revenue rates. The total land revenue of Madras has, indeed, risen, but this is due to the spread† of cultivation and to the great extension of irrigation facilities, rather than to any enhancement of the land revenue rates.

23 The facts and arguments regarding the great improvement which has taken place in the condition of the Madras ryot are well put by Mr Dalryell in his Famine Memoir of 1866. He shows that the money value of a ryot's crop was in 1866 nearly double what it was in 1856. And he states that, as one consequence of the great rise in agricultural profits, the area of ryotwari cultivation rose from 10 millions of acres in 1856 to 16 millions of acres in 1866. The best opinion seems to be that, compared with what he was 25 years ago, the Madras ryot is now a well-to-do, substantial, peasant proprietor.

24 Sir Richard Temple's tour in the Madras districts was short, but there were ample opportunities of inquiring from the revenue officers. The Collectors of Kurnool and Chingleput, alone of the Collectors, described their ryots as poor. It seemed to be the general opinion, that in other districts the ryots were in ordinary years well off, and enjoyed (for an Indian rural population) a high "standard of comfort." Nowhere in Madras were heard accounts of any general indebtedness and ruin of the ryots, such as are told, orally and in the reports, regarding the ryots of Sholapur, Poona, and part of Khandesh. Regarding the ordinary condition of the ryots of "dry" lands in Bellary, Kurnool, and Cuddapah, no estimate could be formed during a short tour in a time of famine. But no one who has seen the splendid cultivation of the delta country in Tinnevely, South Arcot, Trichinopoly, and Tanjore, can regard the peasant proprietors of those tracts as heavily taxed, when they pay a combined land and water-rent of 5 to 8 rupees an acre for fields which yield two and three crops a year. Nowhere in India, save in the best parts of the delta districts of Eastern Bengal, can such rich cultivation be seen that which covers the irrigated lands in the delta districts of the Madras Presidency be seen.

* See paragraph V of the note appended to his memorandum.

† Note.—See the facts as to increase of cultivation quoted from Mr Dalryell's Memoir in the next paragraph.

25. Statistics regarding the selling price of land in Madras districts are not at present available; but it is understood that 400 rupees and 500 rupees an acre is no uncommon price for irrigated lands in the delta districts. The Madras Administration Report does not contain tables of the ordinary wages of labour. But, so far as could be ascertained, the daily wages of an adult unskilled labourer in Madras ranges from 3 annas to 4 annas, that is to say, 50 to 80 per cent higher than in the North-West Provinces, the Punjab, or Behar. And it is reasonable to suppose that, where the wages of unskilled labour are high, the earnings of the classes above the common labourer must be fairly good.

26. There remains the argument as to the extreme smallness of so many ryotwari holdings in Madras. It may be taken that, under ordinary circumstance, a Madras ryot can maintain himself and his family on a holding of nine acres of "dry land," or on a holding of 4 acres of "wet" land. He would till his fields himself, and would spend very little on wages. His surplus profits per acre would be greater than in the case of a large holding of 25 to 30 acres, whereon hired labour was employed. And the proprietor of the small holding would be able to make good the small arrears on a bad year as easily as the proprietor of a large holding could pay the larger arrears due from him. In Madras there are a great number of petty ryots whose holdings range from 1 to 3 acres; and in ordinary cases such holdings do not suffice to support the ryot and his family, who probably work for hire during a part of the year. The liability to make good the arrears of a single bad year (3 or 4 rupees in all) would not press very hardly on such a ryot in a country where the wages of labour are high.

27. There remains the alleged risk that the ryots, if called on to pay the arrears of a former year, would throw up their holdings. In Northern India the land revenue settlement binds not only the Government but also the landholder for the term of its duration. But the Madras settlement, while it binds the Government not to demand more than the fixed revenue rate, permits the ryot to surrender his holding any year he chooses. But the land in Madras districts is, for the most part, a valuable possession, the land revenue is moderate; the soil is good, markets are near, means of communication are remarkably good. And it may very well be doubted whether any considerable number of ryots would throw up their lands because they were called upon to make good the arrears of a bad year from the surplus profits of two or three bumper crops. Wholesale surrender of lands does not occur in a Madras district when the full land revenue is collected, without any suspensions or postponements, in years of partial failure of crop.

28. The only occasion that can be recalled on which similar apprehensions were expressed was in 1866-67. In that year the Commissioner of Assam, acting under the orders of the Government of Bengal, raised the (previously very light) land revenue 70 per cent. all round. The Assam ryots held their lands direct from Government on yearly leases. It was predicted by some of the revenue officers that the sudden enhancement of the land revenue would cause the ryots to surrender their holdings. But the Commissioner of Assam knew that the lands of Assam were fertile, and could well bear an increased revenue, so he persevered. Many thousands of ryots thereupon resigned their holdings, but after they had filed their resignations in the Collectors' offices, they one and all returned home and tilled their lands just as before. So the enhanced revenue was paid, and the area of actual cultivation hardly decreased at all.

This Assam case is adduced to show that Indian ryots are not so short-sighted as to throw up good properties because the fiscal arrangements of Government impose on those holdings, temporarily or permanently, a moderate burden.

29. It is submitted that there is really nothing so special in the condition of the Madras ryot and his tenure as to make it expedient for the State to grant him remissions of land revenue under circumstances which entitle landholders in other parts of India to suspensions of land revenue instead of remissions. It was shown (para 2 above) that the Government grants remissions of land revenue very sparingly indeed to landholders of Northern India, even in famine years. If the Madras ryot, however, gets his land revenue remitted in a famine year, and if the Imperial Government accepts the practice as correct, then it will be very difficult to refuse similar concessions to landholders and ryots of other provinces which may hereafter be afflicted by famine.

30. If all the costs of a famine, including losses of land revenue, are hereafter to be borne by the province concerned, then other provinces of the empire have less interest in the amount of land revenue remissions which may be granted in the famine-stricken districts of Madras. But if the loss caused by such remissions has to be made good from the general taxation of the empire, then the taxpayers and administrators of other

provinces have some claim to ask, either that the practice of Madras in this respect be re-considered, or else that similar concessions be made to them when they are afflicted by famine

31. If it be said that the practice of postponing arrears of land revenue from one year to another is new to the Madras Presidency, then it might be replied that the practice of spending millions of public money on saving famine-stricken populations, though its humanity and expedience are widely admitted, is to some extent new also. This advance of policy—an advance which no English or native administrator will regret—involves a vast expenditure of public money. And, therefore, in the interests of the public treasury, the Madras Presidency may reasonably assimilate its practice, in respect of remissions of land revenue, more nearly to the practice of other parts of India, and thereby secure the State against very large, but avoidable, loss of revenue in years of famine.

No. 18.

NOTE by MR. BERNARD to PARAGRAPH 20 of his MEMORANDUM regarding Land Revenue Remissions consequent on the Failure of Harvests in 1876

It may be well to cite the authorities for the figures used in obtaining the results summarised at the end of paragraph 19 of the foregoing memorandum.

MADRAS.

2. The incidence of land revenue per acre is taken from the tables at pages 99, 101, 102 of the Administration Report for 1874-75. The total assessed area is given (pp. 101, 102) at 19,380,000 acres. The land revenue (inclusive of the water-rent) on these lands is put down at 329 lakhs. If to this be added the water-rent on ryotwari lands of the Krishna and Godavari, about 15 lakhs, we get a total land and water revenue of 344 lakhs on the ryotwari lands of the presidency. And this gives an average incidence of Rs 1 75 per acre.

3. The total land revenue of the Madras Presidency is taken at 450 lakhs. In the Administration Report for 1874-75 the total land revenue is variably stated at 463* lakhs, 455 lakhs, and 442 lakhs. A land revenue of 450 lakhs on a total population of 32 millions gives an incidence of Rs. 1 4 per head

4. It is not quite clear how much land is irrigated, or what is the total of the combined land and water-rent for the "wet" lands. The revenue chapter of the report (page 102) gives the "wet" lands at 3,500,000 acres, yielding a total revenue of 162 lakhs. The irrigation chapter (page 301) gives the irrigated area at 4,500,000 acres, yielding a total revenue of 192 lakhs. The irrigated zemindari lands paying 8½ lakhs (page 99) water-rent account for only a small part of the discrepancy. I have split the difference, and taken the irrigated area at 4,000,000 acres, on which the water-rent, at Rs 3 per acre, would be 120 lakhs. The balance, 320 lakhs, being land revenue proper, falls on the total population at the rate of Rs 1 03 per head. And the land revenue† proper, exclusive of the water-rent, falls on the ryotwari lands at the rate of Rs 1 1 per acre.

† 167 lakhs on "dry" land, page 101
57 lakhs, being 162 lakhs (page 102) less by Rs 3 an acre for water rent on 3,500,000 acres.

224 lakhs,—total land revenue proper on the area given

NORTH-WEST PROVINCES.

5. The land revenue is taken (page 269 of the Administration Report for 1875-76) at 419 lakhs. But out of this total, 9 lakhs are (page 139) indirectly due to irrigation; so that the land revenue proper is only 410 lakhs. The water-rent, direct and indirect, is (page 139) 37½ lakhs. The area irrigated is (page 141) 1,188,000 acres; so that the water-rent falls at about Rs. 3½ per acre. The total cultivated revenue-paying area is (General Statement III of the Census†) 23,750,000 acres, and on this area the combined land and revenue rent (447½ lakhs) falls at the rate of Rs 1 88 per acre, while the land revenue proper (410 lakhs) falls at the rate of Rs. 1 72. On a population of 31 millions the land and water-rent fall at the rate of Rs 1 44, and the land revenue proper at the rate of Rs. 1 32 per head

* These totals seem to include about 10 or 12 lakhs collected on behalf of village officers or others entitled to allowances. I have, however, made no deduction on this account.

† I have no access to more recent returns of cultivated areas.

ODDH.

6. The table of page xxxi of the Oudh Administration Report for 1875-76 gives the total land revenue at 148 lakhs; and the rate per acre of cultivated land under assessment, Rs 1-12-11 (or Rs 1 8). The population of Oudh is (page xxvi) 11,180,000. And on the population the land revenue (without any water-rent) falls at the rate of Rs 1-3 per head.

BOMBAY.

7. If Sindh be included, then, according to the last Census Report, the area of cultivated land assessed to land revenue is 23,900,000 acres. The total land revenue in the Administration Report of 1875-76 is stated (page 202) at 369 lakhs, and also (page 226) at 339 lakhs. In the Census Report the land revenue is taken at 260 lakhs. The explanation of this discrepancy, perhaps, is that the Census Report gives the net land revenue, after deducting from the gross assessment "the allowances and assignments" made out of the gross land revenue. These allowances are in most other parts of India paid direct by the villagers to the recipients, and do not pass through the public treasury. The total of "assignments, &c" is (page 203) 75½ lakhs, out of which about 63 lakhs are deductions from the land revenue. For the purposes of the present calculation the Bombay land revenue has been taken at 280 lakhs. This gives an incidence of Rs. 1 17 to the acre, and of Rs. 1 72 on the population of 16½ millions.

BRITISH BURMAH.

8. The Administration Report for 1873-74 gives (paragraph 334) the total territorial revenue,—that is to say, the land tax and the capitation tax—at 72 lakhs. The cultivated area is given in the same report at 2,400,000 acres, and the population by the last census 2,818,000. These figures give an incidence of Rs. 3 per acre and Rs. 2 55 per head of population.

PUNJAB.

9. The last census gave a population of 17,600,000. The Administration Report of 1875-76 gives the land revenue at 202 lakhs, of which 2 lakhs were tribute, so that the land revenue proper was 200 lakhs. The area of cultivated land under assessment is put at 14,400,000 acres. These figures give an incidence of Rs. 1 38 per acre and Rs. 1 14 per head of the population.

Encl in
No. 51.

No. 19

MEMORANDUM by the Honourable E W RAVENSCROFT, C.S.I., Chief Secretary
to Government, Bombay

The subject of remissions of the land revenue in the Bombay Presidency was in an unsettled state until the 7th February 1877. On that day the Government of India telegraphed as follows:—

"Government of India do not desire to limit the discretion of local Government in matter of this kind, and will be satisfied if Collectors are again warned against too free remissions, and authorised to hold balances in suspense in cases in which it appears likely that the ryot will, without undue pressure, be able to pay up next season"

On the 13th February the Bombay Government, having fully considered the whole question, issued the following Resolution:—

"Copy of the Government of India telegram to be sent to the three Revenue Commissioners for information and guidance.

"2. In individual cases of remissions, Collectors will use the discretion which is entrusted to them by Government to dispose of such cases

"3. Where general and large remissions are to be given, they will report the matter to Government through the respective Commissioners for final disposal."

Again, on the 21st February 1877, the following letter was written to the Revenue Commissioners —

“ I am desired by his Excellency the Governor in Council to draw your particular attention to the concluding portion of the telegram from the Government of India on the subject of remissions —

“ The Government of India will be satisfied if Collectors are again warned against too free remissions, and authorised to hold balances in suspense in cases in which it appears likely that the ryot will, without undue pressure, be able to pay up next season.”

These orders show the exact conditions on which remissions and suspensions of land revenue are granted by the Bombay Government. The method of carrying out these orders is as follows.—The Assistant Collector in charge of each taluka makes a careful investigation of the state of the crops of his taluka. The charge of each officer not being very large, he is able to do this in an efficient and thorough manner. Having satisfied himself, by personal examination, as far as is possible, and where he cannot personally examine, on the reports of the native officials, he submits his proposals, both as regards remissions, and suspensions to the Collector of his district. The Collector of the district satisfies himself as to the propriety of the proposals; and when satisfied, forwards them to the Revenue Commissioner of the division. This latter officer then submits the proposals as regards each taluka separately to Government; and final orders, after full investigation of all the papers, are passed by Government. By this means it appears that the orders of the Government of India are carried out according to their letter and spirit. Up to the present time the revenue settlements of many talukas have not been made. It is not therefore possible to say yet what proportion the remissions will bear to last year's collections, or to suspensions held over for collection till next year. To give however some idea on the subject, some of the talukas of the Collectorate of Ahmednagar may be quoted. In the taluka of Nagar the trifling sum of 3 annas has been remitted, whilst the sum of Rs 36,102-5-2 has been held over for future collection. In the taluka of Jamkhed Rs. 28,532-8-1 have been remitted, and Rs 7,137-2-3 held over for future collection. In Kopergaon Rs 26,009 have been remitted, and Rs. 54,062 held over for future collection. These figures are all much lower than the original estimates; and I have no doubt that the remissions of land revenue will be considerably less than was at one time probable. I think 25 or 30 lakhs will cover all the remissions. After the fullest inquiry I feel convinced that the revenue officers, though most heavily worked with famine matters, are paying the closest attention to the very important subject of collecting the land revenue. They are loyally carrying out the wishes of Government, which, briefly, are to see that the State does not lose more than is actually necessary, but at the same time to see that the ryot is not unduly pressed. I believe also that the ryot fully recognises the liberality and equity of Government. He knows perfectly well that Government must collect that portion of its land revenue which the ryots *can* pay; and he knows also now by experience that Government are willing to draw distinctions between different grades of want, and that in some cases it would be foolish to forego altogether what may be collected with care at a future time. If a hard and fast line had been drawn that *no* revenue was to be remitted, but that every farthing was to be collected in some future year, the ryot in many cases would have become utterly despondent or reckless. He now feels that his case is judged on its merits. If his misfortune has been so great, and his condition is so critical, that to compel him to pay this year's rent either now, or in the future, would ruin him, he knows he will be let off altogether. If without undue pressure, he can pay at some future time, he feels that he is not being called on to do anything that is unfair, and he willingly accepts the alternative.

The subject of collecting in future years the outstandings of this year will require much consideration; but this can be settled when all the Jamabundies are completed, and the full amount of remissions and suspensions is known. Statements are being daily corrected in the Secretariat, showing the exact amount of remissions and suspensions up to date; and these will enable Government, as soon as the famine is over, to learn exactly, without loss of time and in detail, how the very important subject of remitting or suspending the land revenue has been treated in the different collectorates of this presidency affected by famine.

No. 1669B., dated Fort St George, 8th May 1877

From the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS to Mr C. E. BUCKLAND, Private Secretary to his Excellency Sir Richard Temple

I am directed to acknowledge receipt of Mr. Bernard's letters, Nos 197, 199, 202, 204, 206, and the Minutes by Sir Richard Temple to which they gave cover, and to state, with reference to Sir Richard Temple's suggestions regarding South Arcot, that while the Government are prepared to meet the question of the concentration of all able-bodied labour in the district on public works under the Public Works Department and of the relaxation of certain departmental orders, it is not possible to lay down any rule until the probable area over which distress is likely to extend is more accurately indicated, which cannot be the case until it is known whether rain has fallen in any of the taluks of the district.

2 With regard to Sir Richard Temple's suggestions* relative to the conduct of public works in the North Arcot district, I am to state that his Grace in Council does not consider it is expedient to issue a general order that all able-bodied persons in need of relief should be drafted to the irrigation works, as much will depend on the locality or nature of the works in question and on the seat of distress from time to time.

3. In reply to the suggestions relative to the removal of paupers from relief camps, I am to state that the removal of small parties has already been carried out in various cases, but has not been very successful, the paupers having in some cases returned on foot long distances in order to gather round the visionary plenty of the presidency town, a proceeding which there was no legal means of preventing.

4. The suggestion contained in Mr. Bernard's letter, No. 204, must of necessity be adopted as the consequence of giving effect to the order of this Government quoted.

5. Sir Richard Temple's other suggestions will receive careful consideration

No. 431, dated 8th May 1877.

From SURGEON-MAJOR W. R. CORNISH, F R C S., Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, to the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS, Revenue Department

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of G.O. No. 1,630, of 3rd instant, and, with reference to the question therein raised, to submit the following remarks.

2 In my report dated 29th April, I mentioned that the Honourable Sir Richard Temple had, at Goondacul, on the 24th of April, picked out 41 men from a gang of 180, who from weakness and emaciation were obviously unfit for work, and whom he considered should be fed at a relief-house without work. Of these persons, so far as could be ascertained, only 12 had recently come on the works, the remainder having been present for two or more months. In addition to these 41, I noted 18 others who, in my opinion, were in very feeble condition. As, at a previous inspection on 23rd February 1877, Dr Harvey, Sir Richard Temple's medical attendant, specially comments on the fine physique of the Goondacul gangs, the only inference I can draw from the fact is that, to quote Sir Richard Temple's own words, the men had been getting "thinner and thinner" and "weaker and weaker, till at last they have had to be drafted off to "gratuitous relief-camps as unfit to work."

3 I have, in former reports, commented on the great fluctuations which occur in the units of gangs on relief works. From a variety of causes the people met with at one inspection are not to be found at a subsequent inspection. For instance, Dr van Someren, about two months ago, weighed 25 men, 25 women, 25 boys, and 25 girls (total 100) of the relief labourers at Palaveram, and at an inspection made conjointly with myself on Thursday, the 3rd instant, there were present of the 100 persons—

Men	-	-	-	-	12
Women	-	-	-	-	3
Boys	-	-	-	-	5
Girls	-	-	-	-	4
					—
Total	-	-	-	-	24
					—

that is, more than three-fourths of the individuals whose heights, ages, and weights were specially registered were not at the works two months subsequently.

4. Now the experience of the Palaveram works is the experience more or less of every relief work in the country. Of the people who come to work, some few remain permanently, but the great majority are constantly shifting from week to week and month to month. The weakly ones I imagine, from Mr Howe's experience in the Bellary district, are turned out of the gangs by the maistries, or else give up in despair and wait quietly at home to die.

5. I am quite aware of the fact that in the several labour gangs are to be met many persons who have not been perceptibly reduced in flesh or strength, and their presence amongst the labourers, no doubt, tends to the support of the view that relief wage is, in itself, sufficient to keep a man in health and strength. According to my experience, these well-to-do looking people are mainly composed of two classes—

- (1) Of small landholders and servants of ryots who have obviously other means of livelihood besides what they get from the Government relief.
- (2) Of the flesh-eating castes to whom the famine has brought an enormous supply of cheap and nourishing food, and who have been exceptionally well off during the period when cattle were dying, or being sold for a mere trifle to the lower castes who used animal food.

6. A very close and minute inspection of relief labourers in various parts of the country has satisfied me that it is chiefly the above classes who are in good physical condition, and I think it has been the presence of so many of the flesh-eating classes amongst the gangs that has tended to give wrong impressions regarding the actual condition of the people as a whole.

7. From the constant changes going on in the individuals of the several gangs of relief labour, it is clear that there is the greatest difficulty in tracing out the effects of wages on their health and strength, but the impressions of famine officers like Messrs Price, Gribble, Oldham, Murray, Ferricks, and others, who have had daily opportunities of observations, cannot be lightly set aside, and I think there can be no reasonable doubt that of the vast number who go for a short time on relief works and then leave them, many do so from a conviction that the wage is insufficient for the maintenance of their health and strength, and that many of these gradually drift into a low condition and die in their homes, or ultimately come in great numbers on our gratuitous feeding camps.

In my report on Bellary I alluded to the case of a man who had been on relief works, but whose wife died of starvation, and afterwards two children died in the same way, the third child being in an hopeless state when I saw it, and the father himself so stricken that I doubt if he can survive.

8. Government are well aware of the rapid and enormous increase of gratuitous relief,—not for young children or old people only, but to those in the prime of life,—in all the distressed districts. This is a sure indication of increasing weakness and diminishing vitality amongst the labouring classes.

9. The death registration in the famine districts, as compared with that in districts which have not hitherto required special means of relief, tells the same tale. In the

<p>Madras Chingleput Nellore North Arcot</p>	}	<p>Cuddapah Bellary Kuruool Salem</p>	<p>returns before me for the month of February 1877, the registered deaths in the eight famine districts as per margin were in the annual ratio of 81.3 per thousand of the population, while in the remaining districts of the presidency (with the exception of Tinnevely and South Canara, the figures of which have not come to hand), the registered mortality was only 23.2 per thousand. The people, in fact, of the famine districts in the month of February were dying nearly four times as fast as in other parts of the presidency. Cholera and small-pox have been general throughout the presidency, but it is only in the famine tracts that this excessive mortality has been going on (the figures for the months of December and January are given in my letter and memorandum, No. 243, of the 6th April).</p>
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10. It would seem, therefore, to be idle to dispute or question the fact of the connexion between the famine and mortality of the population. The connexion between the experimental famine wage and the mortality of the labourers is not so easy to trace, for the reason that the labour gangs fluctuate so violently as regards their *personnel* that we cannot trace out the history of the individual workers with the precision that is so desirable in an experiment like that of Sir Richard Temple's, and secondly, the destruction of life by chronic insufficiency of food is a very slow, though very certain process. It is easy enough to make assertions on either view of the case when proof is impracticable. The difficulty lies in following out the history of a sufficient number of

Note.—Bullocks, carrying from 70 to 100 lbs of flesh, have been sold for 8 annas each during the famine.

individuals. As regards those weakened by insufficient food, it seems quite obvious that the tendency would be to their elimination from the working gangs and to their joining the ranks of the sick and the diseased, which swells so largely the mortality bills of the famine districts.

11. But however this may be, I must again take my stand on the insufficiency of the famine wage to supply the food necessary for the physiological requirements of the body. The practical results show that the wages have been inadequate to keep the people steadily at work, and the increasing numbers of persons unfitted for work show that the famine relief has not met fully the necessities of the people in the way of keeping up their health and strength. That there are many able-bodied persons still remaining on relief works I very gladly admit, but I do not think that they have had to thank the famine wage for their present condition, while I am quite certain that in the case of those who have had no other means of support, or in those unable or unwilling to use the abnormal supply of cheap animal food, the effects have been and will be disastrous.

12. I infer from the present Minute by Sir Richard Temple, as well as from some of his earlier reports, that he supposes the rescue of persons who have fallen into a weak and emaciated state from prolonged ill-feeding to be a very simple matter, necessitating only care and the judicious use of nourishing food. But my own warnings to the Government have all along been distinct on this point, that chronic starvation is a disease practically beyond remedy, and that more good will result from keeping the population from falling into a low state than from any subsequent efforts to save life in the case of those whose vitality has been imperilled by insufficient food for a long period of time. If the famine has taught us anything at all, it has certainly shown us what a very dangerous condition chronic ill-feeding will bring the people to, and the extreme difficulty of remedying this condition by the most careful and humane system of treatment.

13. The great facts to be borne in mind in connexion with the system of relief works is the constant shifting of the units of the gangs, the general preponderance of women in the gangs, thereby showing that some of the able-bodied male population have other sources of employment and most probably of income also. The next two months will prove a very critical time for those who have still strength to work, and it seems to me that on grounds of public policy, it is highly important that work should be everywhere found for those who really need it for their maintenance, and that it would be safer to err on the side of liberality in this respect up to the time when the normal agricultural employments of the people are resumed.

14. I suppose no one has yet been able to frame anything like an estimate of the effects of the famine on the population, but, making due allowances for defective registration of mortality and for the inevitable mortality that must outlast the dearth of food, I have grounds for supposing that the population of the affected districts will be reduced in eighteen months' time by one-fifth or one-sixth of the number living before the scarcity commenced. This of course is an estimate only based on the current birth and death-rates, and the present generally enfeebled condition of the working classes in the affected districts.

No. CXVI—MINUTE by SIR RICHARD TEMPLE, dated Bombay, May 9th, 1877

In the remarks made towards the end of Part III of my general report on the famine in the Madras Presidency, regarding the collection of the land revenue, it was stated that I might have to offer some further remarks on that subject, which is very important, involving, as it does, a proposed remission of land revenue to an amount of nearly one and a half million sterling (143 lakhs of rupees). Any such remission, if it is really conceded, must necessarily be a circumstance of much gravity. I accordingly submit a memorandum drawn up, at my request, by my Secretary, Mr Bernard, of the principal arguments which, to my mind, affect this important question, also a memorandum by Mr Ravenscroft, Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, of the orders given in the Bombay Presidency on the subject. If a reference be made to the Minute by Sir W. Robinson and the letter by Mr Carmichael and the Board's circular of the 1st March, it will be seen that there is a considerable difference between the practice which is being pursued in Madras and in Bombay, and that the practice in Bombay will probably lead to a greater proportion of the land revenue being collected in that presidency than in Madras. There is in the Bombay Presidency, as I am informed, a much closer scrutiny than in the Madras Presidency into the circumstances of every ryot or payer of land-tax, on whose behalf remission of land revenue is claimed: the question

being in Bombay, not whether a man has lost so much of his crop or whether he would be entitled to remission according to an assumed rule of per-centage, but whether his circumstances admit of his paying the revenue which he had by settlement engaged to pay. My impression is, that in Madras many ryots are likely to obtain remissions, because a part of their crops failed, notwithstanding that the other part, which was saved, yielded them a good money return quite enabling them to pay their revenue. If this be so, it ought not, I submit, to happen. It certainly would not happen in the Bombay Presidency. The main point, however, is this, that in Bombay no land revenue is now remitted so long as there is any chance of its being collected. It is, indeed, suspended for the moment, if its immediate collection seems calculated to bear hard upon the ryot. Time is readily allowed to the man within which to pay. If the seasons become propitious, he will have the means of paying; if they continue unpropitious, the amount at first suspended may have in the end to be remitted. In Madras, on the other hand, there seemed to be at the outset a disposition to remit much of the land revenue as soon as the failure of crop had declared itself.

The orders by the Madras Revenue Board will lead to more, or to less, of remission, according as they are carried out with a disposition to make concessions or with strictness. If they be carried out with strictness,—that is, if the revenue officers be instructed to collect all that they fairly can within the lines laid down by the Board,—if, too, they be duly impressed with the serious consequences of an extensive remission of land revenue,—then I should hope that, if the coming season shall prove propitious, much revenue may yet be collected, and the amount actually remitted may ultimately prove much less than the first anticipation. There is time within which much may yet be done, as the remission inquiries are still going on, and as the matter will not be finally settled till July, or perhaps till August. If instructions in this sense were now to issue, much of the threatened loss of land revenue might yet be retrieved.

Orders in this sense have been previously given in the Bombay Presidency, and will be reiterated. The amount first estimated to be remitted was 78½ lakhs of rupees. The second estimate was 56 lakhs, but the best authorities now hope that the amount actually remitted will prove much less. The Government itself exercises supervision over this subject. The amount proposed to be remitted in every single village has to be reported to Government, and is not finally remitted till the orders of Government have been received. This practice does, doubtless, act as a check upon remission.

Whether the same practice prevails in Madras, I am not sure.

It must always be borne in mind that if the drought continues (and the latest accounts of the weather in Southern India are perhaps less favourable than the anticipation), then the remission in the Madras Presidency, as elsewhere, will become greater as the difficulty of collecting the land revenue increases.

Also, it is, perhaps, superfluous to repeat (what, indeed, has been stated in previous papers) that this question in the Madras Presidency refers only to the "dry" or un-irrigated lands (including, however, lands irrigated from wells) and not to the "wet" lands irrigated from tanks or canals.

But my sojourn in the Madras Presidency impressed me with the view that greater pressure ought to be put upon the cultivators of the wet lands to cultivate these lands as "dry," or un-irrigated lands, whenever the tank water or the canal water fails. It often happens in these lands that, although the water supply from the tank or the canal is withheld, and, consequently, the superior crops cannot be raised; still some crops, perhaps of an inferior sort, can be afterwards raised by digging temporary wells and other expedients. The existing revenue system seems to me to fail to apply an adequate stimulus to the cultivator in this respect.

If the tank water is withheld, full remission of land revenue follows as a matter of course; although for many years past, the cultivator has drawn a good profit from these fields. If, afterwards, a man chooses to grow "dry" or inferior crops on these lands, he will, indeed, be charged with land revenue. But if he neglects to do so, and lets his land be uncultivated, he is not charged at all, and thus he has not the stimulus which cultivators in other parts of India have, who know their liability to pay land-tax even if they neglect to cultivate. It might not be difficult to arrange the settlements so that the cultivators of wet lands should feel themselves obliged to do their utmost to raise "dry" crops on their lands in years when the tank water fails.

No. CXVIII — MEMORANDUM by MR. C. BERNARD, late Secretary to Sir Richard Temple.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS and BOMBAY REVENUE AUTHORITIES in regard to REMISSION of Land Revenue in 1876-77 up to the end of March 1877

Nágpur, May 10, 1877

In a memorandum dated the 28th April was offered some account of the general considerations affecting the question of remitting land revenue due from famine-stricken tracts. Copies of correspondence regarding revenue remissions in most of the affected districts of Madras have now been received* The proceedings of the Bombay Government and its officers in respect of revenue remissions are also available, and Sir Richard Temple desires to submit this brief review of these papers, with his remarks, to the Government of India This memorandum could not be prepared until after the close of Sir Richard Temple's mission to Madras, because the necessary papers were not received until the beginning of the month of May

* Chief Secretary's letter dated 26th April 1877

2 In case this review should be read without the previous memorandum of the 28th April, it may be well to state very briefly some of the distinctive features of the Madras revenue system

About one-fifth of the cultivated land of Madras is held by large proprietors (zemindars) on quit-rents, settled in perpetuity many years ago. The remaining four-fifths are held by petty proprietors (ryots), at land revenue rates liable to periodical revision The land revenue of Madras is derived from three distinct sources, namely —

	Rs.
Permanently settled, quit-rent, and zemindari estates paying about	69,00,000
Irrigated ryotwari lands, paying land revenue at "wet" rates, about	1,70,00,000
Ryotwari lands which are unirrigated, or are irrigated only from wells, paying at "dry" rates, about	1,69,00,000
Add—for the two West Coast districts	Rs 30,70,000
for miscellaneous land revenue	26,50,000
	57,20,000
Total	4,65,20,000

Over a part of the Madras Presidency (about nine districts out of 21) the land revenue has been settled for 30 years. At the settlement a deduction is made to meet losses from vicissitudes of season before the Government revenue is assessed on the land. In the settled districts, and also in the districts not yet settled, the land revenue is separated into—

(a) The demand from "dry" lands;

(b) The demand from "wet" land to which the State supplies water for irrigation; this demand includes both the revenue from the land and the rent of the water.

3. Every season the revenue authorities verify the land actually held by each individual ryot, surcharge any ryots who have cultivated extra lands, and grant remission of land revenue to certain of the ryots whose crops may have failed This annual operation, which extends over some months, is called the "jamabandi." The rules under which remission of land revenue is permissible are, briefly, as follows —

- (1) The land revenue is remitted in full on all "wet" lands, whereon the crop may have totally failed by reason of lack or excess of water
- (2) In districts not yet settled, partial remission of land revenue is granted for lands whereon the crop may have partially failed from like causes
- (3) No remission of land revenue is permissible in respect of "dry" lands, save in "very exceptional" years and very exceptional "seasons"

When "dry" remissions are necessary, the Collector reports to the Board what percentage of the land revenue ought in his judgment to be remitted on the "dry" lands in any specified tract or tracts of his districts. The Board passes orders on such report Remissions are granted at "jamabandi" according to the rate sanctioned by the Board on all the "dry" lands of the specified tract, irrespective of the means of individual ryots, and irrespective of any good crops which such ryots have had on their "wet" lands, or which they may have secured by special effort, or by some chance on their "dry" lands.

Until the "jamabandi" of a tract or district is done, the financial results of the remissions sanctioned thereon cannot be known. Collectors and Sub-Collectors have full discretions to award more or less remission to any tract, and to treat any village or tract specially, so long as the limit of remission sanctioned by the Board is in no case exceeded. Thus very much latitude is, in this matter, left to district officers who are the constituted guardians both of the people and of the public revenue.

4. The ordinary rules were held to suffice for the requirements of the present season. No special orders were issued regarding remissions when the famine declared itself in December last, or when Sir Richard Temple, during January 1877, recommended caution in remitting land revenue. But on the 1st March the Board issued a circular, which will have an effect in restricting remissions at the "jamabandi" now being effected

* NOTE.—See Appendix A. The meaning of parts of that circular will perhaps be veiled by the use of vernacular terms peculiar to Madras. It may be well, therefore, to explain that—

Punyah lands are those assessed to land revenue at "dry" rates,

Nyanah lands are those assessed at "wet" rates,

Shany lands are those on which the crop may have withered, by reason of drought, before harvest.

† NOTE.—The correspondence summarized in the following paragraph shows that revenue officers above the grades here described, occasionally recommended "wholesale remissions."

to recommend wholesale remissions, should be checked, that remissions should not be given for "dry" lands whereon one moderate crop had been secured, even though that crop were not the principal crop of the year, that the per-centage of remissions sanctioned by the Board was in each case a maximum, and remissions should be kept below the maximum wherever possible, that no remission should be allowed for partial failure on lands which had yielded half an ordinary crop, for the money value of such a yield was large owing to the high prices prevailing.

5. The correspondence now forwarded regarding remissions may be summarised for each district, as follows:—

BELLARY.

The Collector reported that "wet" remissions would be granted under the rules; he asked general sanction to the grant of requisite "dry" remissions by officers making the "jamabandi." The Board granted (31st October) the general sanction asked. Nothing further passed on the question. No subsequent report seems to have been received from the Collector. The latitude of discretion given him by the Board will have been limited somewhat by their circular of 1st March.

KURNOOL.

The Collector proposed "full remissions of 'dry' assessment, as there was no doubt " that such crops had utterly failed throughout the district." * * * * * Remission to be granted in cases of proved failure. The Board sanctioned (3rd January) the Collector's proposals for "cases of proved failure." They observed that on much "dry" land a crop must have been secured by means of irrigation from the canal and from wells. The Board's orders appear to Sir Richard Temple to be correct so far as they went. But the terms of the late Collector's proposal seem to be quite unguarded, and might, if acted upon, lead to an almost total relinquishment of the land revenue of the district, excepting the canal tracts. Such proposals, doubtless made at a time of alarm, indicate the need of supervision. It would have been more satisfactory if a subsequent report had been called for from the present Collector.

CUDDAPAH.

The Collector proposed full remission on all "dry" lands not cultivated, and a percentage remission of from two-thirds to three-fourths of the whole assessment for "dry" lands in villages whereon there had been partial failure of crop. The Board sanctioned (10th February) the Collector's proposals, but pointed out that a very moderate crop would give the ryot

* NOTE.—It is not clear if this includes assessed pasture lands. see reference to these lands by the Kistna District Collector below.

a good money yield at present prices. Here, again, the proposals made by the late Collector seem to Sir Richard Temple to be excessive and to amount to this—that under a settlement the ryot is to have all the profit of the good years and the Government all the loss of the bad years. Here, also, it would be well to look for the report, which will doubtless be prepared by the present Collector.

BELLARY, KURNOOL, CUDDAPAH.

For each of these districts the Board sanctioned the remission of all demands on petty quit-rent (mam) holdings whereon no crop had been produced, and also suspension (i.e., postponement till a better season) of the Government revenue on larger holdings of this class. The Madras Government disallowed (13th February) remission on any quit-rent (inam) holdings, but approved suspensions of the Government demand thereon in cases of extreme failure of crop. The orders of the Government of Madras seem to Sir Richard Temple to have been very necessary in this case. These holdings have been enjoyed for many good years on nominal assessments, and in a bad year the holders object to pay even this much, little as it is.

NORTH ARCOT.

The Collector asked sanction to the grant of liberal remission at "jamabandi" in certain tracts where drought had been worst. The Board agreed (13th January) to "dry" remissions being made in the specified taluks "to such extent as might seem urgently needed." The Collector subsequently (15th February) reported that he had instructed his officers to be sparing with remissions. Sir Richard Temple believes that the Collector did try to prevent excessive remissions being allowed.

SOUTH ARCOT.

The Collector proposed a remission of one-third the assessment on "dry" lands (exclusive of pasture land) not brought under cultivation; and a remission of from half to three quarters the assessment on certain food crops that had failed. The Board sanctioned (13th February) remissions of one-third the assessment on "dry" waste,—nothing else,—as even a very moderate crop at the present time gives a considerable money yield. Sir Richard Temple sees great force in this remark. It would be well if this view were borne in mind oftener than it apparently is. The Collector again wrote asking for remission in cases of partial failure. But the Board adhered (10th March) to their previous order. Sir Richard Temple believes that these orders of the Board were right so far as they went.

SALEM.

The Collector proposed 60 per cent. remission on the "dry" lands of three-quarters, and 40 per cent. remission on the "dry" lands of one quarter of his district. The Board were disposed (20th December) to grant "entire" remission in "villages where the crop had entirely failed, and per-centage remissions according to circumstances elsewhere."

The Collector wrote again, proposing 75 per cent. remission, where one quarter of an ordinary crop had been secured; and 30 per cent. remission where two-thirds had been saved. The Board declined (3rd February) to accept the principle that remission of land revenue should be granted in the full ratio that the crop had failed, and pointed out that in other respects also the Collector's proposals went beyond the requirements of the case. The Collector sent further details, and recommended the remission of from 15 to 60 per cent. on the land revenue of tracts where there had been partial failure of the crop. The Board sanctioned (12th March) these proposals, subject to compliance with orders contained in the circular of the 1st March. These proposals of the Collector seem to Sir Richard Temple to have been extreme and calculated to involve undue sacrifice of revenue. They were very rightly checked by the Board.

GODAVERY.

The Collector proposed 50 per cent. remission on "dry" lands in certain villages where there had been entire failure of crop. The Board asked (2nd January) for further information. The Collector subsequently furnished information, and recommended remission at from 10 to 20 per cent. on the assessment in certain villages. The Board sanctioned (17th and 20th February) the proposals, but observed that inquiry into individual cases of failure was wrong.

KISTNA.

The Collector reported that the yield on "dry" lands in his district had been, on the average, half an ordinary crop. He recommended remission of one-half the assessment on lands which had yielded less than one-fourth an ordinary crop, and a remission of one-quarter the assessment on land which had yielded less than one-half an ordinary

crop He also recommended remission of the assessment on pasture lands. The Board sanctioned (3rd March) the Collector's proposals, but the Madras Government called for further report on the reasons for granting remission in respect of pasture lands.

CHINGLEPUT.

The Collector proposed full remission on "dry" lands yielding no crop, and percentage remissions for short crop on "dry" lands. The Board sanctioned (19th February) these proposals. This sanction will have been much qualified by the Board's subsequent orders of 1st March. Here again, however, it seems to Sir Richard Temple that the Collector's proposals are extreme, and amounted to an almost total sacrifice of land revenue. It is to be remembered that, on the one hand, this district has great advantages from its proximity to the capital, and on the other hand, that it was then suffering from a long-continued drought extending over more than one year.

COIMBATORE.

The Collector proposed three-fourths remission on all "dry" lands left uncultivated on account of drought, and partial remission up to a maximum of one-half the assessment for partial failure. Such partial remission was, the Collector said, to be granted to whole tracts, and not to individual villages or holdings. The Board approved (16th January) the Collector's proposals. These proposals of the Collector seem to Sir Richard Temple to have gone considerably beyond the necessity of the case. They will have doubtless been subsequently modified under the Board's subsequent orders of the 1st March.

TRICHINOPOLY.

The Collector asked leave to remit up to 50 per cent. of the "dry" assessment on specially bad tracts; he said that the rates of assessment in his district are low. The Board agreed (13th February) to the Collector's proposals, but observed that no remission should be given for lands whereon one crop had been raised. They further directed (12th March) that not more than half remission should be given in any case, and not more than 25 per cent. where one quarter of an ordinary crop had been secured. Looking to the condition of this district when he last visited it (April), and to its past history, Sir Richard Temple thinks that the Collector's proposals would have involved undue fiscal sacrifice. They were very properly checked by the Board. But the fact of their having been made shows the need of strict supervision by superior authority.

TANJORE.

The Collector proposed remissions up to 25 per cent. of the assessment on certain rain-watered lands. The Board agreed (22nd March), noting that the total remission would be only Rs. 12,350.

MADURA.

The report on proposed remissions for Madura is in greater detail than for any other district, and it shows cause for the recommendations respecting each tract. The Board sanctioned (9th March) remissions on "dry" lands at from 25 per cent. to 100 per cent. on the assessment in different tracts, but directed attention to the requirements of their circular of 1st March. Full remission was proposed for only 26 villages.

TINNEVELLY.

The Collector proposed "either to remit or to postpone" land revenue on "dry" lands, estimated at $4\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, he estimated the "wet" remissions at $5\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, and he recommended the suspension of $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs out of the revenue due from the zemindaris. The Board sanctioned "dry" remissions up to 40 per cent. in the settled taluks, and up to 70 per cent. in the taluks not yet settled. They directed that no remission should be given for "wet" lands in settled tracts, whereon even a partial crop had been secured. In regard to the suggestion for postponing part of the demand from ryots, and the proposal to postpone part of the zemindari revenue, it was said that the Board did "not approve of the principle of postponement and of keeping demands hanging over the heads of the ryots, and they did not think that sufficient reason had been shown for extending grace to holders of permanently settled estates." Considering that Tinnevely is a rich district and ordinarily enjoys good seasons, Sir Richard Temple thinks that it might have been expected to pay most of its land revenue, despite one drought, accord-

ing to the practice in other parts of India, and that the Collector's proposals were over-liberal. They were properly checked by the Board. But Sir Richard Temple would not admit the Board's objection to suspending the instalments due.

No papers have been forwarded regarding remissions in Nellore, Malabar, Ganjam, or Vizagapatam. Remissions are probably being granted in the Nellore district.

6. The correspondence, of which the above is an abstract, gives no materials for framing an estimate of the probable total of the remissions. But it is clear that the more recent orders issued by the Board of Revenue tend to restrict the land revenue remissions within narrower limits than the local revenue officers had proposed. But Sir Richard Temple remarks that in some districts, however, such as Bellary, Chingleput, and Kurnool, the discretion left with the local officers in regard to granting remissions at "jamábandi" is practically unlimited. If Collector, Sub-Collectors, or Head Assistant Collectors could scrutinise the remissions, holding by holding, or even village by village, then the interests of the public treasury would in most cases be safe. But such scrutiny is forbidden by the Board's rules: remissions are granted according to the average circumstances of tracts or groups of villages, the subordinate revenue officers supply the data, and initiate proposals for per-centage remissions on tracts; and when once the per-centage remissions for a tract is decided, the rest follows by an almost purely arithmetical rule of thumb.

7. The "jamábandi" is going on everywhere, and it must have been finished by this time in many taluks. If it be not too late, Sir Richard Temple would represent that it might be well that a member of the Board should consider in personal conference with each Collector the division of the district into tracts for remission purposes, and the percentage to be granted to each tract. In other parts of India, the Revenue Commissioner would in this way scrutinise the Collector's operations. A perusal of the correspondence leaves an impression that the attention given to this important matter has varied in the different districts. A full report like that for Madura shows that detailed information has been sifted, that the subject has been thought out, and that general proposals for percentage remissions (whether their principle be right or wrong) have been framed after consideration of particulars. But it seems to Sir Richard Temple that general proposals for remission in full, such as were made and sanctioned for Bellary and Chingleput, leave a very wide scope for needless sacrifice of public revenue if further supervision be not exercised.

8. The papers regarding land revenue remissions in the Bombay Presidency may be summarised thus —

"The Bombay Government decided (9th November) to deal separately with land revenue remissions proposed for each district. The Revenue Commissioner, Northern Division, proposed that the Collector and his revenue subordinates should at once settle for each drought-stricken village or group of villages the amount of remission to be given, and with the help of the village headmen should settle how much of each ryot's revenue should be collected, how much remitted, and how much postponed for collection during the next two years. The Government decided (15th and 29th November) that no remission whatever should be given in villages where half of an average crop had been secured. They reminded Collectors that assessments were fixed on an average of seasons; they said that remission should be given only to ryots of small means who could not pay without being ruined, and they directed that ryots, who might be able to realise good prices for their old stocks of grain and fodder, should get no remission, even though their crops had entirely failed."

The Government of India, in January, on Sir Richard Temple's recommendation, put the question which had been raised by the Revenue Commissioner, Northern Division, whether some part of the revenue which could not be collected this year without undue pressure on the ryots, might not be postponed for collection in future years. The Bombay Government considered that such postponements of the Government demand were contrary to the Bombay revenue system, and expressed a fear that many of the ryots were too poor to be able to pay arrears of land revenue out of the surplus of future years. On the 27th February, Bombay Collectors were "authorised to hold balances in suspense in cases in which it appears likely that the ryot will, without undue pressure, be able to pay up next season."

* Note — The Board wrote (2nd April) that there was nothing to prevent Collectors adjusting the proportion of remission to a single village. But such detailed adjustment is contrary to the practice of Madras, and in the foregoing abstract it will be seen that the Godavery Collector was corrected by the Board for inquiring into individual cases (apparently individual villages), and the Coimbatore Collector's determination not to inquire into cases of individual villages was approved by the Board.

The settlement of the suspensions and remissions were not, when these papers were compiled, complete for any district. But the Commissioner of the Canarese districts reported (3rd February) that the land revenue was coming in, that even small ryots were paying out of the profits on the sale of their fodder or gram stocks; and he deprecated any stoppage of collections from those who were able to pay. Reports were received from the Násik and Ahmednagar districts, showing that in the—

Jamkhed taluka of Ahmednagar ...	{	Rs. 18,000 were remitted, Rs. 7,000 suspended, and Rs. 53,000 being collected
Koparyan taluk of Ahmednagar ...	{	Rs 26,000 were remitted, Rs. 54,000 were suspended, and Rs. 1,06,000 being collected.
Karjat, "one of the most, if not the most, severely affected taluk of Ahmednagar"	{	Rs 28,000 were remitted, Rs 1,500 suspended, and Rs 68,000 being collected.

In two different letters, forwarding statement of remissions for the Násik district, the Revenue Commissioner, Northern Division, wrote that "he would have preferred a much larger sum postponed and less remitted" Mr. L. Ashburner, for many years Collector of a part of the district, regarding which he thus writes, is one of the most experienced revenue officers in the Bombay Presidency, and it will be seen that he expresses a decided opinion that it is fitter, both for the people and the treasury, to postpone more of the revenue and to remit less, in a season like the present Mr. E. P. Robertson, the Revenue Commissioner, Southern Division, an able and experienced officer, is also of the same opinion.

9 The present papers do not furnish any data for estimating what the total amount of the Bombay land revenue remissions will probably be. From the data given by the local officers in January last, Sir Richard Temple estimated the total remissions at 50 lakhs. A subsequent return received from the Bombay Revenue Secretariat put the estimated total remissions at 54 lakhs. But the revenue officers seem to think that the land revenue is coming in more easily than had been anticipated. And if the coming season be good, the total land revenue remission for the Bombay Presidency will perhaps not exceed 20 lakhs

10 The difference between the systems pursued in the Bombay and Madras Presidency seems to be—

(a) In Bombay, remission is granted to each ryot according to his circumstances; if he has savings from past years, he has to pay what is due on his fields, even though he may have no crop this year. In Madras remission is granted according to the average circumstances of each kind of crop over large tracts, without reference to the circumstances of each village or each ryot. The Madras system used formerly in this respect to be the same as the Bombay system. It was altered some 18 or 20 years back, for reasons which were, in the then condition of the country and of the subordinate revenue officials, considered sufficient. The Bombay plan is in accordance with the practice of landlords or revenue receivers elsewhere, it is more elastic for the people, and it is more advantageous for the public treasury. But it involves more labour and requires more honesty, on the part of village officers and revenue subordinates, than the Madras system.

(b) The Bombay Government, acting on the advice of Sir Richard Temple, and in accordance with the opinion of some of its most experienced revenue officers, authorised Collectors "to hold balances of land revenue in suspense in cases in which it appears "likely that the ryot will, without undue pressure, be able to pay up next season." The Madras Government declined to postpone any of its land revenue demand, save in the case of certain permanently settled zemindaris. The decision was based on grounds which need not be discussed here.

11 The tenure on which a Bombay ryot holds his land is the same as a Madras ryot's tenure. A ryot of the Bombay Deccan (i.e., Poona, Sholapur, and part of Ahmednagar) is reputed to be much poorer than his confrère in the Canarese districts of the Southern Malhatta country; and my impression is that the ryots of Bellary, Cuddapah, and Kurnool are about as well off as the ryots of Dharwar and Kaládgi. In ordinary years there is much more irrigated land in the ceded districts than in any part of the Bombay Deccan. The Madras ryots of the delta and littoral districts are certainly better off than any Bombay ryots outside Gujarat.

No 3,065, dated Bombay Castle, 12th May 1877

From the CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY to the ADDITIONAL
SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

I am desired by the Honourable Sir R. Temple to forward, for the information of his Excellency the Viceroy in Council, the accompanying Minute recorded by him and other papers connected with remissions of revenue in the distressed districts.

2. Two spare copies are also forwarded.

Dated Calcutta, the 16th May 1877.

From DR. T. R. LEWIS, Special Assistant to the Sanitary Commissioner with the
Government of India, to the OFFICIATING SANITARY COMMISSIONER WITH THE
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of the Government, that in accordance with instructions received, I visited Bombay and made careful inquiries regarding the nature of the fever which has for some time been prevalent in that city. In carrying out these inquiries I received every possible assistance from Dr. W G Hunter, Acting Surgeon-General, from Dr. Vandyke Carter, Acting Principal of the Grant Medical College, and First Physician to the Jamsjee Jejeebboy Hospital, and from Dr. Joint, the physician in charge of the Goculdass Hospital.

2 Opinions have been expressed that the fever is of an infectious nature, that it was originally produced by want, and that the disease presents the characters ascribed to the relapsing or famine fever of systematic writers

3 In arriving at these conclusions it is probable that the very interesting fact of the detection by Dr Vandyke Carter of peculiar organisms in the blood of several fever patients exercised considerable influence. These organisms, described as *spirilla*, were discovered by Obermeier about nine years ago in the blood of persons suffering from relapsing fever, and their presence has been, pretty generally, considered as pathognomic of the malady

4 I examined repeatedly the blood of about 25 fever patients during my stay in Bombay, and was able to detect these spirilla in the blood of five, but with regard to the character of the fever from which these five persons suffered I could see no well-marked feature which would be sufficient to distinguish it from the class of fevers usually referred to as "remittent" in this country. In none of these five cases could it be said that their temperature charts clearly presented the characters ordinarily given as typical of relapsing fever.

5 It will be more convenient to consider the question of the relation which the spirilla in the blood may bear to the fever under consideration when similar examinations of the blood of fever patients will have been made in Calcutta and elsewhere, and after comparison with the results of my colleague's (Dr. D. D. Cunningham) inquiries in Madras.

6. With regard to the supposed infectious character of the fever, as it at present exists in Bombay, I can only say that I failed to convince myself that anything like sufficiently satisfactory evidence existed for any such inference; nor could I satisfy myself, so far as the patients at present in hospital were concerned, that any direct causative relation existed between the fever and the famine. The fever patients seen by me had, nearly all of them, been resident in Bombay for more than six months—certainly in not one of the five cases in which I observed the spirillum could the origin of the fever been directly attributed to want.

7. As I understand that Surgeon-General Hunter will shortly submit a full report regarding the clinical and other features of this fever, it is not deemed necessary that any attempt should be made here to give more than a general outline of the salient points in connexion with it.

8 On a future occasion Dr. Cunningham and myself hope to be in a position to submit a detailed account of the more technical features of the inquiry—more especially as regards the diagnostic value of the presence of spirilla in the blood.

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of the Government of Madras, Revenue Department, -
No. 1,830, dated 28th May 1877

His Grace in Council finds from the reports of various officers that a strong dislike prevails amongst the distressed poor in villages to removal to the relief camps provided for their use at convenient centres. The Governor in Council, moreover, fears that the system now in force tends to induce and foster those wandering and unhomey habits amongst the distressed, which render the distress more difficult to detect and more costly to relieve, habits which it is on every account most desirable to discourage and check.

2 His Grace in Council, therefore, authorises all Collectors to make arrangements to relieve, in their respective villages, any distressed persons who are fit objects for transmission to a relief camp, but are reluctant to leave their homes, and to issue to them, so long as they need it, a continuous daily money-dole through the village officers instead of removing them to central camps.

3 The head of the village will be directed to enter the names and circumstances of all such persons in a register, and to relieve them at the rates hereinafter provided, until the arrival of the village inspector. Each case will then be carefully inquired into by that officer, and if worthy of continued relief a ticket will be issued to the distressed person authorising him to receive from the village head the sanctioned daily money-dole. The name of the recipient, his number on the register, the date of his admission to relief, and the name of his village should be entered on the ticket. The dole should be issued daily not later than 8 a.m. The village inspector will be instructed to inspect each recipient on his first and subsequent visits, and to report any change for the worse or other casualty, to satisfy himself, on the one hand, that the dole has been properly and regularly paid, and on the other that no undeserving cases have been added to or allowed to remain on the register.

4 The inspector will be required to sign the register and the recipients' tickets on each visit. The inspector will also satisfy himself as to the current price of food grains, and report to the Collector any material change which he may ascertain, adding any remarks regarding the conduct of the payment arrangements which he may consider necessary.

5 His Grace in Council further authorises Collectors and officers in charge of relief-camps to arrange for the transmission to their homes of such inmates as desire to return to them, with their families, if they are in a fit state of health to proceed beyond the reach of the medical aid and special relief provided at the relief centres. The same provision may be extended to distressed persons seeking admission to camps and relief houses without requiring residence.

6 It will probably suffice, as respects villages within the same district, for the officer in charge of the camp or relief house to grant certificates, accompanied by sufficient food or batta for the road, addressed to the heads of the villages from which the inmates come, authorising them to enter the distressed persons in their lists, and to issue to them the daily money-dole on arrival in their respective villages. Notice should at the same time be sent to the Tahsildars of the taluks in which the villages are situated for transmission to the village inspector of the circles, whose duty it should be to visit forthwith any village to which any considerable number of distressed persons are so relegated, and satisfy himself of the propriety of their claims. When the number is small this inspection will take place in the ordinary course of the inspector's tour.

7 When persons belonging to adjacent districts have collected in relief camps and centres, and are desirous to return to their own districts and villages, and there receive the village money-dole, arrangements will be made, through the officials of the district in which are situated the villages to which the inmates wish to return, for their safe transit to their respective villages, the necessary batta for the journey being supplied by the officer in charge of the camp or centre.

8 His Grace the Governor in Council resolves to authorise officers to issue the money doles at not less than —

Anna 1-2 for each adult, male or female, and
" 0-6 for each child below 12 years of age

These rates may require to be raised in case of any material change in price of food grain

9 District and divisional officers are specially directed to watch the effect of this concession, and to state the results in their fortnightly narratives.

Encl. in
No 51

No. 27.

Dated Bombay, the 28th May 1877.

FROM MR. C E. BUCKLAND, Private Secretary to his Excellency the Governor of Bombay, to the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

I am desired by his Excellency Sir R. Temple to forward the accompanying memorandum on the subject of remissions.

Encl in
No. 79

No. 28.

Dated Madras, 30th May 1877.

FROM SURGEON-MAJOR W. R. CORNISH, F R C S., Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, to the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS, Revenue Department

In the "Gazette of India" of the 19th instant, I observe a further communication from the Honourable Sir R. Temple, Bart, K C S I, in regard to the sufficiency or otherwise of one pound of grain as the basis of wages for adults on famine relief works. The letter to which I refer (No. 340E. of the 10th May 1877) is accompanied by a "memorandum,"* drawn up by Surgeon-Major J B Lyon, F.C.S., Chemical Analyser to the Government of Bombay, and to which memorandum is appended numerous tables for the construction of dietaries for natives of India, according to the weights of individuals.

2. I would crave the permission of his Grace in Council briefly to state that, in my opinion, the data of Surgeon-Major Lyon's paper do not justify the conclusion which Sir Richard Temple has founded on it, viz, that "a ration based on a pound of grain is sufficient for the sustenance of persons not performing severe labour." I cannot find any statement in Mr. Lyon's paper in which he expresses such an opinion in words, although a casual reader may perhaps draw some such conclusion from his figures.

3. In all the scales of diet drawn up by Surgeon-Major Lyon, he has proceeded on the assumption that "there is no theoretical objection to the proposition that the quantity of food required by adults is proportionable to their weight, provided, of course always that the quantity of work expected from them is likewise proportioned to their weight." This method of procedure is in my opinion extremely fallacious, and I shall briefly show why any scale of diet drawn up in furtherance of this view must be received with the greatest caution.

4. Surgeon-Major Lyon argues that a human being requires food in exact proportion to his weight, and he has furnished tables showing, according to this theory, the quantities of nitrogenous and carboniferous food necessary for the sustenance of persons weighing from 80 to 150 lbs., under the different conditions of hard labour, light labour, and complete rest.

5. If there was any relation between the weight of an individual and his capacity for assimilating food, and effecting work requiring expenditure of force, there might be some show of reason for laying down a principle that men require food in proportion to their weight. But we know, as a fact, that there is no such correspondence—that in a very considerable number of persons, the power to work diminishes as the body increases in weight, notably in those who, with increasing years, tend to develop fat instead of muscle.

6. The everyday experience of the most superficial observer must afford instances of persons of large appetite who never get fat, and of persons who are not large eaters who lay on an amount of flesh that becomes a serious burden and inconvenience to them, and with regard to these persons it is apparently seriously proposed by the chemical analyser to the Government of Bombay that they should be fed, the thin and the stout alike, in proportion to their weight. The mere statement of the proposition in this form is suffi-

* See "East India Famine Correspondence, Part III p 471"

cient to show that, without being hedged in by important qualifications, the theory cannot be applied in practical dietetics *

7 The theory that work can be performed in proportion to weight is still more wide of the field of practical observation. According to this theory "the Claimant," who weighed 22 stones on going to jail, was then more fit to endure hard labour than he was six months after when he had lost one fourth of his weight, and athletes instead of striving to keep their weight down ought, according to this theory, to take means to lay on extra flesh. There is, in fact, no relation between the ability and capacity for labour and mere weight of body, as Mr Lyon would seem to suggest.

8. There are so many things more important than weight of body, bearing on the necessity for food, that it is surprising to find a chemist in these days laying so much stress on weight as the principal factor in determining the quantities of food necessary for health and strength. One might think that questions connected with the idiosyncrasies of the individual, his age, race, temperament, habit of body, slowness or rapidity of vital changes, were to be set aside as of no value in comparison with a theory that the body needs sustenance in proportion to its bulk. I suppose Mr. Lyon would admit that a very different amount of nutriment is needed for a spare man of large frame, and without fat, and another of equal weight, but whose size depended on an abnormal deposition of fat in his tissues, yet this weight theory makes no distinction between the requirements of the two.

9 Mr Lyon has taken 150 lbs as the average weight of male Europeans and 105 lbs. as the average weight of natives of India. According to Sir R. Christison's experiments in Perthshire the average weight of Scotchmen was 140 lbs., and from some experimental measurements and weighings made of various castes by Dr John Shortt in Madras some years ago, he found that the average weight of male adults of the fishermen, Boyas, and other labouring castes, was about 120 lbs, and of certain other castes from 114 to 118 lbs. It would seem, therefore, that as regards the classes of persons suffering from famine in this part of India, there is not that great difference in weight and bulk, of the people as a whole, which would justify a very marked reduction of food in comparison with European diets.

10 The argument in regard to food, and average weight and bulk of the body must not be pushed too far. With certain limitations it must be admitted as useful in the construction of dietaries, but after all, the facts of most importance are, (1) the habits of the people themselves in the choice of food, its nature and amount, and (2) the daily waste which the body suffers from vital changes. Observations on the former head are sufficiently accurate, but in India we have never had any scientific determination of the daily waste of the body under strictly defined conditions of diet and labour. The subject is so important that I hope some of our scientific officers, who have leisure and means of observation, will take it up, and let us know if there be any truth in Sir Richard Temple's surmise, that natives of India excrete less nitrogen in proportion to weight, food, and exercise than the European races do.

11 There can be no question as to the capacity of the labouring classes of India for hard work, provided they get food in amount and quality to satisfy their necessities,

* NOTE.—The physiological needs of men whose tendency it is to clothe themselves with flesh, and of those who remain thin and spare in spite of all the food they consume, are essentially different. The two types and their personal characteristics have been well defined by Shakespeare, who makes Julius Cæsar say to Mark Antony—

Cæs —" Let me have men about me that are fat,
"Sleek headed men, and such as sleep o' nights
"Yond Cassius has a lean and hungry look,
He thinks too much: such men are dangerous."
Ant —Fear him not Cæsar, he's not dangerous!

Cæs —" Would he were fatter!
I do not know the man I should avoid
So soon as that spare Cassius. He reads much,
He is a great observer, and he looks
Quite through the deeds of men: he loves no plays
As thou dost, Antony! he hears no music!
Seldom he smiles, and smiles in such a sort,
As if he mocked himself, and scorned his spirit
That could be moved to smile at any thing
Such men as he be never at heart's ease,
While they behold a greater than themselves,
And therefore are they very dangerous."

While our streets are lined with miserable scare-crows of humanity, who have scarcely vitality enough to drag themselves along, there may be seen on the Madras beach magnificent specimens of working men, whose strength and powers of endurance are not to be surpassed by the like qualities of any other class of people in the world

12 A common task of four men is to take from the beach and load on a hand-cart 22 bags of rice, each bag weighing 164 lbs. This load they push or drag to the railway station distant more than two miles, unload, returning empty to the beach. Four or five trips of this kind go to an average day's work

In carrying rice bags from the beach to merchants' warehouses, I find that an average cooly will take up a bag weighing 164 lbs., carry it from 60 to 100 yards over loose, heavy sand, and a further distance of 30 or 40 yards on good road, and up a flight of steps to a loft, and that he will manage 100 of these trips in a day.

13. Work of this nature, I need not observe, is not performed on famine wages even of the highest scale. A cooly engaged in carrying rice from the beach to warehouses, or from the beach to the railway station, can earn 1 rupee or even $1\frac{1}{2}$ rupee a day, and his diet includes a plentiful supply of meat or fish and ghee, in addition to his rice and curry. Those interested in the study of dynamics might work out the number of "foot tons" lifted or moved in the course of a day by the Madras beach coolies, and from this data estimate the amount of food necessary for the production of the requisite force, but practically we know that labour of this class can only be followed by those in full strength and health, and that it could not be accomplished without a liberal diet, such as men earning a rupee a day can well afford themselves

14. I observe that Surgeon-Major Lyon bases his tables of diets on the experience of the Bombay house of correction, where it is stated that the prisoners on hard labour gained in weight on the average 1 lb. $10\frac{1}{2}$ ozs. each, while existing on the scale of food for labouring prisoners. I admit that the increase or decrease in weight of the people subjected to a dietary, with certain reservations and limitations, affords indications of value, regarding the sufficiency of the food, but the weight record alone is only a portion of the evidence necessary. Surgeon-Major Lyon says nothing about the sickness and mortality of the prisoners in the Bombay house of correction. It would be essential to know to what extent they suffered from bowel disorders, anæmia, scurvy, and other diseases of innutrition, as well as the general rate of mortality, before coming to the conclusion, that the hard-labour scale of diet was actually sufficient to keep the people in ordinary health. As regards the proposed diets for those on light labour and those doing nothing at all, there appears to be no practical evidence whatever to prove their sufficiency or insufficiency, and all that can be said of such scales is that they are based on a theory, which in some respects has been shown to be fallacious

15. As a matter of fact and excluding all theory whatever, we have ascertained in certain Madras gaols, that where punishment by restrictions in food, so as to reduce the daily amount of nitrogen to much less than 200 grains, has been persevered in for any length of time, there has been loss of strength, loss of health, and sacrifice of life, and this knowledge would make me very sceptical as to the sufficiency of a "bare subsistence" diet, containing only 136.7 grains of nitrogen, such as Mr. Lyon now proposes. In his table of "Food Equivalents," published a few years ago, I observe that Mr. Lyon was more liberal in his views, for he there speaks of 200 grains of nitrogen, and 3,070 grains of carbon as "almost a starvation diet." Certainly, without the most cautious experimental tests, a dietary like the No. 3 scale of Mr. Lyon would never commend itself to those practically acquainted with the subject of the connection of food with vital force, and based as it is on mere theory, I think it is to be regretted that a subsistence ration, ranging in nitrogen from 104.2 to 195.3 grains according to the weight of the individual, was ever seriously put forward as a practical guide for those dealing with famine relief

16. There is one other point requiring a cursory notice. Mr. Lyon proposes to eke out the deficient nitrogen of various cereal grains by the addition of pulse, so as to make the total nitrogen of the food equivalent to the needs of the body, as reckoned by the weight theory.

To take, for instance, the case of an obese native merchant accustomed to feed on rice, and sentenced to hard labour. His daily diet would be made up of 21 ounces of rice, and 9.55 ounces of gram or dhall. In all probability he would be unused to the latter food, and certainly, under no circumstances, could he digest and assimilate the nutriment contained in 9.55 ounces of that grain in the course of 24 hours. If he failed to digest the dhall the nitrogenous principles of it could in no way assist in the nutrition

of the body In these proposed dietaries Mr Lyon has, in fact, omitted the very necessary caution enjoined in his former paper on "Food Equivalents" "Regard should always be paid to the relative proportions in which, by custom or habit, articles of food are consumed by a population. This often indicates a limit of digestibility which ought not to be greatly exceeded."

17 The present period of famine is presenting many opportunities for the study of those conditions of the body induced by privation of food And the more this subject is considered, the more important does it become that we should follow only sound and true principles, in dealing with questions connected with the food of a community.

18. A careful study of the condition of the people who have been subjected to slow starvation, shows that there is a point in the downward progress of such cases from which there is no possible return to health and strength Food of the most nutritious character, and in the greatest profusion, is then powerless to save life Chemical theories as to the composition of food do not in the least help us to explain why people should die, with an abundance of nutritious food within reach, but if we carefully examine the bodies of those who have died of this form of starvation, we shall find that the delicate structures engaged in the assimilation of nutriment from food, have wasted (owing probably to insufficient use) and undergone degenerative changes, so as to unfit them for their peculiar office It has been my painful duty to observe, not one or two, but many thousands of such cases, within the last few months, and I need not say that the contemplation of the causes leading to these slow, but almost certainly fatal, changes in the assimilative structures of the human body, lead me to look with very grave suspicion upon all proposals for "bare subsistence" dietaries; and especially when such proposals are known to be out of harmony with the natural habits and customs of the people to whom they are proposed to be applied

19 This is not the time, nor the occasion, to review the practical effects of Sir Richard Temple's experiment in reducing the famine-wages of the people to the basis of 1 lb of grain, but this much may be stated, that the recent experience of nearly every famine officer who has observed the practical effects of the reduced wages has led him to believe, and publicly record his opinion, that the subsistence scale of wages was perilously low While as regards our destitute poor in relief camps we have had too abundant evidence of the fact, that a more liberal scale of food than that purchasable for a famine relief wage is inadequate to restore health, or to arrest decay

No 29

Encl in
No 79

Dated Bombay, the 1st June 1877.

FROM SURGEON-MAJOR W. DYMCK to the EDITOR of the BOMBAY GAZETTE

As there has been a good deal of discussion lately upon the amount of aliment required for a bare subsistence diet, perhaps some of your readers may be interested by a short account of the experiences of the French during the siege of Paris. The observations made at that time concerning the effect of a reduced dietary upon the Mobiles serving in the trenches are particularly valuable, as the men were all under complete control both as regards their official rations and the extras they were allowed to purchase The following particulars are gathered from Armand Gautres's valuable work on chemistry as applied to physiology, pathology, and hygiene After mentioning that for people leading a sedentary life 0.2 grammes of nitrogen and 4.202 of carbon per kilogram of body weight daily, have generally been accepted as a sufficient allowance for the maintenance of a perfect state of health, he says that the average weight of the Mobiles was 63 kilos (138 lbs, 12½ oz), and that these men being employed upon severe duties in the trenches during winter months, and receiving only 12.5 grammes of nitrogen and 263 of carbon per diem preserved generally a good state of health. Upon this he remarks, that the generally accepted bare subsistence ration would appear to be a little too liberal

As the nature of the aliments used is a matter of importance, the diet table of the Mobiles is particularly valuable as a standard of a liberal bare subsistence ration in a temperate climate.

Diet Table

They received daily	Weight of food	Dry protein matters	Hydrates of carbon	Fatty matters
Fresh meat (if preserved, 100 grammes) - - -	175	33 25	—	3 15
Rice or beans - - - - -	80	5 14	62 04	0 34
Bread - - - - -	250	18 75	132 70	0 75
Biscuits - - - - -	250	22 49	159 20	2 09
Coffee ration - - - - -	30	3 30	12 50	—
" purchased - - - - -	25			
Sugar ration - - - - -	20	—	40	—
" purchased - - - - -	20			
Wine - - - - -	125	—	—	1 25
Brandy - - - - -	75	—	—	0 30
Grammes -	—	82 93	406 44	49 83

From this table we may draw the following conclusions:—

Proportion of nitrogenous substances to hydrates of carbon and fatty matters.
 . 1 : 49 . 06

Quantity of nitrogen supplied in 24 hours, 12.5 grammes

Quantity of carbon { Protein matters 44 grammes
 Hydrates of carbon 181 " } Total 263 grammes
 Fat - - - - - 38 "

In order to adapt this dietary to natives of India, we should omit all or part of the meat, insert dāl for rice or beans, increase the bread, omit coffee, wine, and brandy, and insert oil and condiments.

No 30.

IMPORTS OF GRAIN INTO THE PRESIDENCY OF MADRAS, AND ITS TRANSPORT BY THE MADRAS RAILWAY

Proceedings of the Madras Board of Revenue, dated 1st June 1877.

The additions to the food-stocks of the presidency by importations by sea from places beyond the presidency between 1st May 1876 and 30th April 1877, were as shown below:—

Months	Imports	Exports	Net additions to the food-stocks
	Tons.	Tons	Tons
May 1876 - - - - -	16,967	9,045	+ 7,922
June " - - - - -	12,283	13,695	— 1,412
July " - - - - -	3,908	11,134	— 7,226
August " - - - - -	3,795	11,118	— 7,323
September " - - - - -	6,109	7,920	— 1,811
October " - - - - -	10,830	9,740	+ 1,090
November " - - - - -	34,746	5,879	+ 28,867
December " - - - - -	52,311	1,872	+ 50,439
January 1877 - - - - -	99,923	2,992	+ 96,931
February " - - - - -	86,818	4,739	+ 82,079
March " - - - - -	87,422	5,728	+ 81,694
April " - - - - -	93,379	3,438	+ 89,941
Total - - - - -	508,491	87,300	+ 421,191
1875-76 - - - - -	73,394	142,063	— 68,669

2 The imports are chiefly from Bengal and the exports to Ceylon. The following statement shows the places whence the imports were received :—

	Tons
Bengal - - - - -	354,823
Bombay - - - - -	68 712
British Burmah - - - - -	63,170
Scinde - - - - -	7,022
Foreign ports in other presidency - - - - -	6,363
Ditto beyond India - - - - -	8,401
	508,491

3. The information available in regard to the imports by land is not complete. There is no record of the cart traffic, and the records available do not show the imports by rail prior to August 1876. The grain-trade by land, however, from and to places beyond the presidency is, the Board believe, ordinarily so very small that the railway exports and imports from August, which are shown below, may be regarded as the trade for the entire period from April 1876 —

Months	Imports		Exports to the Mysore Country	Net additions.
	From G I P Railway	From the Mysore Country		
August 1876	4,039	157	3,049	+ 1,147
September "	5,163	79	6,173	— 931
October "	4,921	101	14,485	— 9,463
November "	7,951	282	10,194	— 1,961
December "	12,281	248	11,515	+ 1,014
January 1877	7,872	79	12,072	— 4,121
February "	10,665	118	9,220	+ 1,563
March "	8,226	—	15,484	— 7,258
April "	9,583	—	14,909	— 5,326
Total - - -	70,701	1,064	97,101	— 25,336

4 Thus the total net imports from places beyond this presidency from 1st May 1876 to 30th April 1877 is 395,855* tons

* By sea - - -	+ 421,101
By land - - -	— 25,336
Difference - -	395,855

5. As regards the additions to the food stocks in the distressed districts, the only information available relates to the imports by sea and the traffic on the Madras Railway. The returns for the South Indian Railway are not complete, being for quarters and extending to December 1876 only, and even for the Madras Railway the Board have been able to obtain returns only from August 1876. The Consulting Engineer has been requested to furnish the necessary information for earlier months of 1876, and it will be submitted when received. Meanwhile, the Board think it will be useful to submit the information available, though it is incomplete

6 The accompanying statements show (1) the imports and exports by sea into and from each district and for each month from 1st April 1876 to 30th April 1877, and the net result for each district (2) Ditto by the Madras rail from 1st August 1876 to 30th April 1877, and the net result for each district. The total of the figures now given to 31st March do not agree with Captain Bisset's statements, Nos II and III, partly, it is believed, because his statements do not include traffic from Malabar (except Beypore), Mysore, Cuddapah, Bellary, and Kurnool, which is of small amount; and partly because, either from misprints or arithmetical error, the cross and vertical totals in the statements do not agree. The Board have followed his No I statement for the March traffic. The Madras Railway returns are also imperfect, in that they do not show traffic from that line to the South Indian Railway (3) Ditto by the South Indian rail for the quarters ending June, September, and December 1876, and for April 1877 and the net result for each district.

7. From these statements it will be seen that the net additions to the food stocks in the distressed districts, by sea and by the Madras rail from 1st August 1876 to 30th April 1877, were in tons as shown below :—

Months	Kistna.	Nellore	Cudda- pah.	Bellary and Kurnool.	Madras and Chingle- put.	North Arcot	South Arcot	Madura.	Tinne- vely	Coimba- tore.	Salem	Total
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons	Tons	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1876												
August - -	- 7,996	- 1,136	+ 708	+ 2,942	+ 11,307	- 1,008	- 798	- 116	+ 1,891	+ 1,561	+ 708	+ 8,139
September - -	- 6,112	- 256	+ 646	+ 4,297	+ 5,603	+ 896	- 846	- 46	+ 1,675	+ 1,106	+ 466	+ 6,461
October - -	- 3,385	-	+ 1,758	+ 7,751	+ 7,975	- 552	- 892	+ 807	+ 1,589	- 1,021	- 108	+ 14,304
November - -	+ 154	-	+ 4,210	+ 14,615	+ 26,844	- 801	-	+ 338	+ 239	- 1,413	+ 228	+ 44,714
December - -	+ 542	+ 2,630	+ 9,708	+ 19,998	+ 25,497	+ 5,325	+ 1,533	+ 1,712	+ 3,360	+ 1,406	+ 8,510	+ 78,788
1877												
January - -	+ 490	+ 5,999	+ 3,485	+ 16,502	+ 45,548	+ 4,463	+ 3,636	+ 1,360	+ 2,694	+ 2,597	+ 3,986	+ 97,436
February - -	+ 305	+ 5,597	+ 9,200	+ 12,028	+ 46,895	+ 3,583	+ 2,613	+ 878	+ 3,065	+ 3,358	+ 3,460	+ 92,407
March - -	- 806	+ 3,081	+ 3,209	+ 14,208	+ 11,793	+ 4,789	+ 6,099	+ 3,469	+ 3,374	+ 3,521	+ 5,492	+ 67,380
April - -	+ 617	+ 8,646	+ 5,078	+ 16,667	+ 7,697	-	-	+ 5,397	+ 9,878	+ 8,073	+ 5,328	+ 69,637
Total - -	- 13,871	+ 24,816	+ 47,996	+ 109,237	+ 192,149	+ 19,487	+ 10,575	+ 11,920	+ 30,660	+ 18,511	+ 22,877	+ 474,216
Particulars—												
By sea - -	- 13,871	+ 24,816	-	-	+ 888,508	-	-	+ 11,920	+ 30,660	-	-	+ 432,517
By the Madras rail - -	-	-	+ 47,996	+ 109,237	- 176,359	+ 19,487	+ 10,575	-	-	+ 18,511	+ 22,877	+ 41,699
	- 13,871	+ 24,816	+ 47,996	+ 109,237	+ 192,149	+ 19,487	+ 10,575	+ 11,920	+ 30,660	+ 18,511	+ 22,877	+ 474,216

The traffic by the South Indian Railway up to December was not, in its net result, of very great importance, and the figures are entirely omitted above

It will be noticed that the Kistna has been a supplying district, and the extent to which this has been the case is far greater than is represented by the figures above given, as very large quantities passed from the district by land into Nellore and Kurnool. In August and September Nellore was still exporting by sea, but this ceased, and after the two months of October and November, when native vessels could not ply, imports by sea set in. Large quantities have also been sent from Madras to Nellore by road and canal. The North and South Arcot, Madura, and Coimbatore districts were also in the earlier months exporting districts. The imports by rail into Cuddapah, Bellary, and Kurnool were highest in December. In the first-named district they have been falling since March, perhaps owing to harvesting of spring crops under wells; while in Bellary and Kurnool they fell in January and February, and have been since rising. The high prices in December may have, to some extent, brought out local stocks. It is probable that much of the South Arcot imports have passed on into Salem.

8. The food-stocks received in the distressed districts were supplied chiefly from Madras from the imports from Bengal and the northern parts of this presidency. The imports and exports into and from Madras in each of the months from August 1876 are detailed below :—

		Imports.	Exports	Difference or quantity retained for consumption.
		Tons	Tons	Tons
August	1876 - -	14,606	3,299	+ 11,307
September	" - -	10,315	6,712	+ 3,603
October	" - -	19,048	11,073	+ 7,975
November	" - -	40,052	13,208	+ 26,844
December	" - -	56,251	30,764	+ 25,497
January	1877 - -	76,168	27,620	+ 48,548
February	" - -	69,200	20,305	+ 48,895
March	" - -	48,469	36,676	+ 11,793
April	" - -	41,824	34,137	+ 7,687
TOTAL	- -	375,933	183,784	+ 192,149
Particulars—				
By sea	- -	374,002	5,494	+ 368,508
By rail	- -	1,931	178,290	- 176,359
		375,933	183,784	+ 192,149

This quantity, 192,149 tons, is retained for consumption in Madras and tracts easily accessible thence by cart, viz, Chingleput, Nellore, and part of North Arcot. Large quantity has been sent to Nellore.

9 The additions to the food-stocks distributed on the population of the districts concerned show the following results.—

Districts	Net Imports	Population.	Rate per 1,000 for 11 months
	Tons		Tons
Kistna - - -	- 13,871	1,452,374	—
Nellore † - -	+ 24,816	1,376,811	2
Cuddapah - -	+ 47,996	1,351,194	3 9
Bellary - - -	+109,237	1,668,006	4 6
Kurnool - - -			

District.	Net Imports	Population	Rate per 1,000 for 11 months
	Tons	No	Tons
Madras and Chingleput -	+ 192,149	1,254,879	17
North Arcot - - -	+ 19,437	2,015,278	1
South Arcot - - -	+ 10,575	1,755,817	7
Madura - - -	+ 11,920	2,266,615	6
Tinnevelly - - -	+ 33,569	1,693,959	2
Coimbatore - - -	+ 18,511	1,763,274	1.2
Salem - - -	+ 22,877	1,966,995	1.2
Total - - -	+ 474,543	19,524,842	2 7

These results are largely tainted with error, as the land traffic is not included, but are nevertheless, to some extent, instructive, especially those for Bellary, Kurnool, and Cuddapah. At $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs per head per diem, which taking rich and poor together, considering that some of the sea-imported grain is paddy, is a low estimate, 1,000 persons will eat 20 1 tons in a month of 30 days. For Bellary, Cuddapah, and Kurnool, therefore, it may be stated that from one-fifth to one-fourth of the population are fed on imported grain. As a good deal of the rail-borne grain has gone from these districts into Mysore and Hyderabad, the lower proportion is perhaps more likely to be correct.

10. With reference to the remark in paragraph 2 of Sir Richard Temple's Minute, that the imports prior to November 1876 into the town of Madras were at first erroneously assumed by him to be inconsiderable on data published by the Madras Board of Revenue, the Board beg to observe that they are not aware of having published any returns showing the trade of the Madras port. Sir Richard Temple has probably taken his figures from the returns published by the Chamber of Commerce, which do not come under the review of the Board, but it is not apparent how the mistake was made, as the places whence the imports come are recorded in the statements, and ports within the presidency are not included.

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary.

MOVEMENT OF FOOD GRAINS BY SOUTH INDIAN RAILWAY, FORWARDED FROM —

—	Madras Railway	Tanjore	Trichinopoly	Madura.	Tinnevely	Coimbatore	Chingleput.	North Arcot	Total
1876	Tons	Tons.	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
2nd quarter - -	1,804	5,648	969	1,670	327	112	- -	14	10,544
3rd " - -	4,862	4,917	1,699	2,097	807	536	- -	3	14,971
4th " - -	10,098	10,098	1,490	1,192	4,168	368	7	4	27,422
Total - -	16,764	20,661	4,158	4,959	5,352	1,016	7	21	52,938
January to March 1877 - -	- -	- -	- -	- -	Statement not received			- -	- -
1st to 28th April 1877 - -	2,122	11,065	- -	- -	4,340	- -	Cuddalore 54	- -	17,581

MOVEMENT OF FOOD GRAINS BY SOUTH INDIAN RAILWAY, NET IMPORTS.

—	Madras Railway	Tanjore	Trichinopoly	Madura.	Tinnevely	Coimbatore	Chingleput.	North Arcot	REMARKS
1876	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	
2nd quarter - -	- 1,804	+ 831	- 652	- 1,845	+ 1,796	+ 928	+ 207	+ 44	* This quantity is distributed amongst South Indian Railway Districts
3rd " - -	- 4,862	+ 1,507	- 428	- 985	+ 2,101	+ 2,304	+ 854	+ 9	
4th " - -	- 9,990	- 1,920	+ 4,897	+ 5,085	- 1,391	+ 2,554	+ 761	+ 14	
Total - -	- 16,656*	+ 408	+ 8,117	+ 2,755	+ 2,506	+ 5,781	+ 1,322	+ 67	

MOVEMENT OF FOOD GRAINS BY SOUTH INDIAN RAILWAY, RECEIVED AT

—	Madras Railway	Tanjore	Trichinopoly	Madura.	Tinnevely	Coimbatore	Chingleput	North Arcot	Total
1876	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
2nd quarter - -	- -	6,479	817	325	2,123	1,085	207	58	10,544
3rd " - -	- -	6,424	1,271	1,112	2,958	2,840	854	12	14,971
4th " - -	- -	108	8,166	6,387	2,777	2,922	768	18	27,422
Total - -	- -	108	21,069	7,975	7,714	7,856	6,797	1,329	52,938
January to March 1877 - -	- -	- -	- -	- -	Returns not received			- -	- -
1st to 28th April 1877 - -	1,349	- -	- -	16,232	- -	- -	- -	- -	17,581

Madras, 1st June 1877

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary.

NET IMPORTS BY SEA.

Months.	Ganjam	Vizagapatam.	Godavery	Kistna.	Nellore.	South Arcot.	Tanjore	Madura.	Tinnevely	South Canara.	Malabar	Madras.	Total
May 1876	Tons 3,489	Tons + 793	Tons - 4,174	Tons - 2,832	Tons -	Tons - 614	Tons - 1,723	Tons + 2,062	Tons + 895	Tons - 487	Tons + 11,895	Tons + 5,220	Tons + 7,587
June	- 683	+ 745	- 5,096	- 8,144	- 2,050	- 2,079	- 8,820	+ 1,326	+ 520	+ 1	+ 9,854	+ 7,568	- 6,488
July	- 287	+ 71	- 5,972	- 7,565	- 2,300	- 1,780	- 5,602	- 407	+ 1,140	-	+ 568	+ 15,704	- 6,430
August	- 1,293	+ 818	- 8,744	- 7,296	- 1,135	- 793	- 7,128	- 116	+ 1,891	+ 16	+ 1,982	+ 13,975	- 7,372
September	- 980	+ 1,155	- 5,842	- 5,112	- 235	- 846	- 3,804	- 46	+ 1,675	- 166	+ 4,756	+ 9,665	+ 290
October	- 172	- 287	- 18,861	- 2,595	-	- 892	- 5,888	+ 307	+ 1,598	- 586	+ 7,378	+ 18,699	+ 8,596
November	- 902	- 907	- 12,253	+ 154	-	-	- 5,162	+ 333	+ 239	- 3,973	+ 8,649	+ 39,684	+ 25,862
December	- 6,512	- 1,639	- 17,112	+ 542	+ 2,620	+ 1,858	- 1,050	+ 1,712	+ 1,860	- 4,970	+ 12,438	+ 56,135	+ 45,383
January 1877	- 6,272	- 1,340	- 10,988	+ 420	+ 5,899	+ 2,536	- 766	+ 1,366	+ 2,694	- 1,793	+ 27,066	+ 75,523	+ 94,964
February	- 15,248	- 1,835	- 4,570	+ 205	+ 5,587	+ 2,613	- 1,677	+ 578	+ 3,065	- 877	+ 21,625	+ 66,863	+ 78,331
March	- 11,908	- 1,746	- 2,842	- 806	+ 3,531	+ 6,099	+ 252	+ 2,459	+ 3,374	- 824	+ 27,244	+ 46,464	+ 77,002
April	- 4,228	- 544	- 1,192	+ 617	+ 5,549	-	+ 10,787	+ 5,327	+ 9,678	- 2,845	+ 34,327	+ 39,488	+ 100,364
Total	- 52,019	- 4,716	- 92,646	- 32,412	+ 20,466	+ 6,102	- 30,481	+ 14,972	+ 22,064	- 15,934	+ 169,832	+ 897,300	+ 412,568

EXPORTS BY SEA.

Months	Ganjam	Vizagapatam	Godavery.	Kistna	Nellore.	South Arcot	Tanjore	Madura.	Tinnevely	South Canara.	Malabar	Madras	Total.
May 1876	Tons 3,439	Tons 32	Tons 4,860	Tons 2,822	Tons 85	Tons 674	Tons 4,462	Tons 97	Tons 38	Tons 748	Tons 494	Tons 20	Tons 17,261
June	- 690	13	5,096	8,253	2,054	2,129	9,839	452	37	-	93	72	28,317
July	- 287	14	5,972	7,565	2,306	2,581	6,967	566	9	-	-	267	26,534
August	- 1,293	81	5,744	7,296	1,196	1,383	7,547	211	10	16	70	201	28,028
September	- 980	112	5,846	5,112	238	1,302	5,801	291	8	280	911	322	26,146
October	- 172	437	13,861	2,542	-	1,513	6,818	134	24	798	1,572	115	27,408
November	- 902	907	12,253	118	-	-	5,678	24	171	4,282	3,078	-	37,443
December	- 6,512	1,648	17,112	174	3	-	1,660	191	1	5,691	4,447	9	31,615
January 1877	- 6,272	1,399	11,049	53	-	-	1,248	276	71	3,330	7,487	435	34,531
February	- 15,248	1,837	4,609	230	-	74	3,713	56	28	1,591	5,009	192	32,587
March	- 11,908	1,099	2,936	1,506	264	50	5,039	577	26	1,626	6,897	1,929	34,531
April	- 4,228	857	1,673	69	179	-	2,455	1,032	16	2,787	6,365	2,291	22,072
Total	52,042	9,270	92,510	35,950	6,375	9,706	61,022	3,887	424	21,049	85,738	5,843	384,816

Madras, 1st June 1877

(Signed) H E STOKES, Secretary

IMPORTS BY SEA

Months	Ganjam.	Vissagapatam.	Godavery.	Kistna.	Nellore.	South Arcot.	Tanjore.	Madura.	Tinnevely.	South Canara.	Malabar.	Madras.	Total
	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons.	Tons	Tons
May 1876	—	825	186	—	85	60	2,739	2,160	873	811	12,889	5,940	24,868
June	7	757	—	209	5	50	1,019	1,948	547	1	9,987	7,940	23,823
July	—	85	—	—	5	801	1,895	159	1,349	—	568	15,961	20,994
August	—	879	—	—	61	590	—	95	1,901	82	2,009	14,177	20,156
September	16	1,267	4	—	53	456	1,797	245	1,678	114	4,967	9,987	20,584
October	—	210	—	47	—	621	950	441	1,617	212	8,850	18,814	31,742
November	—	—	—	272	—	—	516	357	410	909	11,722	39,684	52,370
December	—	4	—	716	2,628	1,858	610	1,908	1,861	791	16,885	56,144	82,825
January 1877	—	59	61	473	5,899	2,536	477	1,642	2,765	1,587	25,168	75,967	126,569
February	—	2	39	485	5,587	2,687	2,086	684	8,093	714	26,634	69,057	110,915
March	—	158	93	700	3,795	6,149	5,391	3,016	8,400	703	34,741	48,393	111,533
April	—	313	481	686	8,728	—	13,242	6,359	9,694	442	40,712	41,779	124,436
Total	33	4,554	864	3,698	26,841	15,808	80,541	18,859	33,488	6,095	204,670	408,143	747,324

MOVEMENTS OF FOOD-GRAINS BY THE MADRAS RAILWAY

Months	NET IMPORTS											REMARKS			
	Madras or Chingleput District	Great Indian Peninsula Railway, including Raichore	South Indian Railway, including Conjeveram	North Arcot District	Salem District.	Coimbatore District	Malabar District	Mysore Territory	Cuddapah District	Bellary and Kurnool Districts					
August 1876	—	2,669	—	1,008	—	1,098	—	2,892	—	2,942	—	2,942	* This quantity was received from the South Indian Railway for distribution by the Madras Railway, and is included in the quantities above shown as distributed amongst Madras Railway districts		
September	—	5,082	—	2,050	—	664	—	6,094	—	4,267	—	4,267			
October	—	10,724	—	5,124	—	552	—	1,021	—	1,428	—	14,384			
November	—	12,840	—	2,432	—	501	—	1,412	—	8,335	—	9,919			
December	—	30,638	—	1,337	—	5,285	—	3,810	—	1,405	—	7,205			
January 1877	—	26,944	—	1,151	—	4,462	—	2,287	—	11,956	—	11,993			
February	—	19,970	—	461	—	3,460	—	3,388	—	9,540	—	9,102			
March	—	34,871	—	1,209	—	5,492	—	3,221	—	7,297	—	15,484			
April	—	31,801	—	773	—	2,738	—	5,238	—	8,073	—	10,531			
Total	—	176,359	—	16,110*	—	19,437	—	22,877	—	18,511	—	50,925		96,087	47,995

Madras, 1st June 1877.

(Signed) H E STOKES, Secretary

MOVEMENTS OF FOOD-GRAINS BY THE MADRAS RAILWAY.

Months	RECEIVED AT										REMARKS.
	Madras or Chingleput District.	North Arcot District.	Mysore Territory	Salem District.	Combatores District.	Malabar District.	Cuddapah District.	Bellary and Kurnool Districts.	South Indian Railway	Total.	
1876.	Tons	Tons	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons.	Tons.	The monthly abstracts furnished do not show quantities sent from the Madras to the South India Railway The quantity entered for the month of April is got from the weekly statements published on the "Fort St George Gazette." The quantity was considerable in the earlier months (<i>vide</i> South Indian Railway Abstracts)
August - - -	429	653	3,049	642	1,667	2,169	782	3,359	—	12,750	
September - - -	328	1,949	6,173	1,264	1,238	615	762	5,040	—	17,369	
October - - -	234	1,863	14,485	1,643	925	839	2,641	8,466	—	31,096	
November - - -	368	1,879	10,194	2,183	1,962	1,324	4,760	15,189	—	37,859	
December - - -	107	6,775	11,515	4,475	3,451	868	10,091	21,729	—	59,011	
1877.											
January - - -	201	5,034	12,072	4,908	3,567	966	8,856	20,455	—	56,059	
February - - -	143	4,165	9,220	4,037	3,826	525	9,389	13,614	—	44,919	
March - - -	76	5,036	16,484	5,786	3,612	372	8,209	14,208	—	52,803	
April - - -	45	2,818	14,909	5,332	3,479	447	5,078	16,657	201	54,016	
Total - - -	1,981	30,192	97,101	30,320	28,727	8,125	50,568	118,717	201	365,882	

MOVEMENT OF FOOD-GRAINS BY THE MADRAS RAILWAY.

Months.	FORWARDED FROM										
	Madras or Chingleput District	Great Indian Peninsula Railway, including Raichore	South Indian Railway including Conjeeveram.	Malabar District.	North Arcot District.	Salem District	Combatores District.	Mysore Territory	Cuddapah District.	Bellary and Kurnool.	Total.
1876	Tons	Tons	Tons.	Tons	Tons	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons	Tons.	Tons.
August - - -	3,098	4,039	1,573	1,081	1,661	539	106	157	79	417	12,750
September - - -	6,390	5,163	2,030	886	1,258	600	129	79	116	773	17,369
October - - -	10,958	4,921	5,124	2,267	2,415	1,751	1,946	101	878	785	31,096
November - - -	13,208	7,951	2,432	5,157	2,380	1,951	3,374	282	550	574	37,859
December - - -	30,745	12,281	1,337	8,073	1,490	665	2,046	248	389	1,737	59,011
1877.											
January - - -	27,185	7,872	1,151	12,924	572	922	1,330	79	371	3,653	56,059
February - - -	20,113	10,665	481	10,065	632	577	488	118	189	1,591	44,919
March - - -	34,747	8,226	1,209	7,669	267	294	391	—	—	—	52,803
April - - -	31,846	9,583	974	10,978	85	144	406	—	—	—	54,016
Total - - -	173,290	70,701	16,311	59,050	10,755	7,443	10,216	1,064	2,572	9,480	365,882

Madras, 1st June 1877.

(Signed) H. E. STOKES, Secretary.

MOVEMENTS OF FOOD-GRAINS BY SEA AND BY THE MADRAS RAIL.

		NET RESULTS FOR											
		PLACES WITHIN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY											
		Districts where there is no distress						Distressed districts					
		Ganjam.	Visagapatnam	Godavery	Tanjore	South Canara.	Malabar	Total	South Arcot.	Kutna.	Nellore.	Cuddapah.	Bellary and Kurnool.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
1876.		Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons.	Tons.	Tons	Tons.	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons.	Tons
August	{ By rail	-	-	-	-	-	+1,088	+1,088	-	-	-	+703	+2,942
	{ " sea	-1,293	+818	-8,744	-7,128	+16	+1,932	-14,399	-793	-7,296	-1,135	-	-
	Total	-1,293	+818	-8,744	-7,128	+16	+3,020	-13,311	-793	-7,296	-1,135	+703	+2,942
September	{ By rail	-	-	-	-	-	-221	-221	-	-	-	+646	+4,267
	{ " sea	-980	+1,155	-5,842	-3,804	-166	+4,756	-4,881	-846	-5,112	-235	-	-
	Total	-980	+1,155	-5,842	-3,804	-166	+4,535	-5,102	-846	-5,112	-235	+646	+4,267
October	{ By rail	-	-	-	-	-	-1,428	-1,428	-	-	-	+1,763	+7,731
	{ " sea	-172	-287	-13,861	-5,888	-586	+7,278	-13,516	-892	-2,595	-	-	-
	Total	-172	-287	-13,861	-5,888	-586	+5,850	-14,944	-892	-2,595	-	+1,763	+7,731
November	{ By rail	-	-	-	-	-	-3,833	-3,833	-	-	-	+4,210	+14,615
	{ " sea	-902	-907	-12,253	-5,162	-3,973	+8,649	-14,548	-	+154	-	-	-
	Total	-902	-907	-12,253	-5,162	-3,973	+4,816	-18,381	-	+154	-	+4,210	+14,615
December	{ By rail	-	-	-	-	-	-7,205	-7,205	-	-	-	+9,702	+19,992
	{ " sea	-6,512	-1,639	-17,112	-1,050	-4,970	+12,438	-18,845	+1,858	+542	+2,620	-	-
	Total	-6,512	-1,639	-17,112	-1,050	-4,970	+5,233	-26,050	+1,858	+542	+2,620	+9,702	+19,992
1877													
January	{ By rail	-	-	-	-	-	-11,958	-11,958	-	-	-	+8,485	+16,802
	{ " sea	-6,272	-1,340	-10,988	-766	-1,793	+27,666	+6,507	+2,536	+420	+5,899	-	-
	Total	-6,272	-1,340	-10,988	-766	-1,793	+15,708	-5,451	+2,536	+420	+5,899	+8,485	+16,802

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MOVEMENTS OF FOOD-GRAINS BY SEA AND BY THE MADRAS RAIL—(continued).

		NET RESULTS FOR—(continued)										Grand Total		
		PLACES WITHIN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY—(continued)							PLACES BEYOND THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY					
		Distressed Districts—(continued)							Great Indian Peninsula Railway	Mysore Territory	Total.			
		Madras or Chingleput	North Arcot.	Madura	Tinnevely	Coimbatore	Salem	South Indian Railway					Total.	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25			
1876	August	By rail	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons.	Tons	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons	
		sea	-2,669	-1,008	-116	+1,891	+1,561	+103	-1,573	+59	-4,039	+2,892	-1,147	-
	Total		+11,307	-1,008	-116	+1,891	+1,561	+103	-1,573	+6,586	-4,039	+2,892	-1,147	-7,872
September	By rail	sea	-6,062	+696	-46	+1,675	+1,109	+664	-2,030	-710	-5,163	+6,094	+961	-
		Total		+3,608	+696	-46	+1,675	+1,109	+664	-2,030	+4,391	-5,163	+6,094	+961
October	By rail	sea	-10,724	-552	-	-	-1,021	-108	-5,124	-8,035	-4,921	+14,384	+9,463	-
		Total		+18,699	-552	+307	+1,593	-	-	-	+17,112	-	-	-
November	By rail	sea	-12,840	-501	-	-	-1,412	+232	-2,432	+1,872	-7,951	+9,912	+1,961	-
		Total		+39,684	-501	+333	+239	-	-	-	+40,410	-	-	-
December	By rail	sea	-30,638	+5,285	-	-	+1,405	+3,810	-1,337	+8,219	-12,281	+11,267	-1,014	-
		Total		+56,135	-	+1,712	+1,860	-	-	-	+64,227	-	-	-
1877	January	By rail	-26,984	+4,462	-	-	+2,237	+3,986	-1,151	+7,887	-7,872	+11,993	+4,121	-
		sea	+75,532	-	+1,366	+2,694	-	-	-	+88,447	-	-	-	+94,954
	Total		+48,548	+4,462	+1,366	+2,694	+2,237	+3,986	-1,151	+96,284	-7,872	+11,993	+4,121	+94,954

MOVEMENTS OF FOOD-GRAINS BY SEA AND BY THE MADRAS RAIL—(continued).

		NET RESULTS FOR											
		PLACES WITHIN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY											
		Districts where there is no distress.						Distressed districts					
		Ganjam.	Vizagapatam.	Godavery	Tanjore	South Canara.	Malabar.	Total.	South Arcot.	Kistna.	Nellore.	Cuddapah.	Bellary and Kurnool.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
		Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1877													
February	{ By rail	-	-	-	-	-	-9,540	-9,540	-	-	-	+9,200	+12,028
	{ „ sea	-15,248	-1,835	-4,570	-1,677	-877	+21,625	-2,582	+2,613	+305	+5,587	—	—
	Total	-15,248	-1,835	-4,570	-1,677	-877	+12,085	-12,122	+2,613	+305	+5,587	+9,200	+12,023
March	{ By rail	-	-	-	-	-	-7,297	-7,297	-	-	-	+8,209	+14,208
	{ „ sea	-11,903	-1,746	-2,842	+352	-824	+27,844	+10,881	+6,099	-806	+3,531	—	—
	Total	-11,903	-1,746	-2,842	+352	-824	+20,547	+3,584	+6,099	-806	+3,531	+8,209	+14,208
April	{ By rail	-	-	-	-	-	-10,531	-10,531	-	-	-	+5,078	+16,657
	{ „ sea	-4,328	-544	-1,192	+10,787	-2,345	+34,327	+36,705	-	+617	+8,549	—	—
	Total	-4,328	-544	-1,192	+10,787	-2,345	+23,796	+26,174	-	+617	+8,549	+5,078	+16,657
Total	{ By rail	-	-	-	-	-	-50,925	-50,925	-	-	-	+47,996	+109,237
	{ „ sea	-47,610	-6,325	-77,404	-14,336	-15,518	+146,515	+14,678	+10,575	-13,871	+24,816	—	—
	Total	-47,610	-6,325	-77,404	-14,336	-15,518	+95,590	-36,247	+10,575	-13,871	+24,816	+47,996	+109,237

MOVEMENTS OF FOOD-GRAINS BY SEA AND BY THE MADRAS RAIL—(continued)

		NET RESULTS FOR—(continued)											Grand Total.
		PLACES WITHIN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY—(continued)								PLACES BEYOND THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY			
		Distressed Districts—(continued)								Great Indian Peninsula Railway	Mysore Territory	Total	
		Madras or Chingleput	North Arcot	Madura	Tinnevely	Coimbatore	Salem.	South Indian Railway	Total				
		14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21				
1877		Tons	Tons.	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons.	Tons	Tons.	Tons	Tons.	
February	{ By rail	-19,970	+3,533	-	-	+3,338	+3,460	-481	+11,103	-10,665	+9,102	-1,563	-
	{ „ sea	+68,865	-	+578	+3,065	-	-	-	+80,913	-	-	-	+78,331
	Total	+48,895	+3,533	+578	+3,065	+3,338	+3,460	-481	+92,016	-10,665	+9,102	-1,563	+78,331
March	{ By rail	-34,671	+4,789	-	-	+3,221	+5,492	-1,209	+89	-8,226	+15,484	+7,258	-
	{ „ sea	+46,464	-	+2,459	+8,374	-	-	-	+66,121	-	-	-	+77,002
	Total	+11,793	+4,789	+2,459	+8,374	+3,221	+5,492	-1,209	+66,160	-8,226	+15,484	+7,258	+77,002
April	{ By rail	-31,801	+2,733	-	-	+8,073	+5,238	-773	+5,205	-9,533	+14,909	+5,326	-
	{ „ sea	+39,488	-	+5,327	+9,678	-	-	-	+63,659	-	-	-	+100,364
	Total	+7,687	+2,733	+5,327	+9,678	+8,073	+5,238	-773	+68,864	-9,533	+14,909	+5,326	+100,364
Total	{ By rail	-176,359	+19,437	-	-	+18,511	+22,877	-16,110	+25,589	-70,701	+96,037	+25,336	-
	{ „ sea	+368,508	-	+11,920	+30,569	-	-	-	+432,517	-	-	-	+417,839
	Total	+192,149	+19,437	+11,920	+30,569	+18,511	+22,877	-16,110	+458,106	-70,701	+96,037	+25,336	+417,839

Madras, 1st June 1877.

(Signed) H. E. STOKES, Secretary.

MOVEMENTS OF FOOD-GRAINS BY SEA AND BY THE MADRAS RAIL.

		RECEIVED AT										
		PLACES WITHIN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY										
		Districts where there is no distress						Distressed districts.				
		Ganjam.	Vizag-patam	Godavery.	Tanjore.	South Canara.	Malabar	Total	Kistna.	Nellore	Cuddapah	Bellary and Kurnool.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
1876.		Tons	Tons	Tons.	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Ton	
August	{ By rail - - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	2,169	2,169	-	-	782	8,359
	{ „ sea - - - - -	-	879	-	419	32	2,002	3,332	-	61	-	-
	Total	-	879	-	419	32	4,171	5,501	-	61	782	8,359
September	{ By rail - - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	615	615	-	-	762	5,040
	{ „ sea - - - - -	16	1,267	4	1,797	114	4,967	8,165	-	53	-	-
	Total	16	1,267	4	1,797	114	5,582	8,780	-	53	762	5,040
October	{ By rail - - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	839	839	-	-	2,641	8,466
	{ „ sea - - - - -	-	210	-	930	212	8,850	10,202	47	-	-	-
	Total	-	210	-	930	212	9,689	11,041	47	-	2,641	8,466
November	{ By rail - - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	1,324	1,324	-	-	4,760	15,189
	{ „ sea - - - - -	-	-	-	516	309	11,722	12,547	272	-	-	-
	Total	-	-	-	516	309	13,046	13,871	272	-	4,760	15,189
December	{ By rail - - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	868	868	-	-	10,091	21,729
	{ „ sea - - - - -	-	4	-	610	721	16,885	18,220	716	2,623	-	-
	Total	-	4	-	610	721	17,753	19,088	716	2,623	10,091	21,729
1877												
January	{ By rail - - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	966	966	-	-	8,856	20,455
	{ „ sea - - - - -	-	59	61	477	1,537	85,153	37,287	473	5,899	-	-
	Total	-	59	61	477	1,537	36,119	38,253	473	5,899	8,856	20,455

MOVEMENTS OF FOOD-GRAINS BY SEA AND BY THE MADRAS RAIL—(continued)

		RECEIVED AT—(continued)										Grand Total	
		PLACES WITHIN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY—(continued)											PLACES BEYOND THE PRESIDENCY
		Distressed districts—(continued)											
		Madras or Chingleput.	North Arcot.	South Arcot	Madura.	Tinnevely	Combatore.	Salem.	South Indian Railway	Total	Mysore		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23			
1876	August -	{ By rail -	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
		„ sea -	429	653	-	-	-	1,667	642	-	7,532	3,049	12,750
		Total -	14,177	-	590	95	1,901	-	-	-	16,824	-	20,156
			14,606	653	590	95	1,901	1,667	642	-	24,356	3,049	82,906
September	-	{ By rail -	328	1,949	-	-	-	1,238	1,264	-	10,581	6,173	17,869
		„ sea -	9,987	-	456	245	1,678	-	-	-	12,419	-	20,594
		Total -	10,315	1,949	456	245	1,678	1,238	1,264	-	23,000	6,173	37,953
			10,315	1,949	456	245	1,678	1,238	1,264	-	23,000	6,173	37,953
October	-	{ By rail -	234	1,863	-	-	-	925	1,643	-	15,772	14,485	31,096
		„ sea -	18,814	-	621	441	1,617	-	-	-	21,540	-	31,742
		Total -	19,048	1,863	621	441	1,617	925	1,643	-	37,312	14,485	62,338
			19,048	1,863	621	441	1,617	925	1,643	-	37,312	14,485	62,338
November	-	{ By rail -	368	1,879	-	-	-	1,962	2,183	-	26,341	10,194	37,859
		„ sea -	39,684	-	-	357	410	-	-	-	40,723	-	53,270
		Total -	40,062	1,879	-	357	410	1,962	2,183	-	67,064	10,194	91,129
			40,062	1,879	-	357	410	1,962	2,183	-	67,064	10,194	91,129
December	-	{ By rail -	107	6,775	-	-	-	3,451	4,475	-	46,628	11,515	59,011
		„ sea -	56,144	-	1,858	1,903	1,361	-	-	-	64,605	-	82,825
		Total -	56,251	6,775	1,858	1,903	1,361	3,451	4,475	-	111,233	11,515	141,836
			56,251	6,775	1,858	1,903	1,361	3,451	4,475	-	111,233	11,515	141,836
1877.	January	{ By rail -	201	5,034	-	-	-	3,567	4,908	-	43,021	12,072	56,059
		„ sea -	75,967	-	2,536	1,642	2,765	-	-	-	89,232	-	126,569
		Total -	76,168	5,034	2,536	1,642	2,765	3,567	4,908	-	132,303	12,072	182,628
			76,168	5,034	2,536	1,642	2,765	3,567	4,908	-	132,303	12,072	182,628

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MOVEMENTS OF FOOD-GRAINS BY SEA AND BY THE MADRAS RAIL.

		RECEIVED AT										
		PLACES WITHIN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY										
		Districts where there is no distress.						Distressed districts				
		Ganjam.	Visagapatam.	Godavery.	Tanjore	South Canara.	Malabar.	Total.	Kistna.	Nellore	Cuddapah.	Bellary and Kurnool.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
		Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons.
1877.												
February	{ By rail - - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	525	525	-	-	9,389	13,614
	{ " sea - - - - -	-	2	39	2,036	714	26,634	29,425	485	5,587	-	-
	Total - - - - -	-	2	39	2,036	714	27,159	29,950	485	5,587	9,389	13,614
March	{ By rail - - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	372	372	-	-	8,209	14,208
	{ " sea - - - - -	-	153	93	5,391	702	34,741	41,080	700	3,795	-	-
	Total - - - - -	-	153	93	5,391	702	35,113	41,452	700	3,795	8,209	14,208
April	{ By rail - - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	447	447	-	-	5,078	16,657
	{ " sea - - - - -	-	313	481	13,242	442	40,712	55,190	686	8,728	-	-
	Total - - - - -	-	313	481	13,242	442	41,159	55,637	686	8,728	5,078	16,657
Total	{ By rail - - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	8,125	8,125	-	-	50,568	118,717
	{ " sea - - - - -	16	2,887	678	25,418	4,783	181,666	215,448	3,329	26,746	-	-
	Total - - - - -	16	2,887	678	25,418	4,783	189,791	223,573	3,329	26,746	50,568	118,717

MOVEMENTS OF FOOD-GRAINS BY SEA AND BY THE MADRAS RAIL.

RECEIVED AT—(continued)											
PLACES WITHIN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY—(continued)										PLACES BEYOND THE PRESIDENCY	Grand Total.
Distressed districts—(continued)											
	Madras or Chingleput	North Arcot	South Arcot	Madura.	Tinnevely	Colmbature.	Salem	South Indian Railway	Total	Mysore	
	18	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
1877											
February	-	{	By rail -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		"	sea -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
				Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons.	Tons.	Tons	Tons
				148	4,165	2,687	634	3,093	3,826	4,037	-
				69,057	-	-	-	-	-	-	35,174
				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	81,493
				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,220
				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	44,919
				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	110,918
				Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
				69,200	4,165	2,687	634	3,093	3,826	4,037	-
				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	116,667
				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,220
				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	155,837
March	-	{	By rail -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		"	sea -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
				Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons.	Tons.	Tons	Tons
				76	5,056	6,149	3,016	8,400	8,612	5,786	-
				48,893	-	-	-	-	-	-	36,947
				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	70,453
				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,484
				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	52,803
				Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
				48,469	5,056	6,149	3,016	8,400	8,612	5,786	-
				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	107,400
				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,484
				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	164,336
April	-	{	By rail -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		"	sea -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
				Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons.	Tons.	Tons	Tons
				45	2,818	-	-	-	8,479	5,382	201
				41,779	-	-	6,359	9,694	-	-	38,660
				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	67,246
				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14,909
				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	54,016
				Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
				41,824	2,818	-	6,359	9,694	8,479	5,382	201
				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	105,906
				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14,909
				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	176,452
Total	-	{	By rail -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		"	sea -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
				Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons.	Tons.	Tons	Tons
				1,931	30,192	14,897	14,692	80,919	28,727	80,320	201
				374,002	-	-	-	-	-	-	260,656
				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	464,585
				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	97,101
				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	865,882
				Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
				375,938	30,192	14,897	14,692	80,919	28,727	80,320	201
				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	725,241
				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	97,101
				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,045,915

Madras, 1st June 1877.

(Signed) H. E. STOKES, Secretary.

MOVEMENTS OF FOOD-GRAINS BY SEA AND BY THE MADRAS RAIL.

		FORWARDED FROM											
		PLACES WITHIN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY											
		Districts where there is no distress						Distressed districts					
		Ganjam	Vizaga- patam	Godavery	Tanjore	South Canara.	Malabar.	Total.	South Arcot.	Kistna.	Nellore.	Cuddapah	Beltary and Karnool.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
1876.		Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons	To	
August	{ By rail	-	-	-	-	-	1,081	-	-	-	79	417	
	{ " sea	1,293	61	8,744	7,547	16	70	1,383	7,296	1,196	-	-	
	Total	1,293	61	8,744	7,547	16	1,151	18,812	1,383	7,296	1,196	79	417
September	{ By rail	-	-	-	-	-	836	-	-	-	116	773	
	{ " sea	996	112	5,846	5,601	280	211	1,302	5,112	288	-	-	
	Total	996	112	5,846	5,601	280	1,047	13,882	1,302	5,112	288	116	773
October	{ By rail	-	-	-	-	-	2,267	-	-	-	878	735	
	{ " sea	172	497	13,861	6,818	798	1,572	1,513	2,642	-	-	-	
	Total	172	497	13,861	6,818	798	3,839	25,985	1,513	2,642	-	878	735
November	{ By rail	-	-	-	-	-	5,157	-	-	-	550	674	
	{ " sea	902	907	12,253	5,678	4,282	3,073	-	118	-	-	-	
	Total	902	907	12,253	5,678	4,282	8,230	32,252	-	118	-	550	674
December	{ By rail	-	-	-	-	-	8,073	-	-	-	389	1,737	
	{ " sea	6,512	1,643	17,112	1,660	5,691	4,447	174	3	-	-	-	
	Total	6,512	1,643	17,112	1,660	5,691	12,520	45,138	-	174	3	389	1,737
1877													
January	{ By rail	-	-	-	-	-	12,924	-	-	-	371	3,653	
	{ " sea	6,272	1,399	11,049	1,243	3,330	7,487	53	-	-	-	-	
	Total	6,272	1,399	11,049	1,243	3,330	20,411	43,704	-	53	-	371	3,653

MOVEMENTS OF FOOD-GRAINS BY SEA AND BY THE MADRAS RAIL—(continued)

		FORWARDED FROM—(continued)											Grand Total	
		PLACES WITHIN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY—(continued)							PLACES BEYOND THE PRESIDENCY					
		Distressed districts—(continued)							Great Indian Peninsula Railway	Mysore	Total			
		Madras or Chingleput	North Arcot	Madura.	Tinnevely	Coimbatore	Salem	South Indian Railway				Total		
		14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
1876	August	{ By rail	Tons 3,098	Tons 1,661	Tons 211	Tons 10	Tons 106	Tons 539	Tons 1,573	Tons. 7,473	Tons 4,089	Tons 157	Tons 4,196	Tons 12,750
		{ " sea	201	-	211	-	-	-	-	10,297	-	-	-	23,028
	Total	-	3,299	1,661	211	10	106	539	1,573	17,770	4,089	157	4,196	40,778
September	{ By rail	-	6,390	1,253	-	3	129	600	2,030	11,291	5,163	79	5,242	17,369
		{ " sea	322	-	291	-	-	-	-	7,318	-	-	-	20,364
	Total	-	6,712	1,253	291	3	129	600	2,030	18,609	5,163	79	5,242	37,733
October	{ By rail	-	10,958	2,415	-	-	1,946	1,751	5,124	23,307	4,921	101	5,022	31,096
		{ " sea	115	-	134	24	-	-	-	4,428	-	-	-	28,146
	Total	-	11,073	2,415	134	24	1,946	1,751	5,124	28,235	4,921	101	5,022	69,242
November	{ By rail	-	18,208	2,380	-	-	3,374	1,951	2,432	24,469	7,951	282	8,233	37,859
		{ " sea	-	-	24	171	-	-	-	813	-	-	-	27,408
	Total	-	18,208	2,380	24	171	3,374	1,951	2,432	24,782	7,951	282	8,233	66,267
December	{ By rail	-	30,745	1,490	-	-	2,046	665	1,337	38,409	12,281	248	12,529	59,011
		{ " sea	9	-	191	1	-	-	-	378	-	-	-	37,443
	Total	-	30,754	1,490	191	1	2,046	665	1,337	38,787	12,281	248	12,529	96,454
1877.	January	{ By rail	27,186	572	-	-	1,330	922	1,151	35,184	7,872	79	7,951	56,059
{ " sea		435	-	276	71	-	-	-	-	835	-	-	-	81,615
	Total	-	27,620	572	276	71	1,330	922	1,151	36,019	7,872	79	7,951	87,674

MOVEMENTS OF FOOD-GRAINS BY SEA AND BY THE MADRAS RAIL.

		FORWARDED FROM											
		PLACES WITHIN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY											
		Districts where there is no distress						Distressed Districts					
		Ganjam.	Visagapatnam	Godavery	Tanjore	South Canara.	Malabar	Total	South Arcot.	Kutna.	Nellore	Cuddapah	Bellary and Kurnool
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
		Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons.	Tons	Tons.	Tons.	Tons	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons
1877													
February	{ By rail	-	-	-	-	-	10,065	10,065	-	-	-	189	1,591
	{ " sea	15,248	1,837	4,609	3,713	1,591	5,009	32,007	74	230	-	-	-
	Total	15,248	1,837	4,609	3,713	1,591	15,074	42,072	74	230	-	189	1,591
March	{ By rail	-	-	-	-	-	7,669	7,669	-	-	-	-	-
	{ " sea	11,903	1,899	2,935	5,039	1,526	6,897	30,199	50	1,506	264	-	-
	Total	11,903	1,899	2,935	5,039	1,526	14,566	37,868	50	1,506	264	-	-
April	{ By rail	-	-	-	-	-	10,978	10,978	-	-	-	-	-
	{ " sea	4,328	857	1,673	2,455	2,787	6,385	18,483	-	69	179	-	-
	Total	4,328	857	1,673	2,455	2,787	17,363	29,463	-	69	179	-	-
Total	{ By rail	-	-	-	-	-	59,050	59,050	-	-	-	2,572	9,480
	{ " sea	17,626	9,212	78,082	39,754	20,301	35,151	230,126	4,322	17,200	1,930	-	-
	Total	17,626	9,212	78,082	39,754	20,301	94,201	289,176	4,322	17,200	1,930	2,572	9,480

MOVEMENTS OF FOOD-GRAINS BY SEA AND BY THE MADRAS RAIL.

		FORWARDED FROM—(continued)											Grand Total	
		PLACES WITHIN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY—(continued)							PLACES BEYOND THE PRESIDENCY					
		Distressed districts—(continued)							Great Indian Peninsula Railway	Mysore	Total			
		Madras or Chingleput.	North Arcot	Madura	Tinnevely	Coimbatore	Salem	South Indian Railway				Total		
		14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24		25
		Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.		
1877.	February -	{ By rail - -	20,113	632	-	-	488	577	481	24,071	10,665	118	10,783	44,919
		{ " sea - -	192	-	56	28	-	-	-	580	-	-	-	32,587
	Total - -	20,305	632	56	28	488	577	481	24,651	10,665	118	10,783	77,606	
March -	February -	{ By rail - -	84,747	267	-	-	391	294	1,209	86,908	8,226	-	8,226	52,803
		{ " sea - -	1,929	-	557	26	-	-	-	4,332	-	-	-	84,581
	Total - -	86,576	267	557	26	391	294	1,209	41,240	8,226	-	8,226	87,834	
April -	April -	{ By rail - -	31,846	85	-	-	406	144	974	33,455	9,583	-	9,583	54,016
		{ " sea - -	2,291	-	1,032	16	-	-	-	3,587	-	-	-	22,072
	Total - -	34,137	85	1,032	16	406	144	974	37,042	9,583	-	9,583	76,089	
Total -	Total -	{ By rail - -	178,290	10,755	-	-	10,216	7,443	16,311	235,067	70,701	1,064	71,765	365,882
		{ " sea - -	5,494	-	2,772	350	-	-	-	82,068	-	-	-	262,194
	Total - -	183,784	10,755	2,772	350	10,216	7,443	16,311	267,135	70,701	1,064	71,765	628,076	

Madras, 1st June 1877.

(Signed) H. E. STOKES, Secretary.

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1877.

NUMBER of PEOPLE fed gratuitously by GOVERNMENT in the distressed districts of the MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

NAMES OF DISTRICTS	JANUARY				FEBRUARY				MARCH				
	Week ending				Week ending				Week ending				
	6th	13th	20th.	27th.	3rd.	10th	17th	24th	3rd.	10th	17th	24th	31st
Kistna - - -	201	168	722	334	455	41	430	191	160	184	397	235	530
Nellore - - -	3,400	6,420	7,956	9,103	9,539	5,406	9,025	5,953	4,681	5,204	5,595	6,613	4,976
Cuddapah - - -	885	1,003	1,419	893	1,623	1,723	1,705	1,634	1,256	2,600	3,268	6,129	6,129
Bellary - - -	86,555	39,522	39,201	33,497	28,129	14,386	10,014	14,829	16,589	17,575	25,853	33,102	82,519
Kurnool - - -	17,379	3,819	2,829	2,680	3,674	3,567	4,026	3,538	3,651	11,233	19,406	25,572	33,753
Chingleput { District	4,542	3,066	4,008	3,425	3,081	4,419	4,095	4,443	5,102	5,666	6,006	6,030	6,211
{ City Camps	19,714	21,186	22,740	20,059	20,599	20,447	19,934	18,500	20,732	21,239	21,816	23,135	24,224
North Arcot - - -	-	-	-	-	-	824	619	557	835	1,398	1,712	2,089	2,060
Trichinopoly - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Madura - - -	841	185	589	331	296	557	197	230	188	328	537	1,263	1,484
Tinnevely - - -	-	5	283	359	92	71	93	138	192	272	260	417	415
Coimbatore - - -	-	8	114	58	93	1,809	1,573	1,297	1,309	1,093	1,759	2,291	3,129
Salem - - -	7,622	2,780	7,191	9,750	6,157	4,580	3,493	3,056	3,563	3,740	5,594	5,846	10,143
Total - - -	91,139	78,172	87,052	80,489	73,738	57,280	55,222	54,837	58,636	69,187	91,535	109,861	175,573
South Arcot - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	156	-	47	59	93
Malabar - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL - - -	91,139	78,172	87,052	80,489	73,738	57,280	55,222	54,837	58,792	69,187	91,582	109,920	175,666
Average per month - - -	84,213				60,269				101,029				

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NUMBER OF PEOPLE fed gratuitously by GOVERNMENT in the distressed districts of the MADRAS PRESIDENCY—(continued)

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NAMES OF DISTRICTS	APRIL.				MAY				JUNE				
	Week ending				Week ending				Week ending				
	7th.	14th.	21st	28th	5th	12th.	19th	26th.	2nd.	9th.	16th	23rd.	30th
Kistna - - -	442	2,298	4,141	509	364	382	259	179	382	383	356	480	1,145
Nellore - - -	22,267	38,447	58,235	13,151	18,431	21,797	18,217	18,873	20,322	16,978	27,225	28,901	27,980
Cuddapah - - -	14,397	30,409	29,013	24,988	24,810	28,726	27,434	26,321	33,629	36,314	45,955	51,469	56,362
Bellary - - -	66,551	80,866	95,074	101,623	108,499	120,917	132,394	136,110	139,886	155,044	154,583	157,066	148,366
Kurnool - - -	46,841	53,111	70,024	68,797	64,817	61,049	61,759	62,486	60,611	59,842	57,060	59,937	58,731
Chingleput { District	6,478	18,215	51,996	9,059	10,441	13,477	11,540	16,751	19,662	18,621	27,770	43,565	35,266
{ City Camps	25,805	27,425	27,77 6	28,997	30,025	32,972	33,122	33,214	30,576	26,855	24,444	23,600	22,766
North Arcot - - -	2,174	2,482	3,115	8,071	12,843	11,563	12,804	14,753	20,622	22,011	22,281	26,595	29,110
Trichinopoly - - -	-	-	-	-	-	40	32	108	394	463	1,131	1,013	947
Madura - - -	11,056	27,595	5,871	6,224	7,776	8,286	8,905	9,106	11,448	13,941	11,247	14,293	15,976
Tinnevelly - - -	428	2,044	1,843	225	568	677	786	738	755	835	866	898	1,041
Coimbatore - - -	4,194	5,023	7,464	11,181	12,632	16,093	16,234	21,220	24,713	28,202	31,719	34,073	39,798
Salem - - -	16,836	25,021	34,364	35,540	60,420	44,146	56,026	58,237	74,238	78,878	74,949	83,321	94,418
Total - - -	217,464	312,436	318,916	303,365	351,626	360,035	379,012	398,091	437,238	458,367	479,586	525,211	531,886
South Arcot - - -	1,256	2,368	5,689	1,280	1,991	2,844	3,443	4,108	4,530	6,198	8,296	8,239	10,606
Malabar - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	12	27	65	58	87
GRAND TOTAL - - -	218,720	314,804	394,605	304,645	353,617	362,879	382,455	402,205	441,780	464,592	487,967	533,508	642,579
Average per month - - -	308,193				375,289				494,085				

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No. 32

Encl. in
No. 37

No 313, dated Simla, 4th June 1877.

From SURGEON-MAJOR S C TOWNSEND, Officiating Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of India, to the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce.

I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government, a copy of Dr. Lewis' Report on his preliminary investigations into the nature of the fever lately prevalent in Bombay.

No. 33.

Encl. in
No. 60.

No. 1,054, dated Simla, 4th June 1877.

From R. B CHAPMAN, Esq, C.S.I., Secretary to the Government of India, Financial Department, to the CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY.

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter No 1,914, dated the 17th April, I am directed to say that the principle upon which the Resolution of the Government of India, No. 1,826, dated 28th March 1877, is based, was, as appears upon its face, adopted during the operations undertaken for the relief of the people of Bengal in the famine of 1873-74.

2. It seemed to the Governor-General in Council then, and seems still, that when a great calamity is confined to any particular Province, it is necessary and right that all provincial and local resources shall be exhausted in contending against it, before any demands are made upon the General Treasury of the Empire, and further that the Government of the Province is bound to take care that this principle is effectually applied, and to submit to every possible sacrifice in order to reduce to the utmost its ultimate demands upon the Imperial Revenues

3. The extent to which provincial resources shall be held responsible for charges incurred on such occasions from the Imperial Treasury has yet to be determined; but the general principle that some such responsibility must be enforced has, as the Government of Bombay is aware, been recognised by the Secretary of State and by the Government of India.

4 The duty required from the Governments of Madras and Bombay by the Resolution against which the Government of Bombay now remonstrates was accepted, without controversy, by the Government of Bengal, and the accounts show that a sum of Rs. 12,70,476 was contributed from the provincial and local resources of Bengal towards the cost of the operations of 1873-74. The Government of Bombay will probably on reconsideration admit that, although these contributions doubtless pressed heavily upon provincial and local resources, the Government of India was right to require them, and the Government of Bengal right to make them; and that the rule should hereafter be always observed that Local Governments shall bear from provincial and local resources as large a share as possible of any expenditure incurred upon the operations for the relief of the people in time of famine

5. The Government of India, on its part, while it would not think it right to relieve the provincial and local funds of other Provinces any more than it did those of Bengal, from any part of the burden which they can properly bear, or from the inconvenience and sacrifices thence resulting, will yet take care, as it did in the case of Bengal, that these funds are not left at the end of the operations insolvent. It must not, however, be assumed that because it was considered right, upon this principle, to assure to the Government of Bengal an unencumbered balance of Rs 5,00,000 at the end of the famine of 1873-74, it will be necessary to leave as large a sum in the Provincial and Local Treasuries of the less populous and less extensive Presidencies.

6. In settling the accounts of the Government of India with that of Bengal, the Governor-General in Council did not appropriate any part of the balances belonging by law or equity to the District and Local Funds. The five lakhs of rupees left with the Government of Bengal was the aggregate amount placed at credit of that Government

in its Provincial Treasury including the Local Funds which were by law and equity at the disposal of the Local Government at its discretion for provincial purposes. The balances of the District and other Appropriated Local Funds were not absorbed, but were left in the possession of the Committees apart from the settlement which left Rs 5,00,000 at the disposal of the Provincial Government. These bodies were, however, required to contribute to the general need so far as the law allowed them, and so far as it was considered in each case just to demand contributions from them. Of the total sum of Rs. 12,70,746 contributed from Bengal provincial and local sources, Rs 2,50,000 was thus paid by these separate District and other Local Committees.

7. The same course should be followed by the Government of Bombay in the present emergency. The Government of India cannot require and has not asked the Governments of Madras and Bombay to demand from any District, Municipal, or other Local Committee, any contribution towards the great expenditure for the relief of the present distress which is now proceeding, which the law does not authorise, or which, even though it might be legal, local circumstances may make inequitable. But it is, undoubtedly, the duty of the Local Governments to exact from every such local body the utmost contribution towards meeting the cost of relieving the local distress, which may legally and equitably be required from it.

8. The principle seems to the Government of India to be clearly right that the distress should first be met from local resources so far as is possible, and that district resources should only be responsible when local resources fail, provincial resources when district resources fail, and imperial resources last of all.

9. The Governor-General in Council trusts that the principle thus explained will now be accepted by the Government of Bombay as reasonable and right. His Excellency in Council will be prepared, on his part, to give liberal consideration to the representations which he will expect to receive hereafter as to the amount to be left at the credit of the Local Government and as to the contributions which should be exacted from the District and other Local Funds or resources.

Copy forwarded to the Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce for information.

No. 34.

No. 504 — FROM THE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA TO THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER IN MYSORE.

Simla, 8th June 1877.

His Excellency the Governor-General in Council has lately had under his consideration the condition of the Province of Mysore, with reference to the prevailing scarcity.

2. According to the latest accounts which have been received, the persons in receipt of relief appear to have been as under —

Date—week ending	NUMBERS ON WORKS		Numbers charitably relieved.	Total
	Under Public Works agency	Under Civil Officers		
Christians - - - -		48,644	21,959	70,603
February 17th, 1877 - - - -	31,248	68,348	94,596	
March 3rd, " - - - -	30,794	33,513	23,295	87,602
" 10th, " - - - -	30,794	36,600	37,361	104,805
" 17th, " - - - -	31,052	38,512	48,861	118,425
" 24th, " - - - -	31,052	44,365	52,471	127,888
" 31st, " - - - -	31,715	55,687	57,974	145,376
April 7th, " - - - -	31,715	32,047	59,444	123,206
" 14th, " - - - -	30,542	29,159	68,641	128,342
" 21st, " - - - -	30,542	27,686	82,501	140,729
" 28th, " - - - -	33,143	30,070	87,693	150,946
May 5th, " - - - -	30,159	32,352	94,873	157,384
" 12th, " - - - -	34,222	32,281	102,399	168,902
" 19th, " - - - -	34,466	29,903	108,482	172,881

Encl in
No 37

3. According to the telegram of the 31st ultimo, the distribution of numbers was as under :—

	On works.	Charitably relieved.	Total
Bangalore	4,630	56,996	61,626
Kolar	4,730	12,389	17,119
Túmkúr	5,529	16,247	21,776
Mysore	700	5,248	5,948
Hassan	1,761	4,701	6,462
Shmoga	1,234	936	2,170
Kadur	1,232	1,247	2,479
Chitaldroog	10,117	10,718	20,835
On works under Public Works Department	29,933	108,482	138,415
Total			34,466
			172,881

4. According to your letter No. 829—12 of April 21st, the allotments made up to April 17th, from the sum of 8 lakhs of rupees sanctioned for relief expenditure were as under :—

	Rs.
Nundidroog Commissioner	49,216
Bangalore District—	
Cantonment	12,637
Municipality	30,513
Public Works Department	2,230
District generally	1,28,766
Ditto kitchens	74,000
Cantonment and town kitchens	27,803
Miscellaneous	2,489
	2,79,438
Kolar District—	
Relief works	58,283
Kitchens	27,156
	85,439
Túmkúr District—	
Relief works	47,500
Kitchens	38,300
	85,800
Ashtagram Commissioner	16,000
Mysore District and Town	20,625
Hassan District	13,200
Nagar Commissioner	7,000
Shmoga District and Town	21,000
Kadur District	27,267
Chitaldroog District	33,000
Total	6,37,985

The actual expenditure against these allotments does not appear.

5. According to the weekly report for April 21st, the sanctioned and actual expenditure was as follows :—

	Sanctioned amounts. Rs.	Actual expenditure Rs.
For works under Civil officers	10,51,547	7,25,272
Ditto Public Works Department	19,11,634	14,96,760
For charitable relief	1,77,792	1,59,688
Total	31,40,973	23,81,720

By May 5th these totals had risen to Rs. 33,51,033 and Rs. 29,52,596 respectively. It is, however, presumed that these larger figures comprise the whole regular Public Works

expenditure of the year, and possibly the District Fund and Municipal Fund charges too, much of which is not really for relief purposes.

6 The return for the week ending May 12th states the number of works in progress under revenue officers as 2,170. The number of persons employed on them being 32,281, the average on each work must be only about 15.

7. From the statistics above given, the following facts are apparent :—

1st.—That the numbers on works under professional agency have scarcely varied during the last two months and a half.

2nd.—That the numbers on works under revenue officers have on the whole varied little, they rose up to the end of March, then fell, for reasons which have formed the subject of separate correspondence; and now again are rising slowly, if at all.

3rd.—That the charitably relieved, who on March 17th were only as 49 to 69 on the works, were on May 19th as 108 to 64, thus preponderating greatly, whereas in Bombay and Madras their proportion to persons on works is only about one-third and one-half respectively.

4th.—That the relief afforded in the district of Bangalore enormously exceeds, both as to numbers and cost, that in other districts.

8 From these facts it might be inferred that relief works were regulated by the work in hand to be done, rather than by the number of persons requiring relief and able to do a full day's work, that no efficient supervision of such petty works could exist; that either multitudes are being improperly and unnecessarily fed, or relief works have been kept down to so narrow a limit that the people have been reduced to the last stage of distress, and have no alternative but to resort to the kitchens, or, again, that if village relief were efficient, such large bodies of persons would not leave their homes and crowd to centres of relief. In this connexion it may be noticed that in the weekly report of the 21st ultimo, the Commissioner of Ashtagram is said to state that "a large portion of the persons fed at kitchens were half-starved and sickly emigrants from other places."

9 His Excellency the Governor-General in Council is not, however, prepared to draw these conclusions, being well aware that the total numbers relieved is not excessive compared with the population, that emigration may have had an important effect upon the numbers able to work, and that habit, difficult to overcome, may promote resort to centres. At the same time his Excellency in Council considers that the apparently peculiar condition of affairs at the present juncture demands your most careful consideration, made by means of specially deputed officers, or otherwise as you may deem best, with the view of ensuring, on the one hand, that all who can work shall be forced to do so, and on the other, that charitable relief may reach all who are really in need of it without too great concentration of recipients, and its concomitant evils and abuses. His Excellency the Governor-General in Council has every confidence that you will take with vigour and promptitude whatever steps may seem to you advisable for these ends, and will be glad to know by telegraph the course you propose to adopt.

No 35.

Encl. in
No. 37.

No 510.—From the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA to the SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY, Public Works Department

Simla, 8th June 1877.

With reference to your letter No 492 C W—1,145 of the 6th instant, on the subject of the Ashteh Tank, I am directed to remark that in the programme appended to the resolution of the Bombay Government, No 6,152 of October 27th, 1876, this work was entered as "Ashteh Tank, Mahrah, amount Rs 3,64,000"

2. In the statement submitted with your letter No. 257 C W—986, dated December 8th, 1876, in reply to the request of the Government of India for full particulars, it is stated that the "amount of estimate" is Rs 5,28,760

3 In the memorandum forwarded with your letter No 309—1,110 C W of December 23rd, in consequence of the telegram of the Government of India of December 12th, intimating that the statement above referred to did not give sufficient details, it is stated that the cost of the work will be Rs 6,45,260, including all direct charges, and that the revenue will be 5 1 per cent on this outlay

4 From your letter No 403 C W—921 of April 21st, 1877, it appears, however, that the direct outlay will be Rs 6,77,618, and the total outlay including indirect charges Rs 7,98,938, thus bringing the revenue down to 4.15 per cent.

5. Your reply of the 16th instant to the inquiry what amount of *bona fide* relief labour the project affords is not very explicit, but as the number of relief labourers on the work has not yet reached 15,000, and the part of the work to cost Rs 3,66,274 is said to be not quite all suitable for relief labour, it may be inferred that probably the *bona fide* relief labour will not cost above three lakhs, or one-third of the total

6. I am directed to request the attention of his Excellency the Governor in Council to the foregoing remarks.

Encl in
No. 37.

No. 36.

No. 514—From the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA to the SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY, Public Works Department

Simla, 11th June 1877.

I have the honour to inform you that his Excellency the Governor-General in Council has had under consideration the Resolutions of the Bombay Government regarding the Pangaon Tank, which are quoted in the margin

2. The amount of the estimate is said to be Rs 12,79,819, but whether this includes indirect charges or not, and what return is expected for the outlay, does not appear, the project not having yet been submitted as usual.

3. It is also not stated what arrangements have been effected with the Nizam for a fair apportionment of the cost with him, in consideration of the fact that five out of the 10 villages which it is proposed to irrigate are situated in his Highness's dominions.

4. The earthwork of the dam will, it appears, "afford employment to 20,000 relief labourers for as long as the famine is likely to last" As, however, the work was only recently commenced, and the numbers of labourers have not up to the latest known date exceeded those stated in the margin, while the near approach of the monsoon may render any large increase improbable, it would appear that the work is likely to afford but a small proportion of relief compared with the total outlay

5. There may, of course, be circumstances which render the continuance of the work desirable, notwithstanding the apparent heavy future liability, but I am directed to invite the attention of his Excellency the Governor in Council to the subject in connexion with the foregoing remarks.

	No.
April 27th	- 1,278
May 4th	- 1,244
" 11th	- 3,552
" 18th	- 6,730
" 25th	- 7,453

No. 37.

No. 26 of 1877.

From the GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, to the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA

Simla, 11th June 1877

No 20. We enclose for your Lordship's information a copy of the reply of the Madras Government to the important Minutes of Sir Richard Temple regarding the utilisation of the Public Works Department, the removal of paupers from relief camps, and the exclusion of masonry and other work not purely relief work from the famine charges.

No 26. We observe, however, from the Madras proceedings No. 1,830, dated May 28, of which a copy is appended, that the Madras Government have issued instructions in the sense of Sir Richard Temple's recommendations on the subject of the return of paupers to their homes.

2. The condition of the province of Mysore has for some time past occasioned us anxiety, on account of the large preponderance of the charitably relieved over those employed on the works, and the flocking of the former to the administrative centres, especially Bangalore We are not prepared to affirm that these features necessarily indicate insufficient application of the labour test, or inadequate village relief, but we have thought it right to direct the attention of the Chief Commissioner to the subject, and to instruct him to make without delay any special inquiries into the state of affairs which he may deem to be requisite

No 34.

Nos 35, 36. 3. We request your Lordship's attention to two letters which we have addressed to the Government of Bombay adverting to certain facts connected with the selection of the Ashti and Pangaon tanks as relief works We consider it to be regretted that in the case of the former the full charge involved was not shown at the outset, and in the case

of both, that works involving a less heavy ultimate outlay in order to render them serviceable were not selected for relief purposes.

4 The prospects of the season continue favourable. In Bombay two inches of rain have fallen at Carwar, and indications of the near approach of the monsoon are general. In Mysore heavy showers have fallen generally, and 1 15 inches have been registered at Bangalore. In Madras there has been rain in all districts except Chingleput. In Tinnevely it has amounted to 2½ inches, and in Kistna, South Arcot, Tanjore, Trichinopoly, and Salem to about 1 inch, though not always generally. In the ceded districts and Kurnool only very slight showers have fallen, and the distress is proportionately severe. The numbers in receipt of relief were, by the latest returns, as follows.—

In Madras	-	-	-	{ 790,304 on relief works.
				{ 430,727 charitably relieved.
In Bombay	-	-	-	{ 387,075 on relief works.
				{ 143,737 charitably relieved.
In Mysore	-	-	-	{ 56,631 on relief works.
				{ 107,814 charitably relieved.

5. We take this opportunity of enclosing a report by Dr. Lewis, Special Assistant to the Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of India, of his preliminary investigations into the nature of the fever lately prevalent in Bombay. "Opinions have been expressed," Dr. Lewis remarks, "that the fever is of an infectious character; that it was originally produced by want, and that the disease presents the character usually ascribed to the relapsing or famine fever of systematic writers." These conclusions have probably, he adds, been influenced by the discovery by Dr. Vandyke Carter of certain organisms in the blood of Bombay fever patients which are known as *spirilla*, and were discovered some nine years ago by Obermeier in the blood of relapsing fever patients.

No. 25.

6. Although Dr. Lewis detected these *spirilla* in five out of 25 fever patients examined he saw no features in the fever itself sufficient to distinguish it from the ordinary "remittent" fevers of India, and he considers that similar comparisons should be made in Calcutta and elsewhere, and that his colleague Dr. D. D. Cunningham's inquiries in Madras should be collated before any satisfactory decision can be arrived at. As to the supposed infectious character of the fever found in Bombay, and any direct causative relation between the fever and the famine, Dr. Lewis failed to find any satisfactory evidence, but he hopes to be hereafter in a position to submit a more detailed account of the technical features of the inquiry, especially as regards the import of the presence of *spirilla* in the blood.

We have, &c
(Signed) LYTTON.
F. P. HAINES.
ALEX. J. ARBUTHNOT
E. C. BAYLEY.
A. CLARKE
J. STRACHEY.
E. B. JOHNSON.
WHITLEY STOKES.

No 38

No. 42 P., dated Bombay Castle, 11th June 1877.

Encl in
No 60

From MAJOR-GENERAL M. K. KENNEDY, R.E., Secretary to Government of Bombay, P. W. Department, to the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

I am directed to bring to the notice of the Government of India that this Government have been furnished by the Government of Madras with a copy of their Despatch to the Secretary of State for India, No 38 of the 26th May last, and, among other accompanying papers, with a copy of a Resolution by the Government of Madras, in the Revenue Department, No 1,788 of the 22nd May, and I am to submit, for the information of the Government of India, one or two observations on these documents, so far as they refer to the arrangements for famine relief that have been made in Bombay.

2 In speaking of the lower scale of wage, *s e*, the scale which provides that an adult male shall receive the value of 1 lb of grain in addition to half an anna in money, women and children in proportion—commonly called the Civil Agency scale—the Madras

Government remark that they have "seen reason to believe that the scale is practically " of very limited operation in Bombay, and there only with a specially light task " As regards this observation, I am to state that, speaking of the present time and of the progress of the famine operations in Bombay since January last, the Government of Madras are correct in respect to the limited number of persons who are on the lower scale of wages

3. In the earlier stages of the distress, and before the Government of Bombay were able to undertake large works, the number of relief labourers on the Civil Agency works was very considerable, amounting to nearly a half of the whole As soon, however, as works under the better discipline and more strict management of the Public Works Department were organised, the numbers on the lower scale under the Civil officers were reduced, and they now stand, and for some time past have stood, at about one-tenth of the whole number employed

4. The cause which has conduced to the limited application of the lower scale noticed by the Government of Madras has been, that the Government of Bombay have been enabled in the great majority of cases to grant the higher scale of the value of 1 lb of grain, plus 1 anna in money, per man, in payment for a commensurate return of good and useful work

5. Most of the persons who have been employed on the lower scale are old and partially incapable persons, who have not been found fit to perform the higher task exacted on the works under the Public Works Department, but the task that has been demanded from the less capable persons can hardly be called "specially light," and it is the same task that the Government of Madras have now ruled should be exacted from the persons to whom that Government have applied the higher scale of wages The Government of Madras rule that the work to be performed on the higher rate of pay shall be limited to 50 per cent. of a full task according to individual's physical capacity and other collateral circumstances, and this is precisely the task that has been laid down to accompany the lower scale of wages in Bombay, the task for the higher scale being 75 per cent of a full task

6. Orders regarding the special relief of nursing motheis, and of children under 7 years of age, have been in force in Bombay from a very early period of the famine operations.

7. Piece-work at ordinary rates has been disallowed in Bombay on the principle that, although the Government have determined to sustain the people in a manner that will secure, as far as possible, a commensurate return for the outlay incurred, and that will not demoralise the recipients of relief, yet they do not propose to expend a larger sum of the public money than is absolutely needed to secure the essential object aimed at, and they hold that, if the extent of relief necessary to secure the substantial safety of the people be afforded, any excess on the outlay needed for that purpose is not justifiable, even though it be ultimately represented by work which, though it may prove useful, would not have been undertaken in ordinary times and under normal conditions. If this view be correct as regards large and useful works undertaken for relief purposes, but carried out under strict discipline and by professional agency, it is, perhaps, especially so as regards the petty works usually performed in return for the lower rate of wages under Civil officers, and for the most part in and near villages

No. 39.

TELEGRAM FROM VICEROY to the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA, 12th June 1877.

Yesterday's Despatch covered reply of the Madras Government to Sir Richard Temple's suggestions regarding utilisation of Public Works agency, the reduction of relief camps, and the exclusion from famine charges of masonry and other not purely relief work; they have apparently not adopted the first suggestion, but have issued instructions in the sense of the others

Mysore occasions anxiety on account of large proportion of charitably relieved We have invited Chief Commissioner's attention to conditions of province, and authorised special inquiries. We have also sent report by Dr. Lewis on nature of fever recently prevalent in Bombay He reserves final opinion, but has not found satisfactory evidence that fever is infectious or caused by famine, or different from ordinary remittent fever

Prospects of season continue favourable in Bombay, two inches of rain at Carwar, and general indications of near approach of monsoon In Mysore heavy showers general.

In Madras rain in all districts except Chingleput, but very slight in ceded districts and Kurnool

Numbers relieved were, in Madras, 730,000 on works, 430,000 charitably relieved. In Mysore, 57,000 on works, 108,000 charitably relieved. In Bombay, 387,000 on works, 144,000 charitably relieved.

No. 40

No 1,963, dated Fort St. George, 12th June 1877.

From the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS to the SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

For some weeks there has been a gradual and continuous rise in prices in the districts of this Presidency generally. This rise has left the prices which are now generally stationary at the dates marginally shown in terms of seers of 80 tolas to the rupee

Districts.	Rice.		Cholum.		Raggi.		Cumboo.	
	Wt. ending 31st June last year.	Price in May last year.	Wt. ending 31st June last year.	Price in May last year.	Wt. ending 31st June last year.	Price in May last year.	Wt. ending 31st June last year.	Price in May last year.
Gonjam	13	30 2	19	25 0	21*	36 8	26	8
Vizianpatam	11	10 7	17	28 4	19	30 0	21	21
Godavary	10	10 9	10	30 8	17	30 0	20	20
Kistna	8 45	19 8	11 15	30 8	12 04	35 8	10 38	10 38
Nellore	7 78	15 1	9 04	27 8	11 74	32 8	10 00	10 00
Madras	8 78	11 7	11 00	18 0	10 04	19 3	10 00	10 00
Chingleput	8 00	15 0	9 00	27 8	10 75	22 6	10 00	10 00
South Arcot	8 75	15 4	11	24 4	11 5	35 9	11 75	11 75
Trichinopoly	7 0	14 4	13 2	34 1	10 5	30 8	9 7	9 7
Savoye	8 0	14 7	10	27 8	12 13	25 8	10 01	10 01
Madura	8 5	14 7	10 4	25 1	9 8	30 8	8	8
Tinnevely	8 25	12 3	11 23	24 4	10 75	25 5	11	11
Kurnool	8 35	15 8	8 05	29 3	9 51	24 1	8 00	8 00
Guddanah	7 73	14 1	8 00	33 3	8 23	27 6	8 00	8 00
Bellary	6 58	14 8	7 56	25 3	8 25	25 4	7 20	7 20
North Arcot	7 9	14 5	8 9	23 0	9 8	33 1	8 3	8 3
Salem	7 45	13 3	8	21 7	8 31	28 5	8 12	8 12
Combatore	7 40	12 7	8 41	20 3	8 39	26 6	8 41	8 41
Nilgiris	7 4	10 4			9	9	9	9
South Canara	9 23	15 5			11 24	17 7		
Malabar	9 09	12 5			12 25	19 4		

were high generally in Pallachi taluk. In Salem prices at Tripatore were, rice 6 42 seers the rupee, raggi 8 12, and cumboo 7 44, while in Salem itself rice was 7 68. In Bellary, though prices arc stationary in Kudlighi and Hurpenhully, rice is 5 25 seers the rupee, and 5 5 in Hudgully, while cholum is 6 to 6½ seers the rupee. In South Arcot, of eight markets cholum was not quoted in four, nor cumboo in two. In Chingleput, of six markets cholum and cumboo were not quoted each in five markets. In South Canara cholum and cumboo are not quoted, but are not consumed. In Tinnevely cholum and cumboo were not quoted in four and three markets out of five. In Malabar cholum and cumboo are not quoted, in Madura cholum is not quoted at all in one out of six markets. In Kistna, out of four markets cumboo is not quoted in two. On the Nilgiris, of four markets, cholum is not quoted in one, cumboo in two. In the Godavery, of six markets cumboo is not quoted in four. While in Kurnool the price at Ramalcotta was quoted for rice at 6 0, while cholum was 7 1, and no other grain was quoted.

It thus appears that throughout the greater portion of this Presidency prices are at a point which causes a most severe pressure and continually increasing distress.

There are doubtless yet considerable stocks in the Presidency, although it is found impossible to obtain certain and reliable information, and these a favourable south-west monsoon may cause to be brought forward, but that these stocks must have been seriously diminished is apparent from the fact that while the consumption of the population at 1 lb per head per diem would equal about 3,849,300 tons, the total import of food-grain to the Presidency, from August to April has been only 417,839, as shown by the annexed statement prepared by the Board of Revenue. The increasing demand on the stock at Bellary for Mysore territory is also noticeable, the export of grain from Bellary being as shown below—

	To Mysore.	To Hyderabad	Total.
From 3rd to 31st March -	- 285 8	911 6	1197 2
During April -	- 600 0	1604 2	2264 2
Up to 26th May -	- 822 1	1649 9	2472 0

The stock available at the ports for inland transport was ascertained at the end of last month to be:—

	Tons
Madras - - - - 25,000	} 35,000
On sea - - - - 10,000	
Negapatam - - - - -	
Beypore station, and some in boats - - - - -	
Total - - - -	44,500
Say - - - -	45,000

This stock will be entirely moved up-country, in the usual course of traffic, by the end of the current month, and Government are not aware of any considerable further quantity being on its way or ordered, and there is no accumulation at the up-country railway stations. While it is very probable that the price grain has now reached may induce increased importations, yet the Governor in Council deems it his duty to point out that, while he is under no apprehension as to the means of the railways to carry the daily supplies, yet, if the railway power is not made use of with regularity, there will be very serious ground for apprehension, because the number of trains that can be run is limited by the circumstances of the line, and the locomotive power and waggon stock available. If any material diminution of the grain traffic inland occurs for a fortnight, it will probably be found in practice impossible to carry up the quantity which will be thus deficient in addition to the ordinary daily demands.

For these reasons I am directed to state that the present state of trade causes this Government much anxiety, the pressure of the existing high prices is rapidly adding to the numbers whose sole dependence must be State aid, not only in those districts which have been noticed as distressed, but even in others, and it is moreover reducing to abject poverty very many of those who should and would have maintained themselves throughout, had prices similar to those which generally prevailed in the famine districts of Bengal in 1874 prevailed in this Presidency.

MOVEMENTS of FOOD-GRAINS by SEA and by the MADRAS RAIL.

NET RESULTS FOR

		Places within the Madras Presidency																				Places beyond the Madras Presidency			Grand Total.	
		Districts where there is no Distress.										Distressed Districts.										Great Indian Peninsula Railway		Mysore Territory		Total
		Ganjam	Vizianpatnam	Godavari	Tanjore	South Canara	Malabar	Total.	South Arcot	Kistna	Nellore	Cuddapah	Bellary and Kurnool	Madras or Chingleput.	North Arcot.	Madura.	Tinnevely	Coimbatore	Salem.	South Indian Railway	Total	Tons	Tons			
August 1876	{ By rail By sea	-1 293	+ 618	- 8 744	- 7 128	+ 16	+ 1 038 + 1 932	- 793	- 7 296	- 1 135	+ 703	+ 2 942	- 2 068 + 13 978	- 1 008	- 118	+ 1 891	+ 1 561	+ 103	- 1 573	+ 6 588	- 4 089	+ 2 908	- 1 147	- 7 873		
Total		- 1 293	+ 618	- 8 744	- 7 128	+ 16	+ 5 960	- 13 811	- 793	- 7 296	- 1 135	+ 703	+ 2 942	+ 11 307	- 1 008	- 118	+ 1 891	+ 1 561	+ 103	- 1 573	+ 6 588	- 4 089	+ 2 908	- 1 147	- 7 873	
September 1876	{ By rail By sea	- 990	+ 1 155	- 5 842	- 8 804	- 106	- 221 + 4 755	- 844	- 5 112	- 235	+ 646	+ 4 207	- 6 052 + 9 935	+ 650	- 46	+ 1 673	+ 1 108	+ 804	- 2 080	- 710	- 5 103	+ 8 084	+ 931	+ 820		
Total		- 990	+ 1 155	- 5 842	- 8 804	- 106	+ 4 535	- 5 102	- 846	- 5 112	- 235	+ 646	+ 4 207	+ 8 603	+ 690	- 46	+ 1 673	+ 1 108	+ 804	- 2 080	+ 4 791	- 8 108	+ 8 084	+ 931	+ 820	
October 1876	{ By rail By sea	- 172	- 287	- 15 801	- 5 588	- 686	- 1 123 + 7 278	- 1 428 - 18 516	- 802	- 2 595		+ 1 783	+ 7 731	- 10 724 + 18 660	- 253	+ 307	+ 1 563		- 1 021	- 108	- 5 124	- 8 035	- 4 921	+ 14 384	+ 3 606	
Total		- 172	- 287	- 15 801	- 5 588	- 686	+ 6 856	- 11 944	- 892	- 2 595		+ 1 783	+ 7 731	+ 7 975	- 253	+ 307	+ 1 563		- 1 021	- 108	- 5 124	+ 9 977	- 4 921	+ 14 384	+ 3 606	
November 1876	{ By rail By sea	- 902	- 907	- 12 255	- 5 102	- 3 973	- 3 833 + 8 639	- 3 833 - 14 548	+ 154			+ 4 210	+ 14 615	- 12 840 + 39 054	- 501	+ 333	+ 230		- 1 418	+ 228	- 3 422	+ 1 372 + 40 410	- 7 051	+ 9 912	+ 1 961	+ 25 868
Total		- 902	- 907	- 12 255	- 5 102	- 3 973	+ 4 806	- 16 281	+ 154			+ 4 210	+ 14 615	+ 26 214	- 501	+ 333	+ 230		- 1 418	+ 228	- 2 432	+ 42 222	- 7 051	+ 9 912	+ 1 961	+ 25 868
December 1876	{ By rail By sea	- 6 512	- 1 039	- 17 112	- 1 050	- 4 970	- 7 305 + 14 428	- 7 295 - 18 245	+ 1 255	+ 542	+ 2 620	+ 9 702	+ 19 092	- 20 638 + 56 135	+ 5 285	+ 1 712	+ 1 360		+ 1 405	+ 3 810	- 1 337	+ 8 210 + 84 237	- 12 281	+ 11 297	- 1 014	+ 45 382
Total		- 6 512	- 1 039	- 17 112	- 1 050	- 4 970	+ 6 533	- 29 050	+ 1 255	+ 542	+ 2 620	+ 9 702	+ 19 092	+ 25 497	+ 5 285	+ 1 712	+ 1 360		+ 1 405	+ 3 810	- 1 337	+ 72 446	- 12 281	+ 11 297	- 1 014	+ 45 382
January 1877	{ By rail By sea	- 6 273	- 1 340	- 10 988	- 786	- 1 788	- 11 083 + 27 698	- 11 083 + 35 07	+ 2 638	+ 430	+ 8 289	+ 8 485	+ 10 202	- 28 054 + 75 632	+ 4 463	+ 1 366	+ 2 594		+ 2 237	+ 2 085	- 1 151	+ 7 257 + 88 347	- 7 973	+ 11 969	+ 4 121	+ 94 856
Total		- 6 273	- 1 340	- 10 988	- 786	- 1 788	+ 16 708	- 5 461	+ 2 638	+ 430	+ 8 289	+ 8 485	+ 10 202	+ 45 548	+ 4 463	+ 1 366	+ 2 594		+ 2 237	+ 2 085	- 1 151	+ 90 224	- 7 973	+ 11 969	+ 4 121	+ 94 856
February 1877	{ By rail By sea	- 15 248	- 1 935	- 4 670	- 1 677	- 877	- 9 540 + 21 625	- 9 540 - 3 532	+ 2 613	+ 205	+ 5 587	+ 9 200	+ 12 625	- 19 970 + 68 665	+ 8 228	+ 878	+ 3 095		+ 2 238	+ 3 460	- 481	+ 11 108 + 50 918	- 10 065	+ 9 108	- 1 269	+ 78 331
Total		- 15 248	- 1 935	- 4 670	- 1 677	- 877	+ 18 085	- 12 122	+ 2 613	+ 205	+ 5 587	+ 9 200	+ 12 625	+ 48 395	+ 8 228	+ 878	+ 3 095		+ 2 238	+ 3 460	- 481	+ 22 016	- 10 065	+ 9 108	- 1 269	+ 78 331
March 1877	{ By rail By sea	- 11 905	- 1 746	- 2 848	+ 352	- 884	- 7 297 + 27 844	- 7 297 + 10 851	+ 6 099	- 808	+ 3 531	+ 8 209	+ 14 208	- 34 871 + 46 464	+ 4 769	+ 3 489	+ 8 274		+ 3 281	+ 5 402	- 1 260	+ 38 + 96 130	- 8 226	+ 15 468	+ 7 238	+ 77 008
Total		- 11 905	- 1 746	- 2 848	+ 352	- 884	+ 20 547	+ 3 554	+ 6 099	- 808	+ 3 531	+ 8 209	+ 14 208	+ 11 793	+ 4 769	+ 3 489	+ 8 274		+ 3 281	+ 5 402	- 1 260	+ 136	- 8 226	+ 15 468	+ 7 238	+ 77 008
April 1877	{ By rail By sea	- 4 328	- 544	- 1 192	+ 10 787	- 2 245	- 10 851 + 24 537	- 10 851 + 36 705		+ 617	+ 8 549	+ 5 078	+ 16 667	- 31 801 + 39 488	+ 2 733	+ 5 227	+ 9 078		+ 8 073	+ 5 958	- 773	+ 5 205 + 63 659	- 9 565	+ 14 909	+ 5 236	+ 100 264
Total		- 4 328	- 544	- 1 192	+ 10 787	- 2 245	+ 25 798	+ 26 174		+ 617	+ 8 549	+ 5 078	+ 16 667	+ 7 687	+ 2 733	+ 5 227	+ 9 078		+ 8 073	+ 5 958	- 773	+ 68 864	- 9 565	+ 14 909	+ 5 236	+ 100 264
Total	{ By rail By sea	- 47 010	- 6 325	- 77 904	- 14 388	- 15 618	- 20 295 + 146 515	- 20 295 - 14 678	+ 10 875	- 13 871	+ 24 816	+ 47 999	+ 109 227	- 178 359 + 395 559	+ 15 437	+ 11 920	+ 20 569		+ 15 511	+ 22 877	- 16 110	+ 25 285 + 402 577	- 70 701	+ 90 037	+ 25 265	+ 417 630
TOTAL		- 47 010	- 6 325	- 77 904	- 14 388	- 15 618	+ 95 690	- 66 603	+ 10 875	- 13 871	+ 24 816	+ 47 999	+ 109 227	+ 192 149	+ 19 437	+ 11 920	+ 20 569		+ 15 511	+ 22 877	- 16 110	+ 458 106	- 70 701	+ 90 037	+ 25 265	+ 417 630

No 41.

EXTRACT from the PROCEEDINGS of the GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, Financial Department,
No. 1,169, dated Simla, the 14th June 1877

RESOLUTION.—The Governor-General in Council is pleased to decide that all outlay on public works executed for the purpose of relieving distress among the people arising from famine, whether supervised by the officers of the Public Works Department, or by Civil officers, shall, in the first instance, be recorded in the accounts of the Public Works Department under a suspense head to be called "Famine Relief"

2. Of the whole outlay thus recorded, the portion which represents the value of the work done calculated at normal rates must be ultimately recorded as expenditure under the proper sub-divisions of the Service head Public Works, ordinary or extraordinary, as the case may be, the remainder being transferred to the Service head "Famine Relief."

3. The responsibility of determining, in each case, how much of such outlay shall be recorded as Public Works expenditure, and how much as expenditure under the head of Famine Relief, will rest upon the Public Works Department. But it is important that the Suspense Account to be kept in the Public Works Department should be cleared as quickly as possible, and no such refinements of calculations should be attempted or permitted as will cause any delay in the attainment of this object

4. The Governor-General in Council trusts to the Local Governments to issue such subsidiary orders as will secure this result

5. As a rule, the Governor-General in Council considers that experience shows, conclusively, that public works executed for relief purposes can be most conveniently and economically supervised by the professional officers of the Public Works Department, but if, in any case, this is found impracticable and the supervision of such works is entrusted to Civil officers, the arrangement must not be allowed to interfere with thorough obedience to the present order, and the Civil officers must act only as disbursers of the Public Works Department, submitting to that Department all accounts of their outlay.

6. This Resolution is to be applied immediately, and with retrospective effect, to the outlay now being incurred for the relief of the distress arising from the present famine in the Presidencies of Madras and Bombay

ORDERED.—That this Resolution be communicated to the Revenue and Public Works Departments of the Government of India, to the Local Governments, to the Comptroller-General, and to the Accountants-General, and Deputy Accountants-General in independent charge.

No. 42.

TELEGRAM from the GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY to the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA, 15th
June 1877

Weekly report sent yesterday

Rain has fallen in all distressed districts, also in Bombay, but monsoon has not properly commenced.

Situation slightly improved, and agriculture progressing. No marked change. Prices still high.

No. 43.

TELEGRAM from the GOVERNOR OF MADRAS to the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA, 16th
June 1877.

MONSOON rains have commenced

Hugry River stopped Bellary Railway, Monday Bridge, permanent, will be ready
Sunday

Prices generally steady

Dated Calcutta, 18th June 1877.

From SURGEON D. D. CUNNINGHAM, Special Assistant to the Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of India, to SURGEON-MAJOR S. C. TOWNSEND, Officiating Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of India

I have the honour to report that, in accordance with your instructions, I proceeded to Madras in order to ascertain whether any peculiar form of fever were present among the inmates of the relief camps there, and to investigate the pathology of the so-called "famine diarrhoea" and "famine dysentery." I arrived in Madras on the 20th of May and left on the 8th June, reaching Calcutta on the 13th of the month

2. In regard to the occurrence of any peculiar forms of fever, careful inquiries were made as to the presence, then or at any previous period during the prevalence of the famine, of any forms of fever which could in any way be ascribed to the influence of want. I could hear of no such disease as having occurred previously, and during the whole period of my stay in Madras fevers of any kind were practically non-existent, hardly a case being present in any of the hospitals or relief camps in spite of the high degree of mortality prevalent at that time among the inmates of the latter

3 I had, however, ample opportunity of investigating the pathology of the diarrhoea and dysentery so prevalent and fatal in the camps. Careful *post-mortem* examinations were made of the bodies of persons dying in the Monegar Choultry relief camp where the mortality was very high, and almost entirely due to diarrhoea and dysentery. Numerous specimens of the various tissues and organs of such cases have been preserved, and will form the subject of minute microscopic investigation. As this, however, will necessarily be the work of some time, I shall in the meantime give a brief account of such of the results arrived at in the examinations conducted in Madras as appear to be of most practical importance

4 The general results of such examinations were confirmatory of the belief that morbid conditions exist which may with propriety be termed "famine diarrhoea" or "famine dysentery," as the case may be. There are, without doubt, cases in which the symptoms of disease observed during life can be referred to no other origin save morbid changes and degenerations dependent on mal-nutrition. Many other cases occurring among the inmates of the relief camps are, however, complicated by the superposition of other diseases, such as acute dysentery, pneumonia, &c., and although in the majority of such cases the conditions leading to true "famine diarrhoea" may be distinctly detected, and in some the complications may be directly ascribed to their agency, yet the fatal termination is caused, or at all events accelerated by the complications

5 The pathological changes essentially characteristic of "famine diarrhoea and dysentery" consist in a softening and subsequent atrophy of the mucous membrane of the intestinal canal, due apparently to a process of fatty degeneration of the tissues, and leading to the destruction of the apparatus provided for the absorption of nutritive material. That such a process is sufficient to account for the phenomena of the disease observed during life, is manifest. The disintegration of the intestinal mucous membrane fully accounts for the disordered state of the alimentary functions. The pathological appearances also account for the failure of curative measures, improved diet, medicines, &c., in the treatment of the disease. Where once the complex structures of the intestinal mucous membrane have been so seriously affected by degenerative changes dependent on insufficient nourishment, they cannot be renewed, and no diet, however careful and generous it be, can be of any avail when once the means, by which alone it can be appropriated to the necessities of the body, have been destroyed

6 In conclusion, I must acknowledge the great obligation which I am under to the medical officers in Madras who assisted me in obtaining opportunities for investigation, and facilitated my work in other ways—more especially must I acknowledge the aid which was afforded to me by Mr Cornish, the Sanitary Commissioner for Madras

No 2,030, dated Fort St. George, 18th June 1877

From the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS, Revenue Department,
to the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

In reply to your letter No 441, dated 12th May 1877, I am directed to state that his Grace the Governor of Madras in Council is fully alive to the importance of inducing

the inmates of relief camps to return as speedily as may be to their own homes, as well with regard to economy in the administration of relief as to lessen the evils attendant upon large gatherings of comparatively unemployed people.

2. With this view many had been sent home before the date of Sir Richard Temple's note of the 22nd April, but the results were not encouraging. It was found in practice that there was not sufficient inducement to these people to remain at their homes either on the relief wage or village relief. Thus many such persons after being cared for and strengthened by food and removed by train to Vellore in the North Arcot district, almost immediately set out to wander back to Madras, where, after a time, they were again found in the streets exhausted and famine-stricken.

3. This Government consider that no extensive enforced removals from relief camps can be successfully carried out until, in the ordinary operations of agriculture, are found sufficient inducements to overcome those which draw the people into the large towns.

4. Hitherto movements of the people under direct pressure, whether it be in large parties or in small, whether to the large relief works or from relief camps under escort of camp servants, have proved barren of results for good, as the people largely desert on the road.

5. Considerable numbers have, however, been induced voluntarily to return to their villages.

6. I am further directed to state that His Grace the Governor in Council is giving, and will continue to give, that attention to the subject noticed by Sir Richard Temple which its importance demands.

No. 46.

Telegram, dated 19th June 1877.

From the VICEROY to the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA

In Madras, rain has fallen in all districts in fair quantities; on works 848,000, charitably relieved 461,000; prices generally high, and grain imports limited.

In Mysore, heavy showers throughout the Province, one inch at Bangalore; four inches in Coorg; prospects encouraging; on works 58,000, charitably relieved 109,000.

In Bombay, one to three inches in Nassik, Poona, Ahmednagar, and Sholapur, three-quarters inch in Sattara, six inches in Canara; numbers on works 375,000, charitably relieved 157,000, of whom children 114,000. Heavy rain has just begun at Bombay.

Temple telegraphs, young crops Dharwar, Belgaum thriving; large areas preparing Kaladgi, Satara, Nassik, Khandesh, and sowing begun, prices of gram unaltered. Imports coast reduced, on railway considerably increased, general situation hopeful, marked improvements shortly expected, cattle benefit by new grass.

No. 47

EXTRACT from the PROCEEDINGS of the GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY in the Public Works Department, No. 98 P., dated 20th June 1877

RESOLUTION.—As soon as the monsoon shall have been favourably established, it is necessary for the agricultural prospects of the season, and for the relief of the existing demands on the treasury for outlay on account of State charity, that many of the persons who are now supported at the public expense should resume their usual avocations, and revert to their ordinary modes of obtaining a livelihood. The preliminary eastern showers have been very heavy and general, the regular western rain has now commenced, and there is a prospect that the season will be a very favourable one as far as rain-fall is concerned, but this inestimable advantage will be lost, if those on whose labour the tillage and cultivation of the land depend should cling, in large numbers, to the charity of the State, instead of making efforts to help themselves, and to resume their independent occupations. Many are now voluntarily leaving the relief works, and more, it may confidently be expected, will do so shortly. But if any who ought to return to their own avocations should try to remain on State relief, some pressure may be needed for them, and must be applied gently, and prudently, but firmly.

2. In order to effect this, the following measures should be adopted in each district,

and in every case wherever and as soon as the rain-fall has been good and favourable.—

- 1st.—The gangs on each work should be carefully inspected by the Civil officers of the district, the registers should be examined, and all the holders or sub-holders of land, who may be in good physical condition, should be relegated to their villages, and be told that they should now betake themselves, as in ordinary years, to the cultivation of their fields
- 2nd —The class of agricultural labourers should be similarly examined, and sent to their villages to assist the landholders as in ordinary years, for unless labour be available, or if it be detained on the relief works, the landholders will be placed in difficulties, and their field operations will be materially impeded
- 3rd —To these people, and to those who may seek to remain on the works, it should be explained, that at this season of the year Government can neither carry on the works in progress, nor open fresh ones, and that it is not for the good of the people that Government shall endeavour to do so; that this has been a season of difficulty due to drought, during which the Government have consented to aid people who would otherwise have been unable to find subsistence, but that this drought has happily passed away, and that the people can, and must now, exert themselves in their own behalf, and that the remaining works will therefore be very shortly entirely closed
- 4th —That Government will not give any general Tagai advances, but will only afford assistance in special cases, and on good security, and that for such credit as they may need, and as they would ordinarily require, the people must look to the sources from which they usually obtain it
- 5th —That it will shortly be necessary, as the people who are not ordinary labourers leave the works, and as the latter, or such of them as it may be necessary or practicable to keep open, gradually assume the character of ordinary Public Works, to raise the tasks to the usual standard, and to cease to pay wages, should tasks not be performed, in consequence of idleness, interruption by rain, or from any other cause

3 The Civil and Public Works Department officers in each district should co-operate fully, and should work together in carrying out these arrangements, but all the necessary measures as above detailed should, as regards the time and extent of their application, be left to be finally determined by the Collectors and their assistants. These officers should bear in mind that, though the general policy to be adopted is indicated above, and is to be generally adopted, it need not and should not be applied abruptly or mechanically, but should be introduced with judgment and discrimination, as well as with firmness on a careful consideration of the prospects of the season in each district as regards agriculture and of the condition of the people

No. 48.

Dated Bombay, the 21st June 1877.

DEMI-OFFICIAL FROM DR. J. B. LYON, to General KENNEDY

Thinking the enclosed may interest you, I have cut it out of the "Bombay Gazette," of the 19th where it appeared

The corresponding value in grains of nitrogen 12.5 grammes is 193 grains and of carbon 263 grammes=4,060 grains; this for men weighing 140 lbs. is about my scale, No. 3 (bare sustenance). As the experience detailed in the letter cut from the "Bombay Gazette," shows that men can do a considerable amount of work on a diet of the value quoted above, the indication is that my scales are on the side of liberality rather than in the other way

No. 49.

TELEGRAM FROM THE GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA, 22nd June 1877

Mon-soon begun well on Bombay coast and throughout Deccan. Effect not fully produced on relief operations. Prices still high, but numbers on relief works decreasing, and agriculture progressing.

No. 50.

No 538 From the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA to the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Simla, 25th June 1877

I am directed to transmit, for the consideration of his Grace the Governor of Madras in Council, the enclosed copies of a Minute by Sir Richard Temple, under date the 9th ultimo, and of two memoranda by his late Secretary, Mr. C. Bernard, on the subject of remissions of land revenue.

2 The Governor-General in Council thinks that this question should receive very careful attention when the pressure of the present famine shall have passed away, and will be glad to be furnished with a full statement of the conclusions at which the Madras Government may arrive after considering the arguments and observations contained in the enclosed papers.

No 51.

No 27 of 1877.

From the GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, to the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA.

Simla, the 25th June 1877

Your Lordship has been furnished by the Madras Government, in their Despatches of the 14th and 28th April last, with the correspondence which has taken place between that Government and the Government of India on the subject of supplying Sir Richard Temple with copies of certain papers for which he applied relating to the subject of granting remissions of the land revenue on the occasion of failure of the crops. We now enclose a complete collection of the correspondence which has taken place on this subject, including a Minute by Sir Richard Temple, under date the 9th ultimo, and two memoranda by his late Secretary, Mr. Bernard. We have caused copies of these papers to be furnished to the Government of Madras, with a request that they will give them their careful consideration, and furnish us hereafter with a full statement of the conclusions at which they may arrive. A copy of the letter which we have addressed to the Madras Government on the subject is enclosed.

Nos 2 to 7,
9 to 13, 14
to 19, 22 to
24, 27, 50

2 It will be in the recollection of your Lordship that the suggestion made by Sir Richard Temple at an early period of his tour that, instead of entirely remitting the revenue due to Government on land on which the crops had failed, its collection should be only suspended pending inquiries as to the circumstances of the persons concerned was referred to in our Despatches of the 26th January and the 9th and 16th of February last, in the last of which Despatches we stated that we had intimated to the Governments of Madras and Bombay that the matter would be left to their discretion, adding that, in our opinion, the Madras Government had shown good reasons for the opinion which they strongly held, that in *ryotwari* districts it would, as a general rule, be inexpedient to substitute suspensions for remissions of revenue, especially in the case of a season so disastrous as the present. The course taken by us in this matter received the approval of your Lordship in your Despatch of the 29th March last, paragraph 6.

3 In forwarding to the Government of Madras Sir Richard Temple's telegram of the 18th March, requesting that he might be furnished with the papers above alluded to, we were actuated by the consideration that, however inexpedient it might be, during the pressure of a serious famine, to interfere with the discretion of a Local Government on a subject specially demanding a knowledge of local circumstances, it would not be right or proper that an officer engaged upon the arduous duty which had been entrusted to Sir Richard Temple, should be denied access to official records which he desired to consult on a matter to which he attached importance, and which was closely connected with the work upon which he was engaged. It was subsequently explained to the Madras Government in the Viceroy's telegram to the Duke of Buckingham, dated the 9th April, that there was no intention of interfering with the discretion of the Local Government regarding remissions on the present occasion, but that a full discussion of the subject might be useful for future famines; that the discussion could be treated as confidential if the Madras Government desired, but that it seemed due to Sir Richard Temple that his request should be complied with. The Madras Government having declined to comply with our request, and having persisted in their refusal after the receipt of the Viceroy's telegram just referred to, we deemed it necessary to issue the order conveyed in our

telegram of the 20th April, which led to Sir Richard Temple's being furnished with the papers for which he had applied

4 We have not deemed it expedient for the present, in our correspondence with the Government of Madras, to take any notice of their letter dated the 10th April last, stating their reasons for declining to comply with the request made in our telegram of the 21st March, but we think it right to call your Lordship's attention to the tone and tenor of that letter, which appear to us to indicate a very extraordinary misapprehension on the part of the present Government of Madras of their position in relation to the Government of India. We shall probably recur to this subject when the time comes for reviewing the incidents of the present famine

We have, &c.
(Signed) LYTTON
F P HAINES
E C. BAYLEY
ALEX J ARBUTHNOT
A. CLARKE
J. STRACHEY.
E. B JOHNSON.
WHITLEY STOKES.

No. 52.

No. 348, dated Simla, 25th June 1877.

From SURGEON-MAJOR S. C. TOWNSEND, Officiating Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of India, to the Hon. T C HOPE, C S I, Additional Secretary to the Government of India.

I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government, a copy of Dr D D Cunningham's report on his preliminary investigations into the nature of the diarrhoea and dysentery lately prevalent in Madras.

Encl 17
No 64

No. 53.

No. 2,875, dated 25th June 1877.

From the CHIEF SECRETARY, TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY, to the SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, Financial Department.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No 1,054, dated 4th instant, on the subject of the appropriation of Provincial and Local Funds for famine expenditure, and in reply to state that his Excellency the Governor in Council will gladly accept the principle therein explained, and is assured that the Viceroy in Council will give liberal consideration to the representations which will be made hereafter on this subject.

Encl in
No 103

No. 54

Telegram, dated 26th June 1877.

From VICEROY to the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA

Yesterday's Despatch covers complete collection of correspondence about question of remission or suspension of land revenue on failure of crops, includes Minute by Temple and two memoranda by Bernard, these papers have been also sent for consideration and opinion of Madras Government, without intention of limiting discretion in present case already given, but for final settlement of question in view of future famines. Madras Government having in April last refused to furnish Temple with necessary information on this subject, we were obliged to order it to be given to him

Prospects of season generally very encouraging in Madras. Rainfall in Bellary, Kurnool, and Cuddapah from 1 to 6 inches, in Kistna, Nellore, North Arcot, Chingleput, varied up to 2 inches, South Arcot, up to 1 inch; Coimbatore, Salem, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch, everywhere slight, in Mysore, up to 1 inch, but more needed in Coorg, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in Bombay. Temple telegraphs thus - "Monsoon burst favourably 19th, 20th, along entire western border of famine tract, gradually extending eastward, growing crops much benefited; agriculture being everywhere resumed, prices of grain slightly higher; fall shortly

“ expected ; imports coast small • Railway returns not received, believed large Situation improved Good monsoon following heavy eastern rain promises favourable season People encouraged ; numbers expected to leave works soon Cattle saved.”
Message ends.

Numbers relieved in Madras, 857,000 on works, 483,000 charitably ; in Mysore, 57,000 on works, 115,000 charitably, in Bombay, 366,000 on works, 165,000 charitably.

Encl. in
No. 60

No. 55.

Telegram, dated 27th June 1877.

From REVENUE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY, Madras, to REVENUE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY,

Prices still continue high notwithstanding the rain ; rice risen in Vizagapatam, Kurnool, Bellary, Chingleput, and South Arcot Dry grains risen in Vizagapatam, Godavery, Kistna, Kurnool, Bellary, North Arcot, Chingleput, South Arcot, Salem, Madura, Tinnevelly, and Malabar Stocks entirely exhausted in Nilgiris district and in some taluks of Salem and Bellary. Increased prices at Kurnool reported, attributable to decrease of stocks and difficulty of carriage

No. 56.

Telegram, dated 29th June 1877.

From GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY to the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA.

Weekly famine report favourable Continued rain in all distressed districts except Kaladgi. Agriculture progressing everywhere except one part of Poona district Numbers on relief works decreasing Prices high No sickness Monsoon not yet begun in Guzerat

Encl. in
No. 60.

No. 57

No 557.—From the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA to the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Simla, 29th June 1877.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No 1,963 of the 12th instant, and your telegram of the 27th instant, on the subject of the rise of prices of food-grains, the low condition of stocks, and the consequent increasing pressure upon the population of the distressed districts of the Madras Presidency.

2 The prices given in your letter are contrasted in the following table with those of March 31st as given in the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue dated April 6th, which were published in the Supplement to the “ Gazette of India ” of the 21st idem —

DISTRICTS	RICE		CORNUM.		RAZI		CORNBOO	
	June 5	Mar. 31	June 5	Mar 31	June 5	Mar 31	June 5	Mar 31
Kistna	8.45	8 26	11 15	10 97	12 94	13 9	10 38	10 53
Nellore	7 78	7 87	9 64	10	11 74	11 88	10 06	9 8
Chingleput	8 90	9.40	9 05	10 98	10 72	11 26		10 78
South Arcot	8 75		11.		11 5		11 75	
Trichinopoly	7 6	8 12	13 2	16 8	10 3	10 87	9 7	10 32
Tanjore	8.		10		12 18		10 81	
Madura	8 2	8 47	10 4	12 15	9 8	10 46	9 7	11 08
Tinnevelly	8 25	8 40	11 25	9	10 75	11 47	11	10 85
Kurnool	6 95	7 29	8 06	8 79	9 51	9 92	8 92	8.78
Cuddapah	7 73	7 91	8 66	9 53	9 25	9 91	8 92	8 36
Bellary	6 83	7 41	7 56	9 05	8 25	9 30	7 29	8 64
North Arcot	7 9	8 58	8 9	10 58	9 8	10 38	8 2	8 91
Salem	7 43	7 70	9	9 09	8 81	9 26	8 12	8 93
Coimbatore	7 40	7 62	8 41	9.14	8 89	9 55	8 61	10 61

From this it would seem that in Kistna, Nellore, Salem, and Tinnevelly prices were on June 5th pretty much the same as they were at the end of March, that in North Arcot, Trichinopoly, and Madura there has been a considerable rise, but only in comparison

with a previous lower average; that in Chingleput, Kurnool, and Cuddapah the rise has been about half a seer, and in Bellary and Coimbatore about a seer. For South Arcot and Tanjore the prices of March are not available.

3. Since June 5th the general upward tendency of prices has continued, but the table

	Lbs per rupee		For 1 anna.	For 1-8	For 1-6
	Rice	Dry grain			
			<i>lbs. oz.</i>	<i>lbs. oz.</i>	<i>lbs. oz.</i>
Kistna	17 84	23 95	1 7 95	1 13 93	2 8 92
Nellore	15 90	21 98	1 5 98	1 11 47	2 0 97
Cuddapah	14 76	17 98	1 1 98	1 6 47	1 10 97
Kurnool	14 31	17 94	1 1 94	1 6 42	1 10 91
Bellary	13 82	14 93	0 14 93	1 2 66	1 6 39
North Arcot	15 24	16 89	1 0 89	1 5 11	2 2 32
Chingleput	17 42	19 89	1 3 89	1 8 61	1 13 53
South Arcot	16 99	22 88	1 0 88	1 12 60	2 2 32
Balem	14 79	17 85	1 1 65	1 5 34	1 10 32
Coimbatore	15 14	17 42	1 1 42	1 5 77	1 10 13
Madras	17 09	21 36	1 5 36	1 10 70	2 0 04
Tinnevely	16 48	22 66	1 6 66	1 12 32	2 1 92
Malabar	18 17	24 20	1 8 20	1 14 25	2 4 80

in the margin, which has been compiled from the telegraphic reports of prices on the 19th instant, which appeared in the "Gazette of India" on the 23rd instant, shows that except in Bellary a man can still everywhere procure for 1 anna more than the 1 lb. ration, which in Bombay at least has been found sufficient for maintaining health; that except in Bellary and North Arcot 1 anna and 3 pies suffice to procure within about 2 ounces of what authorities in Madras have admitted to be sufficient, while in seven districts that sum will procure more

than 1½ lbs. Under the new scale lately introduced the conditions as regards the labourers on the relief works are still more favourable.

4. With reference to the supply of food grains, I am to remark that although the marginal statement, taken from the returns published weekly in the "Gazette of India," shows a certain falling off in the imports into the Madras Presidency by sea, the last three weeks have witnessed a very decided improvement in the shipments of rice from both Calcutta and Burmah

	By sea	From Burmah
	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>
Gazette of April 7th	17,768	2,050
" " 14th	22,956	1,550
" " 21st	17,684	1,760
" " 28th	18,326	1,570
" May 5th	15,666	3,100
" " 12th	16,233	2,115
" " 19th	16,295	2,378
" " 26th	14,441	1,728
" June 2nd	13,372	1,883
" " 9th	14,668	3,673
" " 16th	10,570	3,178
" " 23rd	8,133	2,378

5. Under these circumstances his Excellency the Governor-General in Council is of opinion that the rise of prices which has occurred is not excessive, and considers it, on the whole, a fortunate circumstance that the rates are keeping up for the present, and thus holding out fair inducements for the continued importation of food by private trade

It is indeed not improbable that this rise may lead to some increase in the numbers on the works and in receipt of gratuitous relief, and so may augment the drain on the public Treasury, but this his Excellency in Council believes to be a far lesser evil than that which would result from any reversion to the plan of purchasing supplies of grain on behalf of Government—a plan likely to be more costly and less efficient than that of leaving the present high prices to attract importation. This general principle is, of course, subject to the modification which was referred to in paragraph 9 of the instructions to Sir R. Temple of the 16th January last, in the case of remote localities where private trade may be inactive. In such cases the best course would appear to be for the Government to advertise for supplies to be delivered at the nearest spots to which there are facilities for importation, and to give the relief to those who need it in the shape of food. It is obviously most desirable that the measure here referred to should be adopted only on the most clear and urgent grounds, and that if resorted to, it should be carried out with the utmost practicable publicity.

6. In conclusion, I am to state that with the view of informing the trade of the present condition of supplies, and the continuance of the policy of non-interference hitherto observed, this correspondence will be made public with the least practicable delay.

No. 58.

Dated Calcutta, 29th June 1877.

From the SECRETARY, Bengal Chamber of Commerce, to the OFFICIATING SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

The Committee of the Chamber of Commerce have observed in to-day's papers, with considerable concern and interest, the essential portions of a reported correspondence

between the Supreme Government and the Government of Madras relative to the famine districts of that Presidency, the prices of food-grains, and supplies necessary to maintain adequate stocks for the requirements of the people dependent on Government aid.

But there are some points which do not appear to have been touched upon, and the Committee bring them to notice in the hope that Government will furnish such information as may place private trade in a position to judge how far it may proceed in helping the State in its measures of relief, and with the view that merchants may have full confidence in operating to that purpose it is submitted that the details of stock and of consumption at the various inland markets in the famine districts should be given with all possible publicity both in Calcutta and Madras

Another material point, in the judgment of the Committee, is that a careful inquiry regarding the probable out-turn of growing crops of food-grains will enable the Government to arrive at an approximate estimate of the extent to which existing stocks should be supplemented by importations from Bengal, Burmah, &c, and it would be expedient to fix, if possible, after such inquiry, a date at which it may be reasonably assumed that such importations might cease

It appears to the Committee of the Chamber that unless some authoritative declaration in these respects be promptly made, the course of trade may be arrested by merchants discontinuing their shipments, and that the existing scarcity will be aggravated by diminished supplies from this and other rice ports.

No. 59.

Telegram, dated 2nd July 1877.

FROM VICEROY TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA

To-day's Despatch covers important correspondence with Madras Government, which we have made public That Government lately reported that a gradual and continuous rise of prices in the famine districts generally was causing a most severe pressure, and increasing the distress, also a serious diminution of stocks, and then exhaustion in Nilgiris, and parts of Salem, Bellary, and Cuddapah They added that the whole of the stocks at the seaports would be moved inland by the end of the current month. As there were no accumulations at up-country stations, and no considerable fresh imports were known to be expected, they urged the importance of using railways with regularity, and pointed out the impossibility of making up afterwards for even a fortnight's diminished traffic. We replied that, comparing the prices on June 5th with those for 21st March, no very serious increase was perceptible Even at the prices of the 19th instant, more than 1 lb of grain was procurable for 1 anna everywhere except at Bellary, and under the new scale, more was procurable everywhere by relief labourers than was sufficient to support health according to the highest estimates. By returns published in "Gazette of India" importations by sea were certainly falling off somewhat, but then the shipments from Bengal and Burmah had increased during the last three weeks, and the Raichore supply was well maintained. We hold that the rise of prices which has occurred is not excessive, and that it is, on the whole, fortunate that the rates are keeping up, for thereby a fair inducement is offered for the continued importation of food by private trade. It is not improbable that the rise may cause some increase in the numbers on the relief works, and of those receiving gratuitous relief, and may so augment the drain of the public Treasury. But we believe this to be a far lesser evil than would result from reversion to the plan of purchasing supplies of grain by Government,—a plan likely to be more costly and less efficient than that of leaving the present high prices to attract importation. This principle was, of course, liable to the modification referred to in paragraph 9 of Sir Richard Temple's instructions of the 16th January last, in the case of remote localities where private trade is inactive. In such cases the best course appeared to be for the Government to advertise for supplies, to be delivered at the nearest spots where there are facilities for importation, and to give relief to those who need it, in the shape of cooked food, but the measure there referred to should be adopted only on the most clear and urgent grounds, and if resorted to, should be carried out with the utmost practicable publicity Despatch also states that question of carrying powers on railways still engages attention in Revenue and Works Departments Engines hired by Great Indian Peninsula from Baroda Railway, shelter provided for grain accumulated at numerous stations, Wardha Valley Railway kept open. Despatch forwards letter from Bombay, explaining that paucity of relief labourers on lower scale, to which Madras referred in Despatch, Number 38, is owing to works orga-

nisation obtaining higher tasks. Letter from Doctor Cunningham also sent, regarding the alleged presence of famine, diarrhoea, and dysentery at Madras. Prospects of season generally favourable; fair general rain in all Bombay distressed districts, except Kaladgi, in Mysore, showers, but more required. In Madras, light rain in most districts, but deficient monsoon in Kurnool and Cuddapah apprehended. Numbers relieved are, in Madras, 836,000 on works, 507,000 charitably. In Mysore, 57,000 on works, 111,000 charitably. In Bombay, 325,000 on works, 173,000 charitably. Temple telegraphs that monsoon has not yet reached Kaladgi, favourable elsewhere; prices slightly rising, fall expected when grass springs up and sowing completed, imports, coast small, by rail steady, general position still improving, condition of people good; cattle improving, causes of anxiety passing away.

No. 60.

No. 28. of 1877.

From the GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, to the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA

Simla, 2nd July 1877.

We enclose for your Lordship's information copies of an important correspondence Nos 40, 55, which has taken place with the Madras Government on the subject of the rise of prices^{57.} of food-grains, the reduction of stocks, and the consequent pressure upon the population of the distressed districts of the Madras Presidency. The Madras Government represented that there had been a gradual and continuous rise of prices in the districts generally, and that stocks had been seriously diminished in most parts, and were entirely exhausted in the Nilgiris and some portions of Salem, Bellary, and Cuddapah. They also stated that stocks at the ports would have been moved inland by the end of the month, that there were no accumulations at up-county stations, and that no considerable fresh imports by sea were known to be on their way. Finally, they dwelt on the importance of the resources of the railways being used with regularity, and the impossibility of making up at a later date for a material diminution, even of a fortnight's duration, in the grain traffic inland.

2 These representations have received our most anxious consideration. Comparing the prices of June 5th with those of March 31st, however, we find them in four districts to be pretty much the same as then, and in eight more not to have practically increased above one seer per rupee. Up to the 19th instant the upward tendency is still apparent, but even on that date a man could still procure for 1 anna everywhere, except in Bellary, more than the 1 lb ration which has been found in Bombay to be sufficient for the maintenance of health under moderate labour, while in seven districts that sum would procure more than the 1½ lbs pound ration which is admitted to be adequate by the Madras authorities. Labourers on the relief works would, under the new scale recently adopted, be able to get considerably more. A comparison of prices in Madras with those prevailing in Bombay and Mysore moreover was, in the most distressed districts, in favour of the former.

3 With regard to the supply of food-grains from beyond the Madras Presidency, it appeared that though there had been of late a certain falling off in the actual imports by sea, the shipments from Calcutta and Burma had improved during the last three weeks, and that the importations via Raichore were well maintained.

4 Under these circumstances we considered it justifiable to conclude that the rise of prices which had taken place was not excessive, and was on the whole not to be regretted in view of the inducements thereby held out for the continuance and increase of importation by means of private trade. And we were of opinion that the increase which might occur in the numbers relieved by means of the works and charitably, was a lesser evil than that which would be created by any return to the policy of undertaking the supply of grain through Government agency. The only exception to this policy of non-interference was, as it always has been, the case of remote localities which private trade was unable to reach, to which allusion was made in paragraph 9 of the instructions to Sir Richard Temple of January 16th. While reminding the Madras Government of this exception, we have pointed out that such a measure as the supply by Government of the localities indicated should not be resorted to except on the most clear and urgent grounds, and should be carried out by means of advertisement for supplies to be delivered at the nearest points to which there are facilities for importation, and with the fullest practicable publicity. We have made our decision public by means of the press and the "Gazette of India."

5. In connexion with the reduction of stocks and large demand for food-grains in the Madras Presidency, the question of the carrying powers of the various railways has engaged our attention in the Departments both of Revenue and Public Works. For the Great Indian Peninsula Railway 40 engines were some time ago ordered, of which 10 have arrived and will shortly be in use, others have also been procured from the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway, which is enabled by the commencement of the monsoon to dispense with them. The additions necessary to the stock of the East Indian and the Sind, Punjab, and Delhi Railways are under consideration. In the meantime, representations from the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces as to the large accumulations of grain at Nagpore, Katni, and various other places have resulted in the provision of temporary shelter at numerous stations. Arrangements have also been made, on the representation and under the guarantee of the local traders, to keep the Wurdah Valley State Railway open during the monsoon, in order to remove the large quantity of grain now lying and expected to arrive at Hingunghat. Upon the whole, while it is to be regretted that trade should have received any check, and prices in the distressed districts should have been raised through the limited powers of the railways, there can be no doubt, on the one hand, that all existing resources have been fully utilised, and on the other, that trade will have received an important stimulus and a direction into new channels through which it may be expected hereafter to flow.

No. 38. 6 We do not propose, for the present, to offer any further remarks upon the increase lately made by the Government of Madras to the wages of labourers on relief works, as we have not yet satisfied ourselves regarding the extent to which the measure has altered the wages at the time actually in force, or the grounds upon which it was deemed to be necessary. We enclose, however, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a letter from the Government of Bombay, on the subject of the allusion made by the Government of Madras in their Despatch to your Lordship, No 38, dated the 26th of May, to the scale in force in the former Presidency. The remarks in this letter regarding piece-work have our full concurrence, and have been lately communicated to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore with reference to the adoption of piece-work in that Province.

No 44. 7 In continuation of paragraphs 5 and 6 of our Despatch No 26, dated the 11th ultimo, we enclose copy of a report from Dr D. D. Cunningham, the Special Assistant to the Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of India, regarding his preliminary investigations at Madras into the nature of the so-called "famine diarrhoea" and "famine dysentery" lately prevalent there. While unable to discover any forms of fever which could in any way be ascribed to want, Dr Cunningham considers the existence of morbid conditions which may be termed "famine diarrhoea" and "famine dysentery" to be established. He adds that "where once the complex structures of the intestinal mucous membrane have been so seriously affected by degenerative changes dependent on insufficient nourishment, they cannot be renewed, and no diet, however careful and generous it be, can be of any avail when once the means by which alone it can be appropriated to the necessities of the body have been destroyed."

Nos. 8, 13, 33. 8 We would invite your Lordship's attention to two decisions with reference to the method of dealing with charges incurred for famine relief, of which copies are enclosed. In one, it has been distinctly affirmed, in reply to a remonstrance from the Government of Bombay to a previous order of the Financial Department, that a Local Government must exhaust its entire resources, provincial and local, in contending against the calamity of famine before Imperial aid can be afforded, but that, on the other hand, the Imperial Government will, at the conclusion of the emergency, make such a contribution as may suffice to secure the Local Government from actual insolvency. The second decision is to the effect that all outlay on Public Works executed for relief purposes shall be in the first instance debited in the Public Works accounts to a suspense head of account, termed "famine relief," and that of the whole sum thus recorded, the portion which represents the value of the work done, at normal rates, shall be ultimately recorded under the head "Public Works," the remainder being transferred to the head "famine relief."

No. 41. 9 We are glad to be able to report that the prospects of the season continue favourable. Fair general rain has fallen in all distressed districts of Bombay except Kaladgi. In Mysore showers have been pretty general in the plains, but more rain is to be desired. In Madras showers, and in some taluks a fair rainfall, are reported from almost all districts, which are probably sufficient, considering what has fallen already, to meet the present wants of most tracts. Apprehensions of an unfavourable monsoon in

Kurnool and Cuddapah are, however, entertained. The numbers in receipt of relief are as follows —

In Madras	-	-	{ 836,329 on relief works.
			{ 507,433 charitably relieved
In Mysore	-	-	{ 56,781 on relief works
			{ 110,805 charitably relieved
In Bomba	-	-	{ 324,491 on relief works.
			{ 173,372 charitably relieved.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

LYTTON
F. P. HAINES.
E. C. BAYLEY.
ALEX. J. ARBUTHNOT.
A. CLARKE
J. STRACHEY.
E. B. JOHNSON
WHITNEY STOKES.

No. 61.

No. 3,454—69 G., dated Bangalore, 2nd July 1877.

Encl. in
No. 79.

From the OFFICIATING SECRETARY TO THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF MYSORE to the
ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

I am desired to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 504, of the 8th ultimo, in which, after setting forth certain inferences to be drawn from a review of the figures supplied in the special famine reports furnished from this office, you remark that the apparently peculiar condition of affairs at the present juncture "of the prevailing distress in this Province, demands the most careful consideration of the Chief Commissioner, made by means of specially deputed officers, &c., with the view of ensuring on the one hand that all that can work shall be forced to do so, and on the other, that charitable relief may reach all who are really in need of it without too great concentration of recipients and its concomitant evils and abuses."

No 34

2 It may be convenient, Mr. Saunders considers, that the Government of India should be furnished with a brief resumé of the measures which have been taken to supervise and control the administration of relief

3 In the Nundydroog division, comprising the three districts of Bangalore, Tumkur, and Kolar, the Deputy Commissioners have been generally relieved of the heavier portion of their magisterial duties, and divested temporarily of the powers they have exercised in disposing of sessions cases of a certain class under section 36 of the Criminal Procedure Code, thus setting them free for bestowing greater attention to purely administrative work. Up to the 10th June last, the Civil courts having been kept closed as long as it was practicable to do so, the Deputy Commissioners were aided by the Judicial Assistant Commissioners and Munsiffs and their establishments, in superintending famine relief operations, and the services of these officials are still retained for these duties so far as is compatible with the work of their courts. In Bangalore itself, where several large relief camps or kitchens have been established, owing to the large influx of people to this centre, their supervision has been vested in a Central Executive Relief Committee, of which Mr. Gordon, the Judicial Commissioner, is President. In the Bangalore district proper, the Deputy Commissioner is aided by his several assistants, one of whom is a European officer. In the Kolar district, the Deputy Commissioner's hands have been strengthened by the deputation of an additional Assistant Commissioner, and the Munsiffs who are zealous and able officers are still able to afford him their assistance. In the Tumkur district, the Deputy Commissioner's efforts have been ably seconded by two European officers temporarily transferred from the Mysore Revenue Survey.

4 In the Ashtagram division, the local distress has been confined chiefly to parts of one district, Hassan, and to several taluks of the Mysore district. The Commissioner, Colonel Hay, by constant visits to all parts of his division, has been able with the zealous co-operation of the district officers to cope with requirements in that division without further aid, but while the distress has been comparatively restricted in this division, the difficulty of dealing with it has been aggravated by the migration, through

the Mysore and Hassan districts of large bodies of labourers with their families who were tempted by the prospects and expectation of finding both employment for themselves and pasturage for their cattle in the hill districts of the Wynaad, Coorg, and Manjarabad. As the Government are aware, the supply of labour in those districts is almost wholly obtained in ordinary years from this Province, and though efforts have been made to arrest the stream, and prevent the movement in that direction of persons who were not under engagements to work on the estates, or who were physically unfit for such employment, it has not been found practicable to effect this object as effectually as could be wished. To aid the Commissioner, the services of two European officers of the Mysore Revenue Survey have been placed at his disposal, and more recently, Captain Clerk in charge of the Coorg Survey (which is now in recess) has been deputed for special work under Colonel Hay's orders.

5 In the Nagar division the Chitaldroog district alone is wholly affected; the Kadir Shimoga districts being only partially so. In the Chitaldroog district the Deputy Commissioner has been aided for several months past by a European officer of the Mysore Revenue Survey, and in the Shimoga district the Deputy Commissioner has the assistance of two European Assistants, in addition to his ordinary complement of Native Assistants.

6. The Chief Commissioner has reason to believe that the means taken as above shown to supplement the agencies at the disposal of the divisional and district officers, without looking for aid outside the administration, have been and are on the whole adequate to the purpose in view, but it cannot be denied that the energies of all these officers have been severely strained, and that it is due to the strenuous and hearty exertions of all concerned that the difficulties with which they have had to contend have been, as Mr Saunders hopes, so far successfully grappled with.

7. It is necessary to add, however, that there are certain circumstances connected with the Bangalore district which have occasioned the Chief Commissioner some anxiety. The disproportionate number of persons who are being gratuitously fed in this district as well as the large expenditure incurred both under this head and on relief works, has attracted the attention of the Government of India. It is true, as has been explained by the Deputy Commissioner, that the inducements which have naturally attracted the people to flock into Bangalore, populated as it is by wealthy natives as well as by a large body of European residents, have led to a large number of distressed persons being thrown upon the relief kitchens in the district, but this reason does not sufficiently explain why such considerable numbers, ascertained to belong to the district, have had recourse to the charity of Government; and inquiries have been set on foot to elucidate the point. The matter is viewed by the Chief Commissioner as important also in so far as it appears that while the ratio of those gratuitously fed to the total population is as 1 to 53 in the Madras Presidency (the affected districts), and as 1 to 58 in the Bombay Presidency, the ratio is as 1 to 46 in Mysore. But if the figures relating to the Bangalore district (not including those of the Bangalore Municipality) as taken from the special famine report No. 19,* be

* For the week ending 16th June 1877

eliminated, the proportion of gratuitously fed to population in this Province is as 1 to 58, being

precisely equivalent to that prevailing in the Bombay Presidency.

8. On the subject of the method adopted in respect of affording the distressed people employment on relief works, the Chief Commissioner conceives that a brief explanation may be desirable, with reference to the remarks made in paragraph 8 of your letter under reference. The course followed in this Province has been to provide such works as far as possible within easy reach of the homes of the people, in those localities where the distress has been most felt. A reduced task work was exacted in respect of all who were not sufficiently able-bodied to undertake employment on works in progress under the Public Works Department. In this manner, numerous petty works, such as sinking or deepening wells, excavating silt from tank beds, have been opened and carried out from funds assigned to some extent from local funds, but chiefly from famine grants. Road projects have been taken up to some extent, but in a Province so largely intersected by roads already, an objection has been felt to prosecuting works of this kind too actively, with the certainty of imposing an undue burden on the district funds in their maintenance hereafter. As a circumstance bearing on this subject, it may be needful to state also that, in a large number of the relief camps—certainly in all those where the numbers being gratuitously fed are large—light work is provided for those inmates who are capable of it, by employing them in collecting and breaking road metal, gravel, and in other ways. The advantage of this arrangement is that useful work is provided under more efficient supervision than it is always practicable to secure for petty and scattered relief works.

No 62

Telegram, dated 6th July 1877.

FROM GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY TO SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA

No rain of consequence since last telegram Situation not improved Prices of grain high Still numbers on relief works decreasing, and agriculture progressing in all distressed districts save Kaladgi, regarding which anxiety felt Monsoon not yet begun in Guzerat, nor in Nizam's Deccan, nor in neighbouring parts of Madras, all which slightly aggravates Bombay position

No. 63.

Telegram, dated 6th July 1877.

FROM REVENUE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY, Simla, to REVENUE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY, Madras.

Encl in
No 79

Governor-General in Council considers it of utmost importance in order to give confidence to merchants, and prevent discontinuance of shipments, that all procurable information regarding stocks, consumption, and growing crops should be made public His Excellency therefore requests Madras Government will obtain as soon as possible and publish in "Government Gazette," as regards each distressed district or smaller convenient division, first, anything known about quantity of local stocks, secondly, the imports and exports of grain, thirdly, the estimated daily consumption of food grain by the population dependent on each principal market, fourthly, the condition of the growing crops of food grains Similar information should be published fortnightly in future, and as crops reach maturity their probable out-turn should be given as far it can be roughly estimated

No. 64

Telegram, dated 7th July 1877

FROM REVENUE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY, Simla, to SECRETARY, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, Calcutta

Encl in
No. 79

Governor-General in Council thanks chamber for valuable letter of 29th ultimo, and will gladly afford all information procurable, but it must be remembered that ascertainment of existing stocks and estimate of out-turn of growing crops on vast areas is most difficult Government of Madras have been requested to ascertain and publish in "Madras Government Gazette," as regards each distressed district, first, anything known about quantity of local stocks, secondly, the imports and exports of grain; thirdly, the estimated daily consumption of food grain by the population dependent on each principal market, fourthly, the condition of the growing crops of food grains Madras Government have also been told that similar information should be published fortnightly in future, and as crops reach maturity their probable out-turn should be given as far as it can be roughly estimated Chief Commissioner, Mysore, has been similarly requested. Government India consider that importations on a large scale into the Madras Presidency may be expected to last until the reaping of the new harvest, that is, September and October, and that if the harvest be good they will then probably return by December to their normal average

No 65

No 585, dated Simla, the 7th July 1877.

FROM THE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA TO THE SECRETARY TO THE BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Encl in
No 79

In reply to your letter of the 29th ultimo, I have the honour to enclose post copy of a telegram addressed to you yesterday, which his Excellency the Governor-General in Council trusts will meet the wishes and suggestions of the Chamber of Commerce.

I am directed to add that his Excellency in Council feels considerable doubts whether district officers generally have as good means of ascertaining the extent of stocks, and of estimating probable out-turn of crops as are possessed by the up-country agents of mer-

cantile firms deeply interested in the issue, and having access to many private sources of communication. In the case of district officers in the distressed districts of Madras the difficulty will be enhanced by the multifarious and onerous duties now falling upon them.

No 66.

Telegram, dated 8th July 1877

FROM VICEROY to the SECRETARY OF STATE.

No despatch this week Prospects scarcely so favourable in Madras no rain in Salem, Trichinopoly, Madras; fair in parts of Bellary, Kistna, Tinnevely, Coimbatore, very slight elsewhere. In Mysore no rain; standing crops beginning to suffer In Bombay, rain still insufficient in Kaladgi and extreme east, where young crops withering Elsewhere in Bombay crops good and agriculture spreading Number relieved.—In Madras, 850,000 on works, 537,000 charitably In Mysore, 52,000 on works, 116,000 charitably In Bombay, 297,000 on works, 173,000 charitably Temple telegraphs thus —“ Prices still slightly rising, specially in Kaladgi, where imports are checked by “ the employment of cattle on agriculture; imports of grain by steamer to coast considerable, by rail steady Condition of people good, cattle improving General improvement continues, and would be greater if monsoon were more steady, and rain fall extended better eastward Nearly 100,000 persons voluntarily left works last “ three weeks.” We anticipate from Bombay reports possible saving of 40 lakhs on estimate for that Presidency.

No. 67.

EXTRACT from the PROCEEDINGS of the GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY in the PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT (Local), No. 190 P., dated 8th July 1877.

RESOLUTION.—His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased to issue the following orders for the guidance of the Collector and of the Executive Engineer in the Kaladgi Collectorate If rain should not have fallen, or if from appearances it is not immediately expected when these orders are received, and if the price of staple grain is dearer than a rupee for 9 lbs, then wherever such prices may prevail, an equivalent for the Sunday's wage should be allowed, both on Public Works Department and Civil agency relief works, by adding an increment to the week days' wages.

2 Should rain continue to hold off, the Collector should be careful not to turn away people off the works who are not actually wanted for agriculture He should also secure that facilities are given for taking people on to relief works, and that the machinery for village inspection is maintained in its fullest vigour, so that all people who are falling deeper into want may be brought before Relief Officers, the Collector should be informed that he will be held absolutely answerable in this respect, and his attention should again be drawn to Government Resolution No 260 E—852, Local, dated 16th April 1877.

3. As an example of the increment to be paid under these orders, the following is given, the price of grain being assumed to be 8 lbs per rupee —

On Public Works Department Works.

	Pay per working day according to the table accompanying Government Resolution No. 288 C W—198 Local of 13th December 1876.		Increment as ordered, being one-sixth of the daily pay	Total pay per working day		
	Rs.	P.		Rs.	P.	
Man	3	0	0	6	3	6
Woman	2	6	0	5	2	11
Boy or girl employed upon the works	1 6 or 2 annas at the discretion of the directing officer		0 3 or 4 pies at the discretion of the directing officer.		9 or 2 a. 4 p at the discretion of the directing officer	

Mean of these rates, or 2 annas, probably sufficient in all ordinary cases

On Civil Agency Works

Man	2	6	0	5	2	11
Woman	2	3	0	4	2	7½
Boy or girl employed upon the works	1 3 or 1 a 6 p at the discretion of the directing officer		0 2½ or 3 pies at the discretion of the directing officer		5½ or 1 a 9 p at the discretion of the directing officer.	

The higher rates must here be given

Encl in No 79.

No. 2271A-228A, dated Fort St. George, 10th July 1877.

Encl. in
No. 288From the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS to the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY
TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

With reference to your telegram of the 22nd ultimo, requesting that a complete set of death returns for all distressed districts, from July 1876 up to the latest date of receipt in each case, may be sent to you as soon as possible, I am directed to forward the enclosed statement received from the Sanitary Commissioner giving the required information up to the end of April last

RETURN showing the DEATHS in the DISTRESSED DISTRICTS of the MADRAS PRESIDENCY, from
July 1876 to April 1877

Districts	Population	Diseases	1876						1877			
			July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April
Nellore	1,876,811	Cholera - - -	357	538	638	465	907	3,884	3,816	4,302	1,556	545
		Small-pox - - -	18	6	34	17	38	102	399	491	482	518
		Fevers - - -	716	626	745	795	959	912	897	926	794	778
		Bowel complaints	56	41	44	86	31	52	118	77	70	35
		Other causes - -	554	517	578	564	635	694	912	1,006	737	902
		Total - - -	1,701	1,723	2,039	1,817	2,660	5,644	11,142	7,852	8,639	2,768
Madras	897,552	Cholera - - -	231	240	61	30	98	464	1,695	1,140	650	465
		Small-pox - - -	35	37	36	28	10	67	200	893	1,738	1,441
		Fevers - - -	144	150	219	218	204	245	813	402	552	445
		Bowel complaints	165	202	180	151	151	452	713	965	1,030	843
		Other causes - -	645	701	648	736	702	806	882	1,002	1,054	884
		Total - - -	1,220	1,330	1,187	1,163	1,165	2,034	*8,748	4,401	5,024	4,078
Chingleput	938,184	Cholera - - -	182	177	110	56	60	191	1,275	418	266	154
		Small-pox - - -	27	33	32	24	30	71	165	309	719	698
		Fevers - - -	505	488	483	480	494	651	759	641	739	586
		Bowel complaints	675	404	297	144	286	806	2,455	1,439	929	520
		Other causes - -	859	806	773	745	823	1,146	1,440	1,549	1,483	1,037
		Total - - -	2,238	1,908	1,684	1,449	1,752	2,865	6,094	4,351	4,136	3,909
Madura	1,328,231	Cholera - - -	21	123	68	46	140	701	1,680	914	1,069	1,075
		Small-pox - - -	129	123	146	127	139	198	295	289	432	840
		Fevers - - -	905	809	819	833	855	982	909	654	705	711
		Bowel complaints	164	184	134	136	180	186	147	110	149	158
		Other causes - -	985	662	698	748	727	844	727	613	675	722
		Total - - -	1,904	1,738	1,860	1,865	1,975	2,861	3,758	2,580	3,030	3,006
Kurnool	959,640	Cholera - - -	1,311	423	169	38	876	6,049	1,989	1,468	2,008	1,717
		Small-pox - - -	81	25	26	27	46	121	181	349	468	843
		Fevers - - -	1,278	1,278	1,312	1,194	1,698	3,551	3,571	1,876	2,176	2,600
		Bowel complaints	63	75	51	29	58	80	74	76	98	96
		Other causes - -	837	592	316	247	379	2,068	1,438	1,483	377	509
		Total - - -	3,465	2,393	1,774	1,535	3,057	11,862	6,253	5,247	5,127	5,264
Cuddapah	1,351,194	Cholera - - -	1,520	1,232	1,102	540	970	3,777	9,924	8,216	3,561	3,285
		Small-pox - - -	107	76	67	91	106	188	371	423	714	776
		Fevers - - -	1,416	1,480	1,578	1,493	1,736	2,038	2,314	3,109	2,658	3,770
		Bowel complaints	53	70	64	57	62	104	141	153	105	140
		Other causes - -	406	434	417	386	434	505	610	531	647	681
		Total - - -	3,502	3,292	3,228	2,567	3,398	6,613	18,360	11,431	7,685	6,609
Bilari	1,668,406	Cholera - - -	1,970	1,010	335	166	1,341	3,858	4,191	6,959	6,945	2,415
		Small-pox - - -	105	96	98	89	193	380	500	897	1,209	856
		Fevers - - -	705	749	730	724	799	960	1,163	1,225	1,397	1,314
		Bowel complaints	172	157	144	113	216	234	251	334	380	296
		Other causes - -	2,453	2,442	2,289	2,004	2,374	2,988	3,255	3,556	4,075	4,159
		Total - - -	5,405	4,454	3,566	3,096	4,923	7,440	9,361	12,965	14,006	10,040

* 316 cases from Monegar Camp are not included, as no particulars were received

RETURN showing the DEATHS in the DISTRESSED DISTRICTS of the MADRAS PRESIDENCY—cont

Districts	Population.	Diseases	1876						1877			
			July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March.	April
North Arcot	2,015,276	Cholera - - -	1,375	594	314	683	853	3,471	9,605	8,432	5,657	3,731
		Small-pox - - -	86	15	27	45	75	135	237	213	20	306
		Fevers - - -	1,429	1,467	1,359	1,238	1,291	1,600	1,680	1,598	1,591	1,623
		Bowel complaints	143	127	124	87	128	166	209	172	178	158
		Other causes - -	1,325	1,374	1,248	1,202	1,889	1,674	1,973	1,759	1,946	1,664
		Total - - -	4,308	3,377	2,967	3,245	3,736	6,046	18,686	12,169	9,922	6,477
Salem	1,966,995	Cholera - - -	411	293	152	124	903	3,928	6,788	7,153	8,523	6,875
		Small-pox - - -	48	24	22	29	34	44	82	108	171	275
		Fevers - - -	1,449	1,316	1,254	1,339	1,284	1,538	1,568	1,493	2,043	2,091
		Bowel complaints	113	129	88	97	199	141	180	169	191	227
		Other causes - -	1,224	1,077	1,141	1,072	1,157	1,387	1,620	1,488	2,019	2,424
		Total - - -	3,245	3,339	2,656	2,561	3,507	7,039	10,259	10,416	12,947	11,963
Combatores	1,763,274	Cholera - - -	119	73	22	9	321	2,157	3,032	3,990	3,098	3,026
		Small-pox - - -	9	12	13	16	16	25	58	80	108	79
		Fevers - - -	931	897	901	915	973	974	865	769	945	922
		Bowel complaints	218	189	204	225	174	187	231	173	187	276
		Other causes - -	812	829	842	854	887	980	831	823	784	826
		Total - - -	2,089	2,000	1,982	2,019	2,221	4,823	5,017	5,835	5,112	6,029

No. 69.

Telegram, dated 12th July 1877.

FROM GOVERNOR OF MADRAS to the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA.

South-west monsoon so far very inadequate over wide area causing great increase distress. Recently sown crops in many districts reported withering. Prices still tending upwards.

No. 70.

Telegram, dated 12th July 1877.

FROM REVENUE SECRETARY, Madras, to the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

Your telegram of 6th. All possible reliable information will be published as requested, prices, imports, and movements of grain are communicated to press. Information as to stocks in districts too unreliable to publish authoritatively; any actual shortness of stock has been communicated to Chamber of Commerce.

No. 71

Telegram, dated 13th July 1877.

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE to VICEROY

Bad accounts of weather and prices from Madras. Have you any information?

No. 72.

Telegram, dated the 13th July 1877.

FROM GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

No material improvement since last telegram Monsoon still suspended, causing anxiety Prices rising generally, in some parts expensively dear, aggravating distress

Partial rain has fallen in eastern tracts of Deccan Numbers on relief works still decreasing, but increasing on gratuitous relief in many places. Importation of grain maintained well Human labour employed carrying grain, cattle being engaged for agriculture

No. 73

No. 600, dated Simla, 13th July 1877.

FROM THE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA TO THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF MYSORE

With reference to your Secretary's letter, No 3,454-69G, dated the 2nd instant, which has been laid before his Excellency the Governor-General in Council, I am directed to point out that no explanation has been afforded on the subject of paragraphs 4 and 5 of my letter No 504 of the 8th ultimo as to the amounts sanctioned and those expended, on the first and second points noticed in paragraph 7

No 74

No 598, dated Simla, the 13th July 1877.

FROM THE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA TO THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF MYSORE

With reference to your famine report for the week ending 23rd June, I am directed to state that his Excellency the Governor-General in Council has observed with surprise that a system so unsuited to famine times as paying coolies only once in 15 days exists in the Province of Mysore, and has continued so long without attracting notice This practice alone would go far to account for the small numbers on works under Public Works agency and for the eventual swelling of the numbers in need of charitable relief His Excellency in Council desires that bi weekly, and where distress is extreme, daily payment may be substituted as soon as possible

2 The attention of the Madras Government has been invited to the remarks in paragraph 7 regarding the arrangements of the railway company in favour of certain merchants

3 His Excellency the Governor-General in Council also observes that the report of the Commissioner of the Ashtagram Division for the month ending 15th May was not despatched till the 26th idem, dealt with until 12th June, or forwarded to the Government of India till 30th June, and considers that all famine matters should be disposed of with the utmost promptitude

No. 75.

Telegram, dated 13th July 1877.

FROM THE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, Simla, TO THE REVENUE SECRETARY, Madras

Your telegram of 12th very satisfactory Publication in Gazette in addition to communication to press and Chamber desirable for information of Bengal and elsewhere.

Encl in
No. 79.Encl in
No. 79.Encl in
No. 79

75^a Encl. in No. 79.

STATEMENT of the PRICES of FOOD-GRAINS in Seers per Rupee in the MADRAS distressed Districts—1877

Districts	RICE ON THE						CROLDU ON THE						RAGGI ON THE						CUMBOO ON THE					
	31st March	5th June	19th June	26th June	3rd July	10th July	31st March	5th June	19th June	26th June	3rd July	10th July	31st March	5th June	19th June	26th June	3rd July	10th July	31st March	5th June	19th June	26th June	3rd July	10th July
Kistna -	8 26	8 45	8 66	8 63	8 58	8 42	10 97	11 15	11 15	11 1	11 1	10 45	13 9	12 94	12 96	12 95	12 81	11 33	10 53	10 38	10 77	10 65	10 7	10 05
Nellore -	7 87	7 78	7 72	7 74	7 66	7 28	10	9 64	9 85	9 89	9 54	9 28	11 88	11 74	11 8	11 82	11 45	10 79	9 8	10 06	10 37	10 25	9 85	9 54
Cuddapah -	7 91	7 73	7 16	7 16	6 99	6 3	9 53	8 66	8 84	8 41	8 49	7 92	9 91	9 25	9 32	9 38	9 43	8 72	8 86	8 92	8 54	8 49	8 69	7 72
Bellary -	7 41	6 83	6 71	6 48	6 34	5 86	9 05	7 56	7 03	6 55	6 72	6 35	9 3	8 25	7 76	7 32	7 35	7 13	8 64	7 29	7 22	6 77	6 94	6 25
Kurnool -	7 29	6 95	6 95	6 67	6 53	6 05	8 79	8 06	7 84	7 48	7 55	7 19	9 92	9 51	9 39	8 79	8 83	8 23	8 88	8 92	8 92	8 91	9 24	8 28
North Arcot	8 58	7 9	7 4	7 4	7 4	6 8	10 58	8 9	8 4	8 4	8 4	8	10 38	9 8	9 4	9 2	8 9	8 2	8 91	8 2	7 8	7 8	7 7	7 5
Chingleput -	9 4	8 9	8 46	8 34	8 26	6 91	10 98	9 05	9 05	9 05	9 05	8 59	11 26	10 72	10 08	9 92	9 77	8 81	10 78	—	—	—	—	—
Trichinopoly	8 12	7 6	7 $\frac{3}{8}$	7 $\frac{3}{8}$	7 $\frac{3}{8}$	6 $\frac{3}{8}$	16 8	13 2	13 $\frac{3}{10}$	13	13	16 $\frac{3}{8}$	10 87	10 3	10 $\frac{3}{8}$	10 $\frac{3}{8}$	10 $\frac{3}{8}$	9 $\frac{3}{8}$	10 32	9 7	9 $\frac{3}{8}$	9 $\frac{3}{8}$	9 $\frac{3}{8}$	8 $\frac{3}{8}$
Madras -	8 47	8 2	8 $\frac{1}{10}$	8 $\frac{1}{10}$	8 $\frac{1}{8}$	7 $\frac{1}{8}$	12 15	10 4	10 $\frac{3}{8}$	10 $\frac{1}{10}$	10 $\frac{1}{8}$	10 $\frac{1}{10}$	10 46	9 8	9 $\frac{9}{10}$	9 $\frac{3}{8}$	9 $\frac{9}{10}$	9 $\frac{3}{8}$	11 08	9 7	10 $\frac{3}{8}$	9 $\frac{3}{8}$	10 $\frac{1}{10}$	9 $\frac{3}{8}$
Tinnevely -	8 4	8 25	8	8	8	8	9	11 25	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	11	11 47	10 75	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	10	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	10 85	11	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	11	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Coimbatore -	7 62	7 4	7 35	7 33	6 51	6 82	9 14	8 41	8 32	8 22	8 22	7 75	9 55	8 89	8 79	8 63	8 63	8 79	10 61	8 61	8 27	8 61	9 07	9 09
Salem -	7 7	7 43	7 $\frac{1}{10}$	7 $\frac{3}{8}$	6 $\frac{3}{8}$	6 $\frac{1}{8}$	9 09	9	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 $\frac{3}{8}$	8 $\frac{3}{8}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 26	8 81	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 93	8 12	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
South Arcot	—	8 75	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	8	8	7 $\frac{3}{8}$	—	11	10 $\frac{3}{8}$	10 $\frac{3}{8}$	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	11 5	11 $\frac{1}{10}$	11	10 $\frac{3}{8}$	10 $\frac{3}{8}$	—	11 75	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tanjore -	—	8	7 $\frac{3}{8}$	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 $\frac{1}{10}$	—	10	9 $\frac{3}{8}$	9 $\frac{3}{8}$	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 $\frac{1}{10}$	—	12 18	10 $\frac{1}{10}$	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	10 $\frac{1}{10}$	—	10 81	11 $\frac{1}{10}$	11	11	11

• Boiled

† Jubbulpore

No. 76.

Dated Calcutta, 14th July 1877.

Encl. in
No. 108.

From the SECRETARY TO BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE to the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY
TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

The Committee of the Chamber of Commerce desire me to convey their respectful acknowledgment of the reply which his Excellency the Governor-General in Council was pleased to transmit by telegraph on the 6th instant to their representation of 29th of last month, and to state that the full information therein communicated will serve in a very great measure to guide the operations of merchants who may be interested in supplying the wants of the famine districts of Madras.

The Committee also desire me to thank you for your letter No 585, of 7th instant. They are quite sensible of the difficulties in the way of officers in those districts, and would not desire to burden them with superadded laborious service; and probably the enterprise and industry of merchants will enable them to ascertain for themselves the information which the district officers would, no doubt, have cheerfully obtained had their present duties been less pressing.

The Committee further desire me to say that, with the view to the greatest publicity being given to the reply with which they have been honoured, they have requested the daily papers to publish the correspondence.

No. 77.

Telegram, dated 15th July 1877.

From the VICEROY to the SECRETARY OF STATE.

Your telegram of 13th. Prospects of season continue unfavourable. Situation undoubtedly critical in Madras. No rain last week, except slight showers in parts Bellary and some southern districts. Recently sown crops withering in many quarters. Prices Madras still rising, principally of rice, but pound of grain still procurable for 1 anna in almost all distressed districts, and there are few parts where rice is the only grain to be got, moreover nowhere yet so high as in Kaladgi, Dharwar, Belgaum, of Bombay.

No. 78

Telegram, dated 15th July 1877.

From the VICEROY to the SECRETARY OF STATE.

To-morrow's Despatch covers more papers by Cornish and Lyon. Condition Mysore still critical, rainfall trifling. Rice selling at 11½ lbs per rupee at Bangalore, and higher in districts. Distress increasing. Standing crops suffering, unless rain soon, season will be lost. Of Bombay, Temple telegraphs as follows on 13th.—
" Monsoon break continues, causing anxiety in districts, chiefly Kaladgi, where previous rainfall insufficient. No harm yet where previous rainfall sufficient, but everywhere more wanted. Sowing and agriculture proceeding in tract where rain was best. In south, quick growing crops and vegetables sown with early rain coming to market.
" Prices rising, especially Kaladgi and south districts, where imports impeded by employment of cattle in fields. People, eastern districts, conveying grain by head loads from markets to remoter parts. Movement is healthy and facilitates imports, and gives profitable occupation to many. Imports by coast trifling, by rail full. Condition of cattle improving, except extreme east. General improvement continues, and will be greatly accelerated by good rainfall, now probably near. Last four weeks labourers reduced 124,002." Message ends. At request of Bengal Chamber of Commerce, we have requested Madras Government to publish regularly all information procurable regarding stocks, exports and imports, consumption of food grain, and condition of standing crops; also their weekly reports. Numbers relieved are as follows—
In Madras, 866,000 on works, 581,000 charitably. In Mysore, 50,000 on works; 120,000 charitably. In Bombay, 275,000 on works, 169,000 charitably. Prices and condition of Madras reported in separate telegram.

No 79.

No 29 of 1877

From the GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce,
to the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA.

Suzala, the 16th July 1877

Nos 21, 28 We enclose for your Lordship's information two reports by Dr Cornish, and a demi-official letter from Dr Lyon, on the vexed subject of famine wages. In the first of his reports Dr Cornish dwells on the difficulty of testing the effects of the reduced wage which is occasioned by the constant changes in the *personnel* of the gangs, and the slowness of the process of destruction of life through chronic insufficiency of food. In his second report Dr Cornish combats the views of Dr Lyon set forth in the memorandum which we submitted to your Lordship with our Despatch No 24, dated the 17th May last, and adds that the data of Dr Lyon's paper do not justify the conclusion which the Bombay Government have founded on it, that a ration based on 1 lb of grain is sufficient for persons not performing severe labour. Dr Lyon's demi-official letter brings to notice a letter of Dr Dymock regarding the experiences of the French on a battle assistance ration during the siege of Paris.

Nos 29, 48 Your Lordship will have learned, from paragraph 2 of our Despatch No 26, of the 11th ultimo, that the large preponderance of the charitably relieved in the Province of Mysore, which is alluded to in paragraph 3 of your Lordship's Despatch No 46 of June 7th, had already attracted our attention. We now enclose the reply of the Chief Commissioner to the reference we had made to him and a call for further explanations which we have found it necessary to make, as also a communication regarding the practice of paying the relief labourers only fortnightly, which has come to light. We regret to say that the condition of the Province continues critical, as shown by the following telegram from the Chief Commissioner, dated the 12th instant —

Nos 61, 73, 74.

“Rainfall at Bangalore 35 cents, Coorg 1.78 inches. Ordinary rice selling at Bangalore at 11½ lbs per rupee. Prices unprecedentedly high in the districts, and distress greatly on the increase. Standing crops have already suffered, and unless rain falls, of which there are no signs, the cultivating season will be lost.”

No 45 3 With reference to paragraph 7 of our Despatch No 24, of May 17th, we beg to enclose a copy of the reply of the Madras Government to our letter on the subject of reducing the numbers in the relief camps. The question is one which must be left to the discretion of the Madras Government, but we observe that in the present week the Collector of Salem reports that the number in the relief camps there has risen 15 per cent through the revised scale of diet and the consequent popularity of the camps, and we cannot but think that the system of discouraging the receipt of relief by any except those absolutely in need which is being carried out in Bombay, as shown in a Resolution of which a copy is enclosed, combines sufficient relief with necessary economy.

Nos 1, 47

No. 58 4 We submit for your Lordship's information a letter from the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, which has been elicited by the publication of the correspondence with the Government of Madras which was reported in our Despatch No 28 of the 2nd instant. In consequence of this letter we requested the Madras Government to publish in the “Fort Saint George Gazette” as much of the information desired by the Chamber as appeared practicable, and are glad to learn that there will be no difficulty in doing so. We have also requested that Government to publish their weekly relief reports, so that the grain trade in Bengal and elsewhere may receive information earlier than is possible through the “Gazette of India.”

Nos 63 to 65, 70, 76

No 75.

In connexion with this subject we append statement of the prices of the four principal food grains in Madras at various dates from March 31st up to last week. The continued rise is serious, but a pound of grain can still be obtained for 1 anna in almost all the distressed districts, and there are probably but few parts where rice, which is the most expensive grain, is alone procurable. Prices in Belgaum - - - 5½ to 6 seers Madras, moreover, are nowhere yet so high as in the Dharwar - - - 5½ ” most distressed districts of Bombay, where they stood Kaladgi - - - 4½ to 5 ” as per margin by the last accounts, and the Bombay Government had, in consequence, added payment for Sundays to the previous wage.

No. 67

5 We regret to state that the prospects of the season continue very unfavourable. The condition of Mysore has been already referred to. In Madras there has been no rain during the week, except slight showers in parts of Bellary and some of the southern

districts, and the recently sown crops are withering in many quarters. Of Bombay Sir Richard Temple telegraphs on the 13th as follows —

“ Monsoon break continues, causing anxiety in districts, chiefly Kaladgi, where previous rainfall insufficient. No harm yet where previous rainfall sufficient, but everywhere more wanted; sowing and agriculture proceeding in tracts where rain was best. In south quick-growing crops and vegetables sown with early rain coming to market. Prices rising, especially Kaladgi and south districts, where imports impeded by employment of cattle in fields. People eastern districts conveying grain by head-loads from markets to remoter parts, movement healthy, facilitates imports, gives profitable occupation to many, imports by coast trifling, by rail full, condition cattle improving, except extreme east. General improvement continues; will be greatly accelerated by good rainfall now probably near; last four weeks labourers reduced 124,002.”

The numbers in receipt of relief were, by the latest accounts, as follows:—

In Madras	-	-	{ 865,752 on relief works.
			{ 581,633 charitably relieved.
In Mysore	-	-	{ 49,794 on relief works
			{ 120,251 charitably relieved.
In Bombay	-	-	{ 274,521 on relief works
			{ 169,482 charitably relieved.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

LYTTON.

E. C. BAYLEY.

ALEX. J. ARBUTHNOT.

A. CLARKE.

J. STRACHEY.

E. B. JOHNSON

WHITLEY STOKES.

No. 80.

Telegram, dated 19th July 1877.

From VICEROY, Simla, to his Excellency COL. ANSON, Singapore.

The drought which prevailed during the past season throughout large portions of the Madras and Bombay Presidencies and Mysore has caused great decrease in stocks of food grains throughout India, and consequent rise of prices. The prospects of the season now commencing are doubtful, the S W monsoon so far having been unfavourable, and there is every probability of continuance of high prices and demand for at least next three or four months. It is important to encourage immediate imports of rice from the Straits, Cochin China, and Siam. Please communicate this to your Chamber of Commerce, and also to French and Siamese Consuls, with request that they will inform Governor-General and King

Encl. in
No. 103.

No. 81.

Telegram, dated 20th July 1877.

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE TO GOVERNOR OF MADRAS

What news of monsoon? We are very anxious.

No 82

Telegram, dated 20th July 1877.

FROM GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

Some improvement since last telegram.

Good rain Concan, Guzerat, Kattywar, Khandesh, extending to Berar. Partial rain in Deccan. Monsoon not properly restored. Numbers on relief slightly decreased. Prices high in consequence of bad news from Madras, Mysore, and Nizam's country.

Timely rain, if vouchsafed, would re-establish everything in Bombay Presidency.

Quantities of grains ready for despatch to distressed districts.

No 620, dated Simla, 20th July 1877.

From the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA to the ADDITIONAL
SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

With reference to the proceedings of the Madras Government quoted in the margin, I am directed to state that his Excellency the Governor-General in Council considers that the system of a daily money dole is certain to lead to very extensive abuses, not merely on the grounds so forcibly set forth by the Collector of Nellore, but because the most recent of the orders quoted appear to leave the rates to be paid entirely at the discretion of the local officers.

2. I am accordingly directed to request that the orders sanctioning this mode of payment may be re-considered

EXTRACT from Letter from W. H. GLENNY, Esq, Sub-Collector of Bellary, to J H MASTER, Esq, Collector of Bellary, No. 273, dated 20th July 1877

In continuation of my letter No 171, dated 10th May 1877, and with reference to Board's proceedings, No 3,244, dated 21st December 1876, I have the honour to submit report on the famine relief operations under my charge during March 1877, accompanied as usual by a statement received from the Range Officer exhibiting the estimated value of the work turned out, with marginal notes by me showing the cost thereof

2. There is not much to say in this report. Relief operations in Adoni taluk were placed in charge of Mr. Oldham, B G S, on 7th - The great reductions in numbers and the concentration of our labour on one or two works in each of the other taluks (Tadpatry, Gooty, and Alur) rendered it possible for us to take systematic and stringent measures against fraud. Tadpatry taluk lagged behind in this respect I found on the 20th March the old system, of allowing Revenue Inspectors to draw round sums of money on undetailed indents when they chose, going on in this taluk, accompanied by general laxness. I repeated my orders and an improvement ensued. Alur taluk was administered better than Tadpatry In Gooty taluk Lieutenant Wilson, by great personal care and activity, brought about a crisis. The Revenue Inspectors, the rest of the paying establishment, and the maistries (*ahus* Mustseddaes) found that if they obeyed orders the fount of dishonest gain was sealed. A regular combination was formed to evade obedience. Declarations of sickness, of want of time, of inability to understand orders, were all tried I need not go over the history of this dead-lock again. Of two circumstances one availed to tide us over it, and the other to keep our hands strong against the enemy. The first was an arrangement made for sweeping away the whole native paying establishment at a day's notice, and taking the duty of paying upon ourselves and the European Superintendents, in the event of a single member of the native establishment continuing to be contumacious. The second circumstance (which, however, did not occur within the month under report) was the Government's dismissal of Revenue Inspector Ongole Sreenavassa Row, which most judicious step probably astonished him as much as it did myself. Previously to our getting the upper hand of the conspirators, one of them, Akkarally Venkataramayya, a revenue settlement Gumastah, had starved some gangs by withholding pay from them, with fatal consequences in two cases. All this again is before Government

3 On the 28th Sir Richard Temple paid Gooty a visit, and inspected some coolies. He also made inquiries into my arrangements for gratuitous relief of all kinds, viz, (1), permanent gratuitous relief at "selected" centres throughout the division; (2), casual or temporary relief at all villages other than "relief centres," and (3), subsistence allowance at $\frac{1}{2}$ anna each to children of labourers. He was satisfied with the arrangements which had a short time before been thoroughly organised, and which are before the Board and Government.

4. Prices remained nearly stationary during the month. They were rather higher in Alur taluk than elsewhere. They ranged between about $8\frac{1}{2}$ and 10 local (2 lbs) measures of inferior cholom for the rupee. The lower retail rates prevailed on market days at the larger villages. Markets continued well supplied.

5. The rates of wages to labourers continued to be these of Scale No. II. of Government Order No 329, dated 31st January 1877, viz, $1\frac{1}{2}$ annas and $1\frac{1}{4}$ annas and $\frac{3}{4}$ anna for man, woman, and child. No Sunday wage was given. The children of labouring coolies too young to work received $\frac{1}{2}$ anna gratuity per diem. No deterioration in the physique of the coolies was apparent. Except those of the two persons referred to in paragraph 2 *supra*, no deaths from starvation came to light. It is not likely that any occurred, on the other hand, there were abuses on the side of lavishness (especially in Tadpatry taluk) when the advances for casual relief were first made to the Reddies of all villages other than "relief centres". This was to be looked for; it was soon checked with a fair amount of success.

No. 85.

Telegram, dated 21st July 1877.

FROM GOVERNOR OF MADRAS TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

Monsoon west coast scanty, failed elsewhere. General condition became worse last week.

Average prices highest yet reached. Eleven districts above 7; ⁹ four above 6; retail in places 4 or 3. Some places short supplied and stocks exhausted. Imports insufficient although large. Recently sown crops reported failing. Mysore 'wants very heavy rain, but Madras Railway transport good.

Supplies and prices cause great anxiety. Rain reported on Bombay side, but no flood in Godavery.

No. 86.

Telegram, dated 21st July 1877.

FROM GOVERNOR OF MADRAS TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

Must again earnestly press for all civilians being immediately sent out whose health permits. Return of elder men will release younger ones for fatime duties. We are seriously shorthanded, several valuable officers knocked up or knocking up. Season reports most unfavourable everywhere.

No. 87.

Telegram, dated 23rd July 1877.

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE TO GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Yours 21st. Of 15 years' service men, Bliss and Wild gone. Pearse leaves Venice 3rd August, Rice Southampton 9th August; possibly three more. Rest reported unfit. Will report result of further measures. Shall Madras military officers be ordered out?

No. 88.

Telegram, dated 23rd July 1877.

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

Prospects continue generally unfavourable in Madras, Mysore, and Eastern Bombay. Some apprehensions of short rainfall were entertained regarding Behar, but during last three days good rainfall is encouraging. In North-West Provinces and Oudh rainfall as yet quite inconsiderable and causes serious anxiety. In Burma, Assam, Central Provinces, Berar, and Guzerat, rainfall good and prospects encouraging. In Hyderabad territory rain has ceased for some time past, and young crops reported withered.

Regarding Bombay, Temple telegraphs that monsoon is not yet fully established; rain good in Gujerat, Nasik, Khandesh, deficient in Southern and Eastern districts, where, if general fall be much longer delayed, young crops will suffer, except over limited areas where heavy partial showers have fallen. Price of grain slightly higher, further rise checked by increased employment of human labour on grain transport, movement encouraged is increasing. Imports, on coast considerable, by rail active. General situation improved by northern rain, still hopeful in south and east, but more rain greatly wanted there. Message ends.

Mysore Commissioners telegraphs no rain at Bangalore, slight in Coorg, rice $10\frac{1}{2}$ lbs per rupee at Bangalore, crops tading fast, insects destroying them in two districts.

want of rain in Coorg affecting transplanting paddy and coffee plants In Madras very light falls in Bellary, South Arcot, Trichinopoly, Madura, Tanjore, Tinnevely, Cuddapah, Mangalore, none elsewhere Extensive failure inevitable unless good fall in few days Prices have further advanced considerably throughout Madras districts, and in Calcutta rice risen 1 rupee 2 annas per maund in 10 days. In view of general reduction of stock of grain we have informed Governor Straits Settlements of high prices, probably continued large demand, and importance of encouraging immediate imports of rice, and have requested him to inform Cochin China, and Temple states that Great Indian Peninsula Railway can supply daily 800 tons grain through booking to Madras, and 400 more for Raichore, and that stocks are large. Numbers relieved.—In Bombay, 273,000 on works, 160,000 charitably; Mysore, 47,000 on works, 120,000 charitably; in Madras, 893,000 on works, 618,000 charitably

No. 89

Telegram, dated 24th July 1877.

FROM GOVERNOR OF MADRAS to the SECRETARY OF STATE.

Yours 23rd. Please expedite return of all military officers fit for duty.

No. 90.

Telegram, dated July 23, 1877.

FROM REVENUE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY, Madras, to REVENUE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY, Simla.

Madras Government deem it their duty to report that condition of distressed districts of this Presidency is now very critical. If more rain falls within 10 days some dry crops on the ground may be saved, but even then the harvest must be an indifferent one. If no rain falls before end of month the dry crops, other than those which may be irrigable from tanks or wells, will completely fail, and result will be most disastrous. Local stocks of grain appear to be falling in many places and entirely exhausted in some; actual inability to purchase any in several parts of the country has been reported, prices higher than they have yet been and still rising, causing largely increased numbers to fall on State aid; notwithstanding careful scrutiny greatly increased expenditure will be inevitable. Government are making arrangements on assumption that the monsoon proves a failure.

No. 91.

Telegram, dated July 25, 1877.

FROM REVENUE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY, Simla, to REVENUE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY, Madras

The Government of India are much concerned at the disastrous state of things with which the Madras Government have to deal, as intimated in your telegram of 23rd instant Has the suggestion made in the 5th paragraph of my letter of June 29th been acted on? The Governor-General in Council would be glad to know what are the arrangements referred to at the close of your telegram.

No. 92.

Revenue, No. 53.

FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA to the GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA in Council

India Office, London, July 26, 1877.

No 37

Para. 1. The Despatch of your Excellency in Council, dated 11th June, No 26, of 1877, relative to the famine in the Presidencies of Madras and Bombay and the Province of Mysore, has been considered by me in Council.

2 With respect to the reply of the Madras Government to certain Minutes by Sir Richard Temple, on the utilization of the Public Works Department and other subjects, I am of opinion that the questions involved must now be left to the discretion of the Local Government

3 I approve of the instructions which have been issued to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore

4 I will await a further report on the investigations of Dr. Lewis and Dr. D. D. Cunningham, relative to the nature of the fevers which have recently been prevalent in Bombay and Madras

I have, &c
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 93.

Telegram, dated July 27, 1877.

FROM GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Weekly report shows further decrease in numbers on relief. People still attending to agriculture, but rainfall scanty and partial throughout Deccan, except Sholapore. Monsoon after the first break in Guzerat and Kattywar has ceased. Good rains hardly expected till monsoon improves in Concan and coast. Everywhere prices rising, but trade active and supplies large. Situation aggravated by bad accounts from Madras, Hyderabad, and Mysore.

No. 94.

Telegram, dated July 27, 1877

FROM GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY TO VICEROY, Simla

Replying to your Lordship's telegram I have promised the Duke of Buckingham delivery of 900 tons daily at Raichore, as Madras Railway can carry that quantity away. I have also promised to increase daily delivery as soon as Madras Government can carry away more. I have further promised Resident, Hyderabad, to deliver 300 tons daily at Shahabad terminus of Nizam's railway. I hope arrangement will be satisfactory to your Lordship, as these quantities exceed those mentioned in your telegram. I have asked Sir Andrew Clarke for 100 additional engines to be ordered from England, and rails and sleepers for 150 miles for Dhond-Munmar Chord Railway. If these be granted, your Lordship may depend on our doing everything that can be required, not only for ourselves, but for our neighbours and for Supreme Government if crisis becomes further aggravated

Encl. in
No 164.

No. 95.

Telegram, dated July 28, 1877

FROM SIR A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Simla, TO GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY

Your telegram of yesterday to Viceroy Clarke is in communication with your Government regarding your application for additional engines and for rails for the Dhond and Munmar Railway. We will do what we can, but I fear neither will be in time to do much good for present famine

Encl. in
No 164.

No 96.

Telegram, dated July 28, 1877.

FROM VICEROY TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Seriously apprehensive as to famine I believe that unless immediate measures are taken in Madras and Mysore, a great catastrophe and enormous as well as fruitless expenditure of money are imminent. Now that another year of worse famine and still vast expenditure are impending, it is our duty to introduce a better system, so that this immense amount of labour and money shall be devoted to great works of lasting value. An excellent example of good management has been given by Bombay

I feel that to cope with the dangers and difficulties present and imminent in Madras and Mysore, the highest ability and experience to be found throughout India are urgently required; and it is the duty of the Supreme Government to see that such ability and experience are applied to help the Madras Government in organising the most complete system of relief that can be arranged. I anxiously desire to maintain to the utmost the authority of the Local Government, to exercise no unnecessary interference, to give that Government every possible assistance, and to act in complete accord with it. I feel that the means now at the disposal of the Madras Government for dealing with such a crisis are insufficient. Sir A Arbuthnot, Member in charge of the Famine Department, would forthwith go to Madras for private conference with the Duke on these matters, and with a view to form on the spot the best possible judgment. I shall also myself go to Madras accompanied, if possible, by Sir John Strachey. It is still not impossible that immediate rain might greatly improve situation, but it would be unwise to allow this hope to cause any further delay.

No. 97.

Telegram, dated July 29, 1877

From GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY to SIR A ARBUTHNOT, Simla

Your telegram of 28th. We calculate that if rails and sleepers were available we could open Dhond-Munmar Railway for grain traffic only about 1st December, and that engines ordered now would begin to arrive in January and during February.

No. 98.

Telegram, dated July 29, 1877.

From VICEROY, Simla, to his Excellency COLONEL ANSON, Singapore.

My telegram of 19th instant. Please inform me whether you have communicated its contents to the trade at Singapore and whether any action has been taken on it there or in Siam or Cochin-China.

No. 99.

Telegram, dated July 29, 1877.

From GOVERNOR, Singapore, to VICEROY, Simla.

Have communicated with Governor Saigon, Consul-General Siam, French and Siamese Consuls here, Chambers Commerce here and Penang, and local newspapers, not yet received information of any action taken.

No. 100.

Telegram, dated 30th July 1877.

From VICEROY to the SECRETARY OF STATE.

Governor of Bombay indents for 100 additional engines for Great Indian Peninsula, 10 for ghat work, and 90 goods. We submit it by early mail, with a definite recommendation of our own, meanwhile invite tenders to supply within minimum time, but reserving power to decline acceptance, and inform us how soon delivery could be given and at what monthly rate continued.

No. 101

Telegram, dated 30th July 1877.

From VICEROY, Simla, to GOVERNOR, Straits Settlements

Kindly ascertain and communicate probable quantity of food-grains available for exportation.

Encl. in
No. 164.

Encl. in
No. 164.

Encl. in
No. 164.

Encl. in
No. 164.

No. 102.

Encl. in
No 164.

EXTRACT from the PROCEEDINGS of the GOVERNMENT of INDIA, Financial Department,
No 2,144, dated 30th July 1877

RESOLUTION — The Governor-General in Council deems it important, that in all accounts of expenditure on public works undertaken by the State for the relief of distress caused by famine, a clear distinction should be maintained between the cost of materials and skilled labour, and the outlay on unskilled labour

2. It will often be impossible to avoid some expenditure on such works for materials (the purchase and carriage of which can seldom, if ever, contribute much to the relief of the distressed population, which is the first object of the works), or for skilled labour, the employment of which might not be required immediately for relief purposes; if it is so required, the wages paid should, as a rule, be at unskilled rates only

3 But it is the paramount duty of all authorities responsible for the expenditure on such works to reduce to a minimum the expenditure which is thus accessory to the large outlay for direct relief which, at such times, strains the resources of the State. The accounts should be so constructed as to show plainly the proportion of the whole expenditure absorbed in such accessories.

4 His Excellency in Council is accordingly pleased to decide, that whenever any public work is undertaken for purpose of famine relief, the expenditure thereon shall be classified as follows.—

(1) For materials.

(2.) For labour paid at the rates fixed by the Government for unskilled labour upon relief works.

(3) For labour paid, for whatever reason, at any higher rates divided into (a) skilled labour, (b) supervision of labourers, skilled and unskilled.

5 Explanations will be expected by the Supreme Government whenever the proportion of the whole expenditure which falls under headings (1) and (3) bears any substantial proportion to the whole expenditure on the work.

6 These instructions should, as far as possible, be applied retrospectively in the case of the works undertaken since the beginning of the existing famine in the Madras and Bombay Presidencies and in Mysore, and all future estimates of works to be thus undertaken should be classified in the manner thus prescribed.

ORDERED.—That this Resolution be published in the "Gazette of India" and distributed for information and guidance as follows.—

1. To the Revenue and Public Works Departments of the Government of India.

2 To the several Local Governments and Administrations.

3. To the Comptroller-General and to the several Accountants-General and Deputy Accountants-General in independent charge.

No. 103.

No. 31 of 1877.

From the GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce,
to the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA.

Simla, 30th July 1877.

Our telegram dated the 23rd instant will have made your Lordship aware that in view of the general decrease in the stocks of food-grains throughout India and the consequent rise of prices, we had informed the Governor of the Straits Settlements of the probability of a continued large demand for rice, and the importance of encouraging immediate importation, requesting him to communicate these facts to the Governor-General of Cochin-China and the King of Siam. A copy of our telegram to which we have not yet received a reply, is enclosed.

No 80.

2 We also now beg to report the result of inquiries which we have instituted regarding the stocks of grain available for exportation to the famine districts. In Burma the stocks are practically exhausted. The estimated stock of rice in Calcutta just now is 178,000 tons, what the stocks in the districts of Bengal may be we have not yet been informed. In the North-West Provinces and Oudh there are reported to be 220,000 tons of food-grain available for export, provided abundant rain fall soon and a good monsoon crop be produced. The estimate is, however, said to be conjectural, and it is

added that stocks are low, and prices rising owing to alarm caused by the absence of rain. At the same time we learn that grain from Northern India is still being delivered by the East Indian Railway at Jubbulpore at the rate of 500 tons per diem. The result of accounts received from Sir Richard Temple and the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces is, that 100,000 tons are available in the Central Provinces, 16,000 in the hands of the railway company, and 25,000 tons in Bombay, making a total of 141,000 tons. About 200 tons per diem are being delivered in Bombay by the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway. Regarding the Punjab, information has not yet been received. We are thus not in a position to state with any approach to accuracy what amount of grain will be available for the distressed districts, but it is evident that even in the event of a favourable monsoon in Northern India, regarding which some doubts may well be entertained, no amount of foreign grain which is likely to arrive will be otherwise than opportune.

No 30.

3 The subject of the probable requirements of the famine districts of Madras, Mysore, and Bombay has also engaged our attention. We enclose some valuable proceedings of the Madras Board of Revenue regarding the additions to the food stocks of that Presidency during the period from May 1st, 1876, to April 30th, 1877. They consider that the quantity of food stocks received by their distressed districts, as far as it is possible to ascertain it, was 474,216 tons, that 1,000 persons consume, at $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs per head, 20 tons per month, and that in the districts of Bellary, Cuddapah, and Kurnool about one-fifth of the population have been living on imported grain. The quantity of foreign grain required for these districts was some months ago estimated by Sir Richard Temple at 2,700 tons per day; recently other calculations placed the amount at 4,400 tons, and now the Madras Government have stated it to be 3,500 tons. The requirements of Mysore are given by the Chief Commissioner at 1,000 tons to be imported daily by railway alone. Those of Bombay are still uncertain owing to the holding off of the monsoon, but we trust they may prove less onerous than those of other districts. The Nizam's territory will need a considerable supply, of which the only gauge we possess at present is an arrangement, which the Bombay Government report, for the delivery of 300 tons daily at the Shahabad station of the Hyderabad Railway.

4. Whatever may, however, be eventually ascertained to be the actual requirements of the several distressed localities, it has become clear that the railway companies are, under existing arrangements, unable fully to meet them. As an illustration of this we may mention that Sir Richard Temple reports that the Great Indian Peninsula Railway are prepared to deliver 1,200 tons of grain at Raichore daily, but the Madras Government state that their railway is unable to remove more than 900 tons daily therefrom. Under these circumstances we have under consideration in the Public Works Department a project for more united action, and effectual utilisation of stock, between the several companies, which will be reported to your Lordship hereafter when fully matured.

No 90.

5 Regarding the condition of the Madras Presidency generally, we enclose an important telegram from the Local Government, dated the 23rd instant, and stating that if more rain falls within 10 days some of the dry crops may be saved, though even then the harvest must be an indifferent one, but that if rain should hold off all unirrigated crops must completely fail. With reference to their concluding intimation that they are making arrangements on the assumption that the monsoon will fail, we have requested them to state what these arrangements are.

No 91

No 76

6 With reference to paragraph 4 of our Despatch No 29, dated the 16th instant, we enclose copy of a letter from the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, expressing their acknowledgments for the arrangements made for giving information likely to be useful to those merchants who are interested in supplying the wants of the famine districts of Madras. We also enclose copy of a letter from the Government of Bombay accepting the decision regarding the appropriation of Local and Provincial Funds for famine expenditure which was reported to your Lordship in paragraph 8 of our Despatch No 28, dated the 2nd instant.

No 53

7 The present condition of the famine districts of Bombay is described in the following telegram from Sir Richard Temple, dated the 26th instant:—

"Monsoon rain not yet resumed. Cloudy weather with general light showers still preserves young crops, reported to be withering in places but not yet lost. Cessation of rain in Guzerat causes some anxiety.

Prices grain still rising. Importation by human labour to rural districts increases, coast imports small, by rail active, 400 tons more than last week. General situation not materially worse, but good rain much needed to reduce prices, revive credit, and lessen pressure on people."

From a further telegram, dated the 27th instant, we learn that there has been a fall of 2 inches of rain in Sholapur, with fair local showers in parts of Ahmednagar and Satara.

8 We will now give a few particulars regarding the prospects of the season throughout British India. In British Burma the rain commenced on May 24th, three weeks later than usual, but the fall has been sufficient since, and agriculture is everywhere progressing satisfactorily. In Bengal, regarding Behar and other portions of which apprehensions were lately entertained, the rainfall has on the whole been sufficient to remove anxiety, but some individual districts have not yet received a proper supply. In Assam the rains began in March as usual, the early rice crops are nearly ready, and both food grains and tea are doing well. In the North-West Provinces and Oudh generally the drought continues, causing much anxiety and a perceptible rise in prices. The effect which a failure of crops here would have, not only on the province itself, but on the supplies for the distressed provinces to the south, would be serious in the extreme. There is, however, still time for rains to produce an average harvest. In the Punjab, little rain has fallen as yet, but the season has scarcely arrived when the fact need cause apprehension. Rajputana and Central India received at first a sufficient supply, but rain is now holding off, and much wanted in parts, though the general prospects cannot yet be termed unfavourable. The Central Provinces and Berar have received an abundant rainfall, and the crops are doing well. Regarding Bombay, Sir Richard Temple's report has been given above, to which we may add that the absence of rain in Guzerat is now attracting attention. Of the Nizam's territories the reports are most gloomy. The suspension of rainfall for a month, with high drying winds, has withered the young crops almost everywhere, and in the southern portion the population generally are said to be dependent on Government relief. The weather in Mysore and Coorg has changed somewhat for the better since the 22nd instant, showers have fallen pretty generally, and if the improvement should be maintained some portion of the newly sown ragi crop may, the Chief Commissioner believes, be saved. In Madras there has been slight rain in parts of all the distressed districts excepting apparently Nellore and Kurnool. On the whole, the season must be recognised as a most extraordinary one, in illustration of which we may mention that recent advices from Karwar describe the fishermen as still pursuing their avocation, as if it were the month of October.

The latest telegram from Madras, dated yesterday, gives the following particulars:—

Daily telegram noon July 27th:—

Madras Observatory.— 30 inches.

Salem—Good showers over greater parts of Tripatore taluk on 24th.

Cuddapah—Showers from 24th to 26th about 1 inch, weather cloudy, slight rain at Sidhout and Badroad.

Bellary—Slight shower on 23rd, and seven-tenths inch at Gooty on 24th.

Trichinopoly—Heavy showers at Perambular on 22nd, Godavery from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches on 26th, villages of Ramachendrapur taluk, on 20th, 21st, and 22nd.

Vizagapatam—2 inches on 22nd.

Kistna—22nd, 2 inches at Truvur and 1 at Krosur.

9 The number of persons relieved during the week has been as follows:—

In Madras	-	-	{ 913,442 on works.
			{ 731,267 charitably.
In Mysore	-	-	{ 47,609 on works.
			{ 137,560 charitably.
In Bombay	-	-	{ 255,762 on works.
			{ 149,072 charitably.

There have thus been very considerable increases in both Madras and Mysore, especially in the charitably relieved, but a decrease in Bombay. We take this opportunity of forwarding for your Lordship's information a revised statement of the numbers charitably relieved in the Madras Presidency since January 1st, it having been ascertained that, owing to the omission of relief camps and other items, the figures reported in the weekly telegrams from Madras were considerably under the mark.

We have, &c.

(Signed) LYTTON.
F. P. HAINES.
A. J. ARBUTHNOT.
A. CLARKE.
J. STRACHEY.
E. B. JOHNSON.
W. STOKES

No 31

No. 104.

Telegram, dated 31st July 1877

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE TO VICEROY

We strongly feel that, if your health enables you to do it, an immediate or very early visit by you to Madras, as you suggest, will be of great possible public service. It will settle many controversies, will dispose of all difficulties of jurisdiction, will enable you when you return to leave settled principles behind you, and will greatly tend to satisfy public mind.

No. 105.

Telegram, dated 31st July 1877.

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE TO GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Yours 24th. Do you wish all military officers to return or only those in civil employ?

No. 106

Telegram, dated 31st July 1877

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE TO GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY.

Please let me have full information as to fall of rain and monsoon.

No. 107.

Telegram, dated 31st July 1877.

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE TO VICEROY.

A considerable quantity of rice has been offered to us by Mr. Samuels, of London. I do not know whether you will require assistance in obtaining supplies, but if you do Samuels supplied us sufficiently and at a fair price during Bengal famine.

No. 108.

Telegram, dated 31st July 1877.

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE

To-day's Despatch reports progress of inquiries regarding grain supplies available for export to famine districts. In Central Provinces and Bombay, 141,000 tons. From North-West Provinces exportation depends on monsoon, but 500 tons daily still reaching Jubbulpore, from Guzerat 200 tons daily reach Bombay. Bengal stocks considerably reduced, but new rice coming into market, and trade from interior to Calcutta active at falling prices. In Burma, none. From Singapore, Anson telegraphs having informed all quarters of India's wants; probable action still unknown. Despatch also reports requirements of Madras at 3,500 tons daily, Mysore, 1,000 tons daily, and that we are arranging Public Works Department project for more effectually utilising stock of all railways for famine purposes.

Prospects of season throughout India as follows:—Burma, rain began May 24th, three weeks late, but fall sufficient; agriculture satisfactory. Bengal, some districts still want rain, but general apprehensions removed. North-West Provinces and Oudh, drought continues, causes anxiety and rise of prices, but still time for average harvest. Rajputana, Central India, rain wanted in parts, prospects fair. Assam, Central Provinces, Berar, quite satisfactory. Bombay, no rain in Gujerat, causes anxiety, heavy fall in Concan, and two inches and a half in Sholapur. Good showers in Eastern Bombay. Deccan keeps agriculture going, but prices very high. Rainfall on western coast at present very small for the season. Nizam's territory much distressed from no rain for one month, but two inches just fallen. Mysore and Coorg, rain generally not abundant, more needed to save part of young crop. Madras, fair showers in all distressed districts except Nellore and Kurnool. Cuddapah, Bellary, fall considerable, continuance may save portion of dry crops, but harvest at best indifferent.

Numbers relieved in Madras, 913,000 on works, 731,000 charitably relieved.

Mysore, 48,000 on works, 149,000 charitably relieved.

Bombay, 256,000 on works, 149,000 charitably relieved.

No 109.
No. 2,336, dated 31st July 1877.

Encl. in
No 164.

From A MACKENZIE, Esq, Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Financial Department, to the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,

On receipt of a telegram from his Excellency the Viceroy to the address of the Lieutenant-Governor, which reached this office on the 25th instant, intimating that the Government of India had reason to fear that the Calcutta exports of food-grain to Madras had been really far below those stated in the "Gazette of India," and requesting that inquiry might be made as to the actual stock of grain and reserve for export in Calcutta, steps were at once taken to make the necessary investigations, and I am now to submit the result for the information of his Excellency the Governor-General in Council.

2. There seems to be no doubt that the returns of exports of food-grains to coast ports furnished by the Calcutta Custom House have been throughout seriously misleading. No preventive officer is posted on board of vessels clearing for coast ports with cargoes of grain, and the Customs returns have been made up from the shipping passes, which represent merely the amount of grain that the applicants for passes think it possible they may ship, and do not at all represent the quantity of grain actually shipped. In some instances the shipping passes are returned to the Custom House with a note of short shipments or re-lands endorsed thereon, but in the majority of cases the passes are not returned, and it is assumed in the returns that the whole amount passed was shipped, though possibly this is only true of a mere fraction of that quantity.

3 In the "Monthly Commercial Guide" published by the Collector of Customs, the figures prepared from the shipping passes, less known re-lands and short shipments, are shown in the body of the book. At the close are grain tables purporting to be prepared from the manifests of the vessels cleared. Although these figures frequently do not tally with those in the body of the Guide, they are still, it is found, but little more trustworthy; for it is alleged that the manifests in the case of coast vessels are filled up very often from the Collector's daily export lists, which, as above explained, are compiled from the shipping passes. The fact seems to be that no importance has been attached hitherto, and in ordinary times, either by the Customs authorities or the trade, to the correctness of the statistics of exports to free ports. This matter was referred to in paragraph 32 of the Board's letter, No 61 B., of the 30th January last, forwarded with this office endorsement No 334 of the 6th February.

4 An attempt has been made to arrive at a knowledge of the actual shipments during the last few months, by procuring correct figures from the agents of the vessels, but this information has not yet been completed. Probably, however, the extent of the error in the Calcutta export returns is to be measured by the figure of the Madras imports, and in that case it is very serious indeed, as will appear from the statement annexed.

5. Orders have been given that in future a preventive officer shall visit every vessel immediately before she clears, and take extracts from the cargo-books of the actual grain shipped. If this does not secure an accurate return, more stringent measures will have to be adopted to secure correct manifests, in anticipation of any provisions that may be made in the revised Customs Act. But it is undesirable to throw unnecessary obstacles in the way of the trade at present, or to make unpopular changes of system at a time of pressure.

6 Turning now to the question of the stocks of Calcutta, a local inquiry with regard to rice, which is the most important item, has been made by an intelligent native officer accustomed to statistical work, who visited all the markets and entrepôts in Calcutta and its neighbourhood, and arrived at the conclusion that the stock now in hand is about 50 lakhs of maunds, of which, however, only about 10 lakhs are in the hands of dealers likely to supply an export demand. The following extracts from his report are given, as showing that the general conclusion is based on inquiry as detailed as the circumstances admitted.

"The present stock of rice amounts in round numbers to 50 lakhs of maunds, distributed as follows—

	Mds.
At Bahaghatta and Wooldangee	9,20,000
„ Hatkhola and Coomertooly	6,50,000
„ other marts within Calcutta	9,25,000
„ Tallygunge	2,15,000
„ Chitlah	20,000
„ Kidderpore, Moonsheegunge, and other adjoining marts	5,00,000
„ Secbpoore, Ramkrishnopolore, Howrah, Sulkeah, Ghoo-soory, Bally, &c, say	12,00,000
„ the Railway Jetties and at other outlying places, such as Gurreah, Kassiopore, Baranagore, say	5,70,000
Total	50,00,000

Balaghatta and Wooltadingee.—"The trade of these places consists of balam rice. At Balaghatta the trade is mostly in the hands of a dozen aruthdars, three of whom—Bunsu Buddun Puddar, Ram Kanye Puddar, and Petambur Shah—do the largest trade. The whole of the rice, as seen by me on the 24th instant, was thus distributed.—

At Balaghatta—		Mds
In the hands of the aruthdars (10 in number)	-	1,20,000
In minor aruths	-	1,00,000
Quantity packed in bags and awaiting delivery at the several aruths	-	2,00,000
In the hands of poreahs or retail vendors	-	1,00,000
Total	-	5,20,000

At Wooltadingee—		Mds.
In the hands of mahajuns	-	3,10,000
In minor aruths	-	90,000
Total	-	4,00,000

Hatkhola and Coomertooly.—"Moogy rice is the chief staple of traffic here. This rice is imported from Northern Bengal, chiefly from the Dinagepore district. There are about 51 wholesale dealers in these localities, who import rice direct from the producing tracts. Moogy rice is not consumed in Calcutta, but is shipped for exportation by sea. The stocks at these marts are shown as follow:—

At Hatkhola—		Mds.
In hands of aruthdars	-	50,000
In bags awaiting delivery	-	1,50,000
Total	-	2,00,000

At Coomertooly—		Mds.
In the hands of aruthdars	-	4,45,000
In minor aruths	-	5,000
Total	-	4,50,000

Other marts within Calcutta.—"The trade here is in innumerable hands, and is entirely of a local character. We visited 21 bazars, but there are about as many more which we could not visit. The estimated figures for these are as follow:—

		Mds.
At the 21 localities visited on the 25th instant	-	1,20,000
For other places, say	-	2,80,000
Total	-	4,00,000

Besides this stock, we have seen a large quantity in boats on the riverside. We counted about 1,219 boats of various capacity fully laden with rice, estimated the stock to be about 5½ lakhs of maunds.

Tallygunge.—"The bulk of the trade in this bazar is in the inferior qualities of rice, namely, amun kujlah, boro kujlah, and aus kujlah—all produced in the eastern districts, as well as in the Soonderbun tracts of the 24-Pergunnahs and Jessore.

The demand upon this market for local consumption is inconsiderable, and almost the whole of the imports, which amount annually from 25 to 30 lakhs of maunds at this place, are carried away for shipment by sea. The estimated figures for this mart are—

		Mds.
In hands of aruthdars	-	45,000
In boats on the khal	-	20,000
Rice packed in bags and awaiting delivery	-	1,50,000
Total	-	2,15,000

Chittah Hdt.—"Here the trade is in atub or table rice, imported mostly from Joynuggur and other places in the southern part of the 24-Pergunnahs. The quantity available here may be set down at 20,000 maunds.

Kadderpore and Moonshingunge.—"The bulk of the rice at these places is consigned

from Midnapore, the 24-Pergunnahs, and Hooghly. The total stock may amount to 5 lakhs of maunds. In most of the books inspected the grand total of imports had not been struck, so that it was not possible to test their figures with those obtained by internal registration by the Government.

"The tradespeople are unanimous in the belief that the stock, whatever it may be, has been depleted to the extent of half the quantity of previous years. There was, however, one gentleman of the firm of Sumbhoonath Chowdhery, at Hatkhola, who stated that the ordinary annual stock might amount to a crore of maunds, which, no doubt, is a near approximation to the truth, and is corroborated by inquiries made some months ago.

"There are large consignments of moogy rice daily expected in Calcutta, and the fact of the aus crop already appearing in the market makes the people very hopeful of the future. The aus crop at this moment will not only help the peasantry, but will also be shipped for exportation by sea, and I was informed at Tallygunge that about 10 or 12 lakhs of maunds of aus rice are annually purchased from that market for export by sea.

"As regards the exports by sea, the demand is met from the reduced stocks in the hands of the arudhars, as well as by daily importations; and it is a fact that new rice, as fast as it comes to Calcutta, is exported, without there being anything left to replenish the reduced stocks of Calcutta."

7 There is every reason to believe in the general accuracy of this report, but the Lieutenant-Governor has appointed a native officer to go round all the marts daily and report on the state of stocks and the briskness or otherwise of the trade. The traffic registration abstracts are also ordered to be submitted weekly instead of fortnightly, and district officers have been directed to report weekly the state of stocks in the district markets, as far as this can be ascertained, and to take note of any material fluctuations in the quantities despatched to Calcutta. This information will be duly communicated to the Government of India.

8. During April, May, and June, 39½ lakhs of maunds of rice were registered at the inland trade registration stations as *en route* to Calcutta. Besides this, a good deal comes in that is not registered; so that there can be no reasonable doubt as to the existence of a considerable stock in and about the city.

9. It is quite impossible to form any sort of accurate estimate of the amount of grain in the country. It is not collected in large warehouses and marts, but is scattered about in small quantities in every village, and nearly in every house. The brokers and boatmen, now that the rivers and creeks are open, go round and buy from house to house, and in due course the rice reaches the market. In Rungpore and Dinagepore there is a large stock, which has been awaiting the rise of the rivers, and which is now being moved into the market in Eastern Bengal. The aus crop is on the point of being reaped, and will add considerably to the stocks. There is reason to believe that in some places the people have sold too much rice for export, and have brought upon themselves an enormous rise of price of food-grain, but this is a temporary evil and applies chiefly to Chittagong and Orissa, two great places of export.

P S —The result of the orders to examine the cargo-books has been, in the case of the first vessel boarded, to show that in lieu of 50,020 bags entered in the Customs returns, and 48,960 bags in the manifest, only 23,663 bags were really shipped.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT showing the EXPORTS of RICE and PADDY from CALCUTTA BY SEA, as published by the COLLECTOR OF CUSTOMS, Calcutta, the MADRAS GOVERNMENT, and the GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, from November 1876 to June 1877.

EXPORTS FROM CALCUTTA.

MONTHS.	AS PER CALCUTTA CUSTOM HOUSE RETURNS				AS PER MANIFESTS PUBLISHED IN THE "CALCUTTA COMMERCIAL GUIDE"				AS PER STATEMENT OF IMPORTS PUBLISHED IN THE MADRAS MONTHLY CUSTOMS STATEMENTS				AS PER STATEMENTS OF EXPORTS PUBLISHED IN THE "GAZETTE OF INDIA"			
	To Madras Ports	To other Coast Ports	To Foreign Ports.	TOTAL.	To Madras Ports.	To other Coast Ports	To Foreign Ports	TOTAL	To Madras Ports	To other Coast Ports	To Foreign Ports.	TOTAL	To Madras Ports	To other Coast Ports.	To Foreign Ports	TOTAL
1876	Mds	Mds	Mds	Mds	Mds	Mds.	Mds	Mds	Mds	Mds	Mds	Mds	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds
November - - -	6,171	1,21,028	3,44,657	4,71,856	11,67,079	3,88,560	4,06,805	19,62,444	6,08,380	- - -	- - -	6,08,380	-	-	-	-
December - - -	27,08,725	2,08,939	5,86,932	35,04,596	15,81,466	3,47,506	4,62,428	23,91,400	6,67,219	- - -	- - -	6,67,219	-	-	-	-
1877																
January - - -	24,38,476	3,48,992	12,91,916	40,79,384	24,69,144	3,11,848	8,66,346	36,47,338	15,86,796	- - -	- - -	15,86,796	-	-	-	-
February - - -	11,89,453	2,56,657	14,04,255	28,50,365	11,34,878	3,30,482	17,22,713	31,78,023	13,17,666	- - -	- - -	13,17,666	7,10,322	-	-	7,10,322
March - - -	15,08,075	2,20,404	7,35,801	24,49,280	10,69,168	4,04,171	13,17,278	27,90,617	7,52,573	- - -	- - -	7,52,573	13,04,719	-	-	13,04,719
April - - -	13,33,175	3,69,067	4,86,812	20,39,054	9,06,702	2,72,628	4,58,138	16,32,738	5,14,249	- - -	- - -	5,14,249	11,00,396	-	-	11,00,396
May - - -	14,25,310	73,326	4,04,225	19,01,861	13,08,054	2,03,896	4,30,359	19,92,309	6,14,709	- - -	- - -	6,14,709	17,15,048	-	-	17,15,048
June - - -	18,71,315	3,35,601	4,26,113	25,33,029	4,18,186	99,838	4,26,423	9,44,492	4,34,209	- - -	- - -	4,34,209	18,52,583	-	-	18,52,583
Total - - -	1,24,76,200	17,33,014	56,20,711	1,98,29,925	1,00,54,677	23,43,194	61,35,490	1,85,39,861	64,95,701	- - -	- - -	64,95,701	66,83,073	-	-	66,83,073
Add—Total exports of paddy during the foregoing period converted into rice at the rate of 25 seers of rice to a maund of paddy - - -	78,654	51	23,028	1,01,733	52,561	6	17,923	70,489	22,669	- - -	- - -	22,669	61,370	-	-	61,370
Grand total in rice -	1,25,54,854	17,33,065	56,43,739	1,99,31,658	1,01,07,238	23,49,199	61,53,413	1,86,09,850	65,18,370	- - -	- - -	65,18,370	67,44,443	-	-	67,44,443

No. 111

Telegram, dated 1st August 1877.

FROM GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY TO SECRETARY OF STATE

Your Lordship's telegram 31st Monsoon not failed, but continues scanty in Bombay Presidency Sholapur, rainfall sufficient; elsewhere in Deccan, showers more or less, sometimes heavy; crops kept alive, prospects of harvest uncertain

Rainfall generally under seven inches since beginning of monsoon; winds high; rainfall in Guzerat, Kattywar, came late, continues slight, under four inches Rainfall, Concan, greater, but continues slight relatively. Position on coast at Bombay, rainfall heavy, nearly 40 (sic) inches, but local only, with long intervals of sunshine Rainfall on ridge of western Ghâts sufficient, flooding streams, seasonable. Down-pour monsoon in Deccan not likely till better rainfall in Concan and Canara. No danger yet in Bombay Presidency.

People engaged in agriculture Short harvests probable, though rain may come to save much. Fair accounts from Central Provinces, Berar, Malwa.

Though some rain recently in Hyderabad, Mysore, Ceded Districts, Madras, yet accounts still indifferent. Short harvests expected at best Lateness of monsoon in northern India aggravates situation.

Prices in Deccan touching famine rates, Though stocks large and carriage active, distress widens Anxiety about sufficiency of engines on railway. I have made recommendations thereon, if sanctioned we can manage, even though monsoon fails.

No 112.

Telegram, dated 2nd August 1877.

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE

As the earthworks of Dhond and Munmar line will probably be sufficiently advanced to admit of rails being laid temporarily by end of December, we are of opinion that this line should be completed as a permanent broad gauge railway in preference to any other sanctioned railway not yet commenced, except Western Rajputana line. This chord line avoids the Ghâts and cuts off 120 miles in through communication. Should famine continue into next year, and the most serious apprehensions are entertained by us and by the Local Governments on this head, the chord would be invaluable in augmenting the carrying capacity of the present rolling stock Moreover, the chances of having to interfere with the export traffic would be diminished. Bombay Government urges that materials be got immediately We recommend this course strongly, and that the chord shall be completed as a permanent line as soon as estimates have been prepared and sanctioned.

The following materials are required for length of railway, including sidings, of 150 miles —Sixty-seven pound double-headed rails, same section as got out by Peninsula Railway, and now laid in Wardha Valley State Railway, with fastenings, steel rails preferred. Sleepers to be iron or wooden, or both, as most quickly obtainable, if of creosoted wood not less than 9 feet long, preferably 9 feet 6 inches long, 10 inches broad, 5 inches thick, if cast iron of same pattern as on Peninsula Railway, for same rails no objection to wrought-iron or steel sleepers, as on Oudh Railway, if obtainable quickly and suitable for double-headed rails Arrange for only 135 miles of sleepers, as 15 miles may be got in this country Shipments should begin to arrive in Bombay early in October, and be continued weekly so that all may reach by middle of December. Rails, fastenings, and sleepers should be shipped in due proportions for laying line on receipt at sight Also send 12 water cranes and connexions, 20 hydrants, 100 sets of switches, 100 steel reversible crossings, of which 32 angle 5 degrees 45 minutes, 50 angle 7 degrees 45 minutes, 18 angle 10 degrees 45 minutes, 13 station signals, 25 distant signals, 3 traversers, 3 engine turntables, 3 weighbridges

No 113

Telegram, dated 3rd August 1877.

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE

Supply of rails for Dhond Munmar line may possibly be facilitated by giving part at least of order to firm which supplied us with some 67 lb rails for Wardha Valley Railway, of same section as Peninsula Company's rails Section of rail should not be altered if steel be adopted No objection to the additional weight Fastenings should include chairs for wooden sleepers

No. 114.

Telegram, dated 3rd August 1877.

FROM GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

Monsoon not established, but better rain in Concan Shows Deccan. Rain Guzerat, Katywar insufficient for growing crops. Distressed districts sustained. Number of persons on relief continues decreasing. Prices very high. Trade active. Hope arises from improved accounts from Madras and Mysore, and good accounts from Central Provinces, but Hyderabad rainfall scanty. Fear of drought in Northern India is raising prices there, and impeding influx of grain towards Western and Southern India.

No. 115.

Telegram, dated 4th August 1877.

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE TO VICEROY

Yours 30th July not understood. Are the 100 locomotives Great Indian Peninsula in addition to 40 already ordered?

No. 116.

Telegram, dated 6th August 1877.

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

The 100 locomotives are additional to 40 under supply. We reserve our recommendations, pending details from Bombay by post; but meanwhile kindly ascertain possibilities of supply.

No. 117.

Telegram, dated 6th August 1877.

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

Prospect of great distress among population of Baroda State, causing great anxiety to minister. We have, therefore, in anticipation of your approval, assented to his request for construction of railway from Ahmedabad to Pahlunpore, on same gauge as Baroda line, which would work this section, and also to immediate formation of embankments as relief works. We have assented the more readily in consideration of the fact that Baroda State has contributed largely to the recent loan.

No. 118.

Telegram, dated 6th August 1877.

FROM GOVERNOR OF MADRAS TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

Wrote to Viceroy to-day, suggesting his sending somebody of experience, in whom he would place confidence, without formal gazette appointment or delegation, to confer with us on measures taken and proposed, saying we should welcome such a mission with pleasure.

My suggestion has entire approval of my colleagues here.

Scattered but good showers continue; better reports from Malabar of weather prospects. Godavery river without freshes. Imports to Madras good; at Raichore short.

No. 119.

Telegram, dated 6th August 1877.

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

Your telegram of 31st, about offer of grain by Samuels, of London. We remain strongly of opinion that Government should not purchase grain at present. On 29th June, by our letter to Madras Government, to which every publicity was given, we notified to trade that we did not intend to purchase grain. The trade are acting on that assurance; to adopt a different course now would destroy all confidence in the Government. Moreover, the railways are at present, and will for some time be, unable to dis-

tribute the grain offered by private trade Any grain we buy would, therefore, take up waggons which are wanted for private grain consignments. If we have a second famine, our difficulty will be sufficient means of transport to certain remote localities, and we may have to indent on you for light rails for tramways

No. 120

Telegram, dated 6th August 1877

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

Prospects of the season generally improved in Madras. More or less rain in all districts, heavy in Bellary and Kistna; considerable in Kurnool and Cuddapah, and parts Nellore; slight in Trichinopoly, Madura, Tinnevely, and Salem; moderate in other districts Standing crops saved in many parts and prospects of harvest improved, but distress still severe

In Mysore, showers pretty general, have done some good, but prospects not materially improved

In Coorg, moderate rain has fallen

Regarding Bombay, Temple telegraphs as follows —“ Fair rain in eastern districts has saved much young crops, but along western border famine area larger, monsoon continues insufficient, better rain on Malabar coast last few days, may be considered to indicate favourable return of monsoon; slight showers, Guzerat and Kattywar, but anxiety regarding those parts still remain. Prices grain continue very high, imports to rural districts by human labour continue, traffic from coast by carts active, coast exports large, but rail increasing, general situation improved by weeks rain, but pressure on people by high prices continues and will not be relieved till prospects of season are reassured by better fall of monsoon rain.” Message ends

In North-West Provinces, rain has at length begun to fall in many districts and anxiety much relieved

In Punjab, some rain, more wanted, but condition of crops fair.

Numbers relieved in Madras, 957,000 on works, 839,000 charitably In Mysore, 48,000 on works, 151,000 charitably In Bombay, 248,000 on works, 149,000 charitably.

No. 121

Telegram, dated 7th August 1877,

FROM GOVERNOR OF MADRAS TO SECRETARY OF STATE

Yours 21st July

Send military officers in civil employ only.

No 122

Telegram, dated 7th August 1877.

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE TO VICEROY.

Pahlunpore Railway Your telegram hardly gives us material for decision. Do you propose to construct railway as famine work at British cost? If so, why do you undertake famine charges for a Native State? I would prefer to devote our funds, which are restricted for the moment, to our own people, whom we shall with difficulty keep alive.

If Baroda and Pahlunpore propose to find money, the matters will assume a different aspect

No 123.

Telegram, dated 8th August 1877.

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE

The Baroda State having subscribed funds sufficient to construct the Ahmedabad Pahlunpore section of the Western Rajputana Railway on the understanding that the work had been sanctioned and would be early undertaken, has by this depleted its own treasury, and is now confronted by famine within its own territory I have thought it but just that the money so subscribed should go towards the relief of this famine as proposed This will have the immediate effect of retaining on their own soil the sufferers who would otherwise seek relief in British territory, and it will not interfere with Baroda's taking further steps for the relief of its subjects from its reserves or by loans from us

No 124.

Revenue, No 61.

From the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA to the GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA
IN COUNCIL

India Office, London, 9th August 1877

No. 61.

Para 1. The Despatch of your Excellency in Council, dated 25th June, No 27, of 1877, forwarding a complete collection of the correspondence with the Government of Madras, on the subject of supplying Sir R Temple with certain records relative to the grant of remissions, has been considered by me in Council

2. You have also forwarded copies of a Minute by Sir R. Temple, and two memoranda by his late secretary, Mr. Bernard, on the general subject of remissions of land revenue. These you have transmitted to the Government of Madras for consideration when the present pressure has passed away. They therefore do not demand any observation from me on the present occasion.

3. You have drawn my attention to the letter addressed to your Lordship in Council by the Government of Madras on the 10th April. A misunderstanding appears to have arisen on both sides, which gave a turn to the correspondence not wholly satisfactory. The Madras Government evidently were under an entire misapprehension as to the object with which the papers in question were asked for by Sir R Temple, while they failed, I think, to convey to the minds of your Excellency's Government a clear conception of the nature of the scruples they entertained. As, however, your Excellency proposes to revert to the subject on a future occasion, it will not be necessary for me to enter more largely upon it now

I have, &c
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 125

Revenue, No. 62.

From the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA to the GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA
IN COUNCIL.

India Office, London, 9th August 1877

Para. 1. The Despatch of your Excellency in Council, dated 2nd July, No. 28, of 1877, forwarding copy of a correspondence which has taken place with the Government of Madras on the subject of the rise in prices of food grains, the reduction of stocks, and the consequent pressure upon the population of the distressed districts in the Madras Presidency, has been considered by me in Council.

2 While the Despatch under reply was in transit telegrams have been received which show that the entire situation is altered for the worse in Madras, and render any detailed comment on the views stated by your Excellency in Council unnecessary

3 I entirely concur with you in the necessity of observing the most complete publicity in making any necessary importation of supplies on Government account, but the far graver prospect which arises from the failure of the monsoon will doubtless induce your Excellency to watch with the utmost vigilance the operation of your orders restricting the purchase of grain. Due weight should be given in deciding upon the steps to be taken in this respect, to the views of the Local Government and their district officers. Your financial arrangements for meeting the charges of the famine have my concurrence.

I have, &c
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 126.

Telegram, dated 10th August 1877

From BENGAL GOVERNMENT, Calcutta, to REVENUE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY, Simla

Memorandum on stocks sent by Bayley. Special inquiries completed to-day, find about thirty-two lakhs maunds in Calcutta for all purposes; importation slackened lately owing to bores on Megna, but now brisk. Exportation lively. Freight abundant

No. 127.

Telegram, dated 10th August 1877.

From GOVERNOR OF MADRAS to SECRETARY OF STATE.

Imports from all sources large, but insufficient for daily wants Have telegraphed to Government of India that if imports do not cover daily wants with margin to cover occasional interruption, great calamity by starvation appears inevitable, and asking them to state what they can do with trade Monsoon may interrupt the traffic after eight weeks.

No 128.

Telegram, dated 10th August 1877.

From SECRETARY OF STATE to VICEROY.

Despatch leaves to-day, including following sentence —

I entirely concur with you in the necessity of observing the most complete publicity in making any necessary importation of supplies on Government account; but the far graver prospect which arises from the failure of the monsoon will doubtless induce your Excellency to watch with the utmost vigilance the operation of your orders restricting the purchase of grain Quotation ends.

Following in letter from merchant I mentioned —Telegrams from Saigon and Bangkok inform me that our steamers are carrying about 1,000 tons of rice daily from those ports to China, and since 1st of January this year to 30th June more than 300,000 tons of rice have gone to China, and in another six weeks the whole of this year's crop will have been shipped to the north End of quotation.

We feel considerable anxiety about this question of supply of grain, and understand Madras Government uneasy Let me know what your calculations are.

No. 129

Telegram, dated 10th August 1877

From GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY to SECRETARY OF STATE.

Monsoon not materially improved since last telegram Some rain Concan and South Mahratta country, showers in Deccan, hardly any rain Gujerat, Kattywar Agriculture and crops kept going in distressed districts, but high prices telling on people.

Gradual decrease on relief continuing since beginning monsoon now arrested, and slight increase of numbers occurred, but showers falling, and hope decrease will be soon resumed.

No. 130

Telegram, dated 11th August 1877.

From GOVERNOR OF MADRAS to the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA.

Showers diminishing Hot wind recurred. Food import does not increase Supplies *et* Raichore less than half promised. Godavery river falling. No irrigation supply for Delta

No 131:

MINUTE by His Excellency the VICEROY, dated Simla, 12th August 1877.

1 The summer rains of June and July have now failed, more or less, over many of the districts in Southern India where the rainfall of 1876 was lamentably deficient The severity of the situation is increased by the scantiness of the rainfall in Western and Northern India during the past six weeks I desire to place on record my appreciation of the probable effect of these unanticipated circumstances on the condition of the people and the prospects of the Government In so doing, I will endeavour to indicate my general views as to some of the measures required to prepare for a second year of famine, if unhappily so terrible a calamity should overtake any large tract of Southern India

2 The time has not come for the Government of India to review the famine operations of the year 1876-77, for the famine is still almost at its worst. But a short notice of the failure of last year's harvests, of the misfortunes thereby caused, and of the relief operations undertaken, is necessary to a proper understanding of the extreme gravity of the present situation

Enclosure
No 64

3. The summer rains (south-west monsoon) of 1876 were extremely scanty over tracts belonging to the Presidencies of Madras and Bombay, to the State of Hyderabad, and to the Province of Mysore. Over these tracts, which contain a population of about 26 millions, the summer rains yield the main rainfall of the year, they fill the irrigation tanks, and on them depends the safety of the main food crops. In the above-mentioned districts, therefore, the chief food crops of 1876 failed by reason of the shortness of the summer rains. But in the rest of the Madras country the main rainfall comes with the October rains (north-east monsoon); these rains were also very deficient, and so the irrigation tanks of the Madras districts remained dry, and the chief food crops failed. The fate of the Madras crops was thus partially in doubt until the middle of November.

4. The failure of the crops of a single year might not have caused a famine, if it had been confined to only one province, or to a few districts, for inter-communication, by railway and by road, is easy and cheap all over Southern India, and the surplus of one province would have supplied the deficiency of another. But, last year the area of failure was so vast that famine prices were inevitable; and by the month of December 1876, food-grains in the markets of Southern India were three times as dear as in ordinary years. The calamity pressed with special weight on some of the stricken districts (notably Bellary, Sholapour, parts of the Carnatic, and of Mysore), because the crops of one, or even two, preceding years, had been short. In such districts food stocks were lower than usual, and the people had less money to buy food brought from a distance. In Bengal, Burmah, Central and Northern India, the crops were happily good, food stocks were large; and there was plenty of grain to supply the stricken districts, if it could be carried thither, and if the people could afford to pay for it.

5. The policy of the Government of India, as declared after previous famines, was to give all possible facilities for the transport of grain to distressed districts, to abstain from interference with the grain trade, so long as that trade was active, to give relief wages to the destitute who would labour on useful public works, to relieve gratuitously, under trustworthy supervision, the helpless poor, when the pressure of famine became extreme, and to avert death from starvation by the employment of all means practically open to the resources of the State and the exertions of its officers; but to discharge this duty at the lowest cost compatible with the preservation of human life from wholesale destruction. In the autumn of 1876, no general instructions were issued by the Government of India for the management of serious and widespread famine, nor until November was it certain, from the reports received by the Supreme Government, that positive famine was impending in the Madras districts.

6. From the month of September 1876 a large importation of grain from Northern India and Bengal into the distressed tracts began; and this traffic rapidly increased till, in the month of December, grain was landed by sea at Madras, and was also consigned by railway, from the west, through Raichore (the westernmost limit of the Madras Railway), in much larger quantities than the railways could distribute, to the districts of the Madras Presidency and of the Mysore Province. From December up to the present time of writing, private traders have kept consigning, month by month, into the interior of the famine districts more grain than the railways from Madras, Beypore, Negapatam, and Raichore, have been able to carry. This grain has come from Bengal, Burma, the Punjab, the North-Western Provinces, Central India, and Scinde. Government has done much to facilitate the traffic; and on one occasion only have Government operations interfered with private trade, namely, when 30,000 tons of grain were bought by the Madras Government at the beginning of the famine, and were carried into the interior of the country. To this extent the railway and cart power of the country was temporarily occupied by Government to the exclusion of private trade. These proceedings of the Madras Government were disapproved by the Government of India. Prices have been very dear, but from nowhere, until the 23rd of July, have we received reports that food cannot be had in the bazaars by those who can afford to pay for it. In some of the worst districts the imported food has sufficed for the needs of about one-third of the total population. The remaining two-thirds in such districts, and a much larger proportion in the less severely afflicted tracts, have subsisted on old stocks and on the yield of the petty crops that have been harvested even during this year of famine. The importation of grain by railway into the interior has not yet exceeded an average of about—

2,200 tons a day into the interior of Madras and Mysore,

1,000 tons a day into the interior of the Bombay Presidency.

These figures do not include the large quantities of grain distributed into the interior by road or canal, from the port of Madras, and from the lesser ports on the Coromandel,

Malabar, and Southern Mahratta coasts. There are in Central and Northern India and in Bengal large stocks of food, ready to go forward to the famine districts as soon as the railways can carry them

7 At the outset of the famine operations there was general failure to employ the destitute poor on properly managed and useful public works. During November and December hundreds of thousands of people sought, and obtained, relief wages on works which were not of the highest utility, and on which there was no adequate professional supervision. For this result I fear that the orders of the Government of India, enjoining the employment of the people on petty works near their homes, were in some degree responsible. In the Government Despatch, conveying instructions for Sir Richard Temple's mission to the famine country, it was mentioned that small and well-supervised local relief works might properly be opened at the beginning of a period of distress, so long as there was doubt regarding the extent of scarcity, but that, when measures of relief on a large scale became clearly necessary, great public works of a permanently useful type should be opened for the employment of relief labourers. The experience of the present famine—the friction, distress, and loss, caused by the transfer of labourers from small to large works, during February, in the Bombay Presidency—and the difficulty of moving to large useful works any considerable proportion of the relief labourers in Madras—has since convinced me of the impolicy of opening petty local relief works during the early stages of a scarcity. The orders directing the opening of small local works were modified in December, and it was subsequently laid down that relief labourers should be employed, to the utmost extent possible, on large useful works, under the direction of competent engineers. Meanwhile, before those orders had reached the local officers,

1,050,000 persons in the Madras districts,

266,000 " " Bombay "

were, in the beginning of January, receiving relief wages for labour that was generally inadequate, on works that were often of little value

8 During the month of January the manner of employing relief labourers changed greatly for the better in the Bombay districts, where the Local Government utilised to the full its staff of engineers, and possessed a number of excellent irrigation schemes and other projects. During the same month Sir Richard Temple was deputed by the Government of India to visit the famine districts, and to confer with the Local Governments and their officers as to the best means of enforcing economy and system in relief operations. The admirable services rendered by Sir Richard Temple have already been acknowledged by the Government of India. It was found that vast numbers were in receipt of relief who, for a time at any rate, could support themselves. The relief wage rate was lowered, the number of petty relief works was reduced, and the supervision of relief labour was increased. In consequence of these measures the numbers of people on the relief works were, at the end of April,

In Madras districts - - - 716,000 persons.

In Mysore " - - - 62,000 "

In Bombay, at the same time, the numbers had risen to 287,000. In Madras 11 per cent of these labourers were employed on useful works under professional supervision. In Bombay 90 per cent were so employed. In Mysore 47 per cent were on useful public works, but in Mysore the numbers on relief works were, in a way that has not been explained, reduced as the pressure of the famine increased, and large sums are now being spent on unfruitful alms, instead of being devoted to improving by relief labour the many irrigation works of the province

9 It is not supposed that the relief works managed by revenue officers are absolutely useless, or are wholly unsupervised; but I fear that much of the roadwork done under revenue officers can be of no lasting value, while its cost is from twice to twenty times the ordinary rates, whereas, on the other hand, the irrigation and railway works executed under professional supervision, will be of permanent good in improving the country, and averting future famines, while some of these works (so far as imperfect information has reached the Government of India) are being executed at only from 20 to 50 per cent. above ordinary rates. At the present time of writing, the proportion of relief labourers employed under professional supervision on large works in Madras has risen, by the latest returns, to about 21 per cent on the total number of workpeople

10 Gratuitous relief on a large scale began early in the present famine. By the end of December there were in the receipt of gratuitous relief

110,000 persons in the Madras districts

3,000 " " Bombay "

30,000 " " Mysore "

These numbers were somewhat reduced in January and February; but since the end of February they have increased enormously, and have risen by the end of July to

839,000 in the Madras districts.

160,000 „ Bombay „

151,000 „ Mysore „

In Mysore the number of persons in receipt of gratuitous relief is more than three times higher than the number of the relief labourers; and it appears that in this Province relief works have not been properly managed. The persons on gratuitous relief in Madras and Bombay belong to three categories, thus—

	Children of labourers on the relief works	Persons fed at relief houses and relief camps	Persons relieved at their homes through village agencies
Madras (according to the latest detailed return for the beginning of July)	- - 149,000	207,000	218,000
Bombay	- - 83,000	66,000	

The Mysore returns do not distinguish the several classes of charitable relief. So long as relief wages are kept at subsistence rates, the small allowance of 3 pie ($\frac{3}{8}$ of a penny) per diem must be continued to the infant children of relief labourers. The inmates of relief camps and the daily recipients of food at relief houses are ordinarily fit subjects for charity, provided that able-bodied people are drafted to relief works as soon as they are strong enough to labour. Relief through village agencies may become unavoidable where famine presses severely; but its administration must be very carefully supervised, in order that the needy may be really relieved, and that there may be as little fraud as possible. In Bombay, the numbers so relieved in each district vary according to the pressure of distress and the numbers on the relief works. But the figures for Madras lead to a belief that different systems are pursued in different districts, for instance, in Kurnool, where severe distress afflicted the whole district, only 5,519 persons were receiving village relief at the beginning of July, whereas in Salem, a part only of which district was severely distressed, 88,020 persons were on village relief.

11. In regard to the main object of relief operations, viz., the saving of human life,—much, but not complete success has been attained. In some tracts relief operations began too late, at centres of population, like Madras and Bangalore, and on some of the roads leading to such centres, starvation deaths have occurred, the death rate from cholera, dysentery, and such like diseases, has greatly increased over large areas, but, on the whole, the worst evils of famine have, so far, been successfully averted over the vast tracts visited by failure of crops. According to the standard of mortality during the Orissa famine, from three to five millions of people (instead of only half a million) must have died of famine in Southern India during the year 1877, if the guaranteed railways had not existed, and if Government had incurred no outlay on relief operations. Nothing of this sort has occurred; and on this result the Governments, and the local officers, who have exerted themselves admirably, deserve the acknowledgments of the Government of India. I fear, however, it may hereafter be found that over large tracts relief operations were, for considerable periods, conducted without sufficient system, and without due regard to economy.

12 Regarding what is past, I have been obliged to say this much, because it is only after a consideration of the past that we can frame improved plans for the future. During the spring and early summer of 1877, it was hoped that the season might be favourable, that spring showers might bring forward some small extent of early food crop in June, that bountiful summer rains (south-west monsoon) would enable the people to secure a large food harvest during August and September; and that favourable October rains (north-east monsoon) would fill the irrigation tanks, and restore plenty to the districts of the Madras Presidency. The October rains are not yet due, but our spring and summer hopes have been disappointed. Had they been fulfilled, there would have been no present need for special aid from the Government of India, some millions sterling would have been spent, there would have been some waste, but in the main the great object of all this expenditure would have been obtained; the difficulty would have been over, and the Government of India would, at the proper time, have placed on record for future guidance the lessons taught by the famine of 1877.

13 But so far as the season has gone our hopes have not been fulfilled; the spring showers came not, the summer rains have, until the last week of July, been very scanty and irregular; the main food crops of part of the black soil country in the Deccan are still in great jeopardy, it is feared that the unirrigated food crops of Madras and Mysore

must be lost, unless the good rain of the past week continues during August; the local officers report that already an unascertained, but large, proportion of these crops are dried up, the irrigation tanks of the Mysore country are still dry, and no fresh food crops, can be reaped on any large scale in Southern India before December next. If there are favourable rains in August and September, and if the October rainfall (north-east monsoon) is full, then plenty may perhaps be restored by January 1878, though the people will feel the effects of the famine for some years to come. But, even under the most favourable circumstances the pressure of famine in many districts of Madras and Mysore cannot abate greatly before January 1878; at the best, the tension in Bombay may lessen in September, and may cease altogether in December. But unless the rainfall of August and September is unusually heavy, there must be another year of famine in parts of Bombay, of the Deccan, and over a great part of Mysore; for in none* of these tracts can a heavy downpour be expected in October. A great part of Bellary and Kurnool also, where the October rains are scanty, must suffer another famine, if the summer rains are not plentiful during August and September, while if the October rains, the main rainfall of the Madras littoral, should be scanty, there must be another year of famine over a great part of the Madras Presidency.

14 Thus the present situation in Southern India is that, at the end of the season of famine, one of the great food crops of the present season is everywhere in jeopardy, and in some parts is almost irretrievably lost. Prices of food over the famine country are higher than ever, four or five times the ordinary rate; 2,500,000 people are being directly supported by State charity, of whom barely 450,000 are performing work that will have useful results. The present pressure of famine, and the present rate of expenditure, (considerably above half a million sterling per month), cannot at the best be greatly lessened before December next, whereas, if the season turns out unfavourably in any part of the famine country, that tract with its stocks already depleted must suffer from a second year of famine, more severe and more difficult than the year through which it is now passing.

15 The position in Southern India, grievous as it is, becomes much aggravated by the fact that the summer rains have hitherto been extremely scanty in the North-western Provinces and the Punjab. Vast areas of these provinces are protected by irrigation, the surplus food in stock from the bounteous harvests of the last few years is said, in the Punjab at any rate, to be very great; the autumn crop in these provinces has not yet been lost, and the seed time of the main food crop has yet to come. There is no present ground for fearing actual famine in Northern India, although I fear there may be serious scarcity and suffering in some districts, but the surplus food available for export thence to the famine country will be greatly reduced. In Bengal, Burma, and Central India, there is, according to present prospects, no reason to anticipate that the winter crops will not be full ones. But the main crops of Bengal and Burma can hardly be estimated before October at earliest.

* The rainfall statistics for parts of Southern India are not very complete. So far as they go the meteorological returns give —

	Average rainfall in inches during the months of		
	June to September	October to December	The whole year
Poona - - - -	- 22½	6	81
Belgaum - - - -	- 36½	5	47½
Secunderabad - - - -	- 20½	3	30
Bellary - - - -	- 11½	3	17
Bangalore - - - -	- 19	7½	34½
Mean of eight districts in Mysore	- 17	8	—
Madras city - - - -	- 15	29	48½
Salem - - - -	- 17	8½	34½
Combatore - - - -	- 6	8½	21
Negapatam - - - -	- 9	24½	35½
Trichinopoly - - - -	- 12½	11½	29½
Madura - - - -	- 15	14½	26

It seems therefore that in the Deccan, and in the ceded districts of Madras, the summer rainfall (south-west monsoon) is the mainstay of the crops, that in Mysore the heavy rain which fills the tanks and saturates the soil comes with the summer monsoon, but that the October (north-east) monsoon also gives a considerable rainfall, especially in the south of the province, and that in the districts of the Madras littoral the October monsoon yields the main rainfall of the year.

Though the north-east monsoon may be merely the rebound of the rain clouds which travel up the Bay of Bengal with the south-west winds, still we need not fear that scanty summer rains in Madras must necessarily be followed by equally scanty October rains. For the cloud currents which have this year shed plentiful summer rains over Burma and Bengal may return with the north-east winds to water the Madras littoral.

16. The prospect in Southern India, more especially in Madras and Mysore, is therefore as serious as it could possibly be. If a second famine has to be encountered over this large portion of the Empire, the duty of saving the lives of the people, and of utilising to the utmost the vast expenditure which must be incurred, will impose on both the Supreme and Local Governments as arduous and gigantic a task as any Government could be called upon to undertake. Before entering on this task, it may be well to state shortly what are in my opinion the main principles which Government should follow on an occasion of this kind. Many of these principles were laid down by the Government of India in its instructions to Sir Richard Temple, but I think it desirable to repeat them.

17. In the first place, the Government of India, with the approval of Her Majesty's Government, and of the people of India and England, are resolved to avert death from starvation by the employment of all means practically open to the resources of the State, and to the exertions of its officers. Thus far there can be no room for doubt or difference of opinion.

18. When harvests fail in an Indian province, considerable old stocks of food are left in the hands of the landholding and mercantile classes, but these stocks are often held back from sale. Markets have therefore to be supplied with grain imported from a distance. I consider that, except under most peculiar and exceptional circumstances, the function of supplying the demand for imported grain can be best, and indeed alone discharged by private trade; and that private trade should be left to do its work in this respect with as little interference from Government as practicable. The Government and its officers should, however, give all possible information, and should give where necessary additional facilities to private trade. Early and correct information as to prices and means of carriage should be published. The carrying power of railways and canals leading into the famine tracts should be reinforced, tolls and other restraints on free intercommunication should be removed, roads into the interior should be improved and kept in order, rates of railway or other carriage might be reduced; and in cases of extreme necessity, temporary railways or tramways might be laid from main railway lines into populous tracts, whereto means of communication failed or where insufficient. These will indeed be the most useful of all works, if we have to meet another year of famine. Grain required by Government for alms to the helpless poor, or for labourers on relief works, or for any tract where supplies were deficient, should be obtained through the trade, at or near the local markets, and should not be imported from a distance by Government itself. Experience has shown that Government operations in the grain market disorganise and paralyse private trade to an extent out of all proportion to the operations themselves. Moreover where the carrying power of a country by rail, canal, or cart is limited, and is fully utilised, Government grain importations must necessarily displace a corresponding quantity of privately imported grain. My view, therefore, is that under no circumstances which are likely to occur ought the Government itself to engage in the business of importing grain. Free and abundant private trade cannot co-exist with Government importation. Absolute non-interference with the operations of private commercial enterprise must be the foundation of our present famine policy. Trade towards the famine country from Bengal and Northern and Central India is at present active, and there is every reason to believe that the Indian sources of supply are still considerable. But even if these should fail, the interference of the Government would be a ruinous error. It could only have the effect of decreasing the total amount of food available, and thus aggravating the catastrophe. I am confident that more food, whether from abroad or elsewhere, will reach Madras, if we leave private enterprise to itself, than if we paralyse it by Government competition. These remarks refer to the famine we are now dealing with. I do not of course intend to assert that famines cannot occur in which Government interference for the importation of food may not be absolutely necessary. Indeed, the Orissa famine was one of those cases.

19. Before scarcity of food deepens into famine, there is a large and increasing section of the population who are out of work, and have no means of buying food at dear rates. It is the policy of Government to employ such people on relief works, and my view is, that relief employment, at a subsistence rate of wage, should be provided on large fully supervised works, which will be of permanent benefit to the country. The advantage of large works of this kind over petty local works is twofold—firstly, the obligation to do a full day's work, at a low rate of wage, and to go some distance to work, keeps from seeking relief people who can support themselves otherwise, and, secondly, the money expended on such works bequeaths permanent benefits to the country.

20 On this point, the following passages from Sir Richard Temple's excellent report of his recent mission to the distressed tracts of Southern India are very valuable. When discussing the lessons to be deduced from Indian famine experience, he writes—

“It seems to me that from these events we forcibly and positively learn—

“To determine beforehand, as soon as any forecast of the coming distress can be made, the large public works upon which relief labour can be employed, and upon which task-work can be exacted, or piece-work established under professional supervision;

“To notify generally, and to intimate to all concerned, especially to the Civil officers, the particular public works to which the relief labourers in each distressed district are to be drafted,

“To organise an engineering staff in readiness for undertaking vigorously these particular public works when the time for active operation shall arrive, and to prepare for devoting to this purpose all the professional establishments which can be obtained,

“To prohibit absolutely, in the beginning of the distress, the opening of petty works under Civil officers, or non-professional establishments, among the villages close to the homes of the people,

“To refuse relief to strong able-bodied persons of both sexes in any form, save employment on the large public works,

“To allow petty village works to be opened only when severe and widespread distress has declared itself at a comparatively advanced stage in any district, or part of a district, and even then to reject all, save those who cannot reasonably be expected to proceed to the large public works,—in short to reserve these petty works for the weakly, the sickly, the advanced in life, and for those who have any just claim for indulgence,

“To keep the wages on relief works at the lowest rate compatible with the health of the labourers, this being necessary, not only in the interests of economy, but also to prevent demoralisation of the people.”

I do not think it would be possible to define more clearly than is done in the foregoing extracts those principles which seem to me the right ones for the organisation of famine relief works.

21 At the beginning of a famine there are some, and before the end of a famine there will be many, people who, from physical infirmity, or from social custom, or from some other reason, are unable to earn wages on relief works, and who have no means of buying food. For persons of this class the State must, when the sources of private benevolence are dry, provide gratuitous relief, if it undertakes to provide for them at all, an undertaking which, if it assumes wide dimensions, must impose upon the State operations of peculiar difficulty and delicacy. For it is the inevitable tendency of all gratuitous relief afforded by the State, if it be not supervised and restricted with the most scrupulous exactitude, to intrude injuriously on the field of relief labour, and thus demoralise large masses of the population. Such relief may be given in the shape of grants-in-aid of private charity, in the shape of cooked or uncooked food, distributed at relief centres, at camps, or poor-houses, where the recipients of relief are housed and cared for, or (if complete means of supervision exist) in the shape of money alms distributed to paupers at their homes through village agencies. One or other, often more than one, of these forms of gratuitous relief must, sooner or later, be dispensed in every famine tract. At large centres of population relief camps are useful, for the inmates are prevented from wandering about the streets, and starving for want of miscellaneous alms. On great roads and lines of traffic out-door relief centres are more suitable. Where a good indigenous village agency exists, it is advisable to register and relieve, at an early stage of a famine, the helpless paupers in their villages, so that they may be prevented from starving at home or from wandering forth in quest of charity. But, in whatever shape gratuitous relief be given, the ordinary district organisation must be greatly strengthened to secure its due and honest administration. No other form of famine relief is more open to abuse and malversation. Every rupee spent in providing effective, trustworthy supervision is saved over and over again, not only in preventing wasteful and unnecessary expenditure, but in securing that the relief given reaches the classes and persons for whom it is intended, without being turned aside into the pockets of people who can do without State aid.

22 The principles and the policy described in the four preceding paragraphs should, in my judgment, guide the operations of Government, not only at the beginning of a famine but throughout its continuance. Disregard of these principles must, assuredly, and inevitably, aggravate the serious financial difficulties in which even a well-conducted campaign against a great famine involves the Government. If we have departed from

these principles in parts of the famine-stricken country, then we should now strain every nerve to return to them as speedily as possible. Famine relief expenditure must, I fear, continue on a very large scale for some months to come. And it may be that we are on the threshold of another, and much more terrible, year of famine. It behoves us, therefore, to lose no time in re-organising and strengthening the forces with which Government hopes to contend against famine.

23 The amount of grain carried daily into Southern India will have to be greatly increased. The present estimate, founded on the figures of the Local Governments, is that into the Madras, Mysore, and Hyderabad districts alone, from 4,500 to 5,000* tons of food may have to be carried daily, whereas 2,500 tons a day was the greatest quantity carried during the past season. I believe this full task, if it be required, can be accomplished. During the Bengal famine the railways, working from three directions, carried at times as much as 4,000 tons of food a day, and the railways into Madras and Mysore work from four different ports, besides the fifth line from the Bombay direction. No time should be lost in framing, in publishing to the trade generally, and in bringing into effect on the guaranteed railways, a scheme whereby 4,500 to 5,000 tons of food can, if consigned by the trade, be carried daily into the famine districts of Madras and Mysore. When the railway has brought the required supply of food into the country, the question will arise, whether the famine-stricken cattle can suffice for the task of distributing by cart the large quantities required in the interior of the districts. And the problem will have to be faced and decided at once, whether it will be best to lay down rough tramways for carriage of grain, or to bring the destitute poor to places near the railway lines, or to promote their emigration into other provinces.

24 Next, all the best engineering skill available in the many provinces of India should, I think, be lent to the Madras Government, so that a sufficient number of large public works may be opened in all parts of the Madras as well as of the Mysore famine country, at which the largest possible proportion of the two and half millions of people now supported by the State may be employed under proper supervision on works which will help to protect the country from future famines. The districts of Madras and Mysore are studded with irrigation tanks, and are traversed by rivers, many of which are already bridled and turned into irrigation channels. Much great work of this kind remains to be done. The projects and estimates for such works may not be everywhere ready in full detail, but it would be better for the people and for the country that the Government should accept a moderate proportion of failures in such works than not to attempt them at all. It would be wiser to lay out one million sterling on irrigation channels and reservoirs, which will store water for future needs, or on other works of lasting utility, than to spend half a million on petty works, which cannot be adequately supervised, and are of no permanent usefulness. Of the famine roads which in 1874 were undertaken in Bengal, about one-half had to be left unbridged and unfinished. These have since fallen into a condition of utter uselessness, owing to the inability of local funds to complete and maintain them. I believe that it would be highly desirable to sanction for Madras a special Chief Engineer for famine works, as was done for Bengal in 1874. Nothing is more essential to successful administration in such a crisis as the present, than the concentration of authority in the hands of a single man of energy and judgment, who shall be responsible to the head of the Local Government alone. I am satisfied that the great success which has attended the operations for the relief of the present famine in Bombay has been mainly due to the fact that this principle has been strictly acted on. The Chief Engineer, Major-General Kennedy, has been virtually responsible to no one but the Governor himself, and I believe that both the late and present Governors of Bombay have thus been able to carry out their orders with a vigour, promptitude, and success, which would otherwise have been impossible. Of course, however, this arrangement might have been as injurious as it has proved beneficial, had the officer on whom the result of it depended been deficient in experience, judgment, or energy.

25. When the employment of relief labourers shall have been thus made over to professional agency, the Civil officers will be able to give their time to organising and supervising gratuitous relief, and to saving the helpless poor from starvation.

26 The two main objects to which the best endeavours, and all the available power, of the Government of India and the Local Governments must now be directed, are,—firstly, the framing and working of a scheme whereby 4,500 to 5,000 tons of food may be carried daily into the famine country, and, secondly, the selection and commence-

* This quantity would give subsistence to about 10,000,000 people

ment of large public works of lasting utility, on which all the able-bodied relief recipients of either sex and any age should at once be employed. If the rainy season, which has begun so badly, should happily end well, these special exertions on the part of the State, of the railways, and of public servants, may not be required beyond December next. If the season ends badly anywhere, then these exertions will have to be continued on behalf of such afflicted tracts until August 1878. In any case, the lives of millions, and the useful expenditure of large public funds, must depend, during the next five months, on the arrangements that may now be made. If matters are allowed to drift, there may be terrible loss of life, and there must be a wasteful expenditure of vast sums of public money, which might, under proper arrangements, bequeath great and useful works to the district wherein it is incurred.

27 The beneficial effect of money expended on well-considered and well-organised public works will be felt in the future. But for the immediate relief of the present distress, the creation and supervision of new means of transport are urgently needed. I have every reason to believe that our reserve of grain is amply sufficient to meet the increasing demand, and that, even if it runs short, we may reckon with confidence on the enterprise of private trade to supply the deficiency. But the arrangements which must now be made for distributing over large tracts of country, where no sufficient means of transport yet exist, that quantity of grain which their population requires, and the trade is able to supply, will be as difficult and delicate as they are necessary.

28 I have not included the Bombay districts in the tracts where special joint effort by the Supreme and Local Governments is at once required, because prospects in Bombay are not so bad as in the south-eastern districts, and because the management of relief works and relief operations in Bombay has, during the past season, been such as to warrant a confidence that famine there, if it comes, will be more easily met, and that relief labourers will be employed on well-organised works of permanent usefulness. I wish to take this opportunity of placing on record my opinion that the difficult task of administering famine relief in the Bombay Presidency has been at all times performed by the Local Government with a sagacity, judgment, and firmness that cannot be too highly commended. The Government of Bombay has been especially fortunate in having at its command, for the superintendence of this most arduous work, an officer of such rare intelligence and energy as Major-General Kennedy.

29 I am afraid that the situation in Mysore is, in proportion to its area and population, even more critical than in Madras. The Mysore demand for imported grain has, throughout the famine, been larger with reference to the distressed population than in the Madras Presidency. The fate of the crops now in the ground is more doubtful in parts of Mysore than anywhere else. The employment of the destitute poor on useful public works has, since April last, been quite inadequate to the occasion. At the present time the persons on gratuitous relief are three times as many as the relief labourers on public works. In Bombay the numbers on gratuitous relief are now little more than half the total of relief labourers. In Madras the total number on gratuitous relief is somewhat less than the total on works. Reports have been received from more than one Madras district that people in the last stage of distress flock over from Mysore to British relief houses for help. It would seem that Mysore relief arrangements are at present neither efficient nor sufficient. In this Province immediate steps must be taken for reorganising the relief administration.

30 As my colleagues are aware, it is my intention to visit Madras and Mysore immediately. Before starting on this journey, I have thought it desirable to place on record my reasons for undertaking it. These will be found in the foregoing general statement of the main facts of the present condition of the famine-stricken districts in Southern India. I cannot contemplate such a condition of things without the most serious anxiety, and the deepest sympathy with all those local authorities who, after prolonged and arduous exertion, are now confronted with new administrative difficulties.

31 It is unnecessary, and indeed undesirable, to discuss in the present Minute any of the particular measures which have been, or may have to be, adopted for meeting those difficulties. The teachings of experience would be as barren as they are bitter, were it impossible to derive from study, not only of the phenomena of the late famine in Bengal but also of the course of the present famine in Madras and Bombay, a clear apprehension of certain general principles of famine management. The soundness of these principles is, I think, established both by the beneficial results of their timely and intelligent application, and also by the disastrous consequences which have attended the disregard of them. I cannot doubt that they should everywhere guide our action. But it is obvious that the application of them must always be easier in some localities than in others. My object therefore, in now proceeding to Madras is, not to urge upon the

administrative authorities of that presidency the adoption of any system of operations devised, *à priori*, without due reference to local peculiarities, but to endeavour by frank unprejudiced personal conference with his Grace the Governor, to ascertain how far it may be practically in my power to place unreservedly at his disposal, for the furtherance of measures approved by his judgment and experience, all those resources which are commanded only by the Government of India

32 Two or three such measures are, indeed, already foreshadowed by the Duke of Buckingham in an important and suggestive Minute, which has only just reached me. In this Minute his Grace has practically overruled the opinion of those who wanted to give extraordinary diet and comforts, costing about several rupees a month per head, to all inmates of relief camps. He has also wisely decided that none who can work shall be relieved except on public works, and he has indicated some large public works, mainly of irrigation, which will supply labour for all applicants in six districts and parts of two others

33 Should it be found possible to develop yet further the salutary principles on which these decisions are based, by bringing the whole of that portion of the relieved population capable of work under a well organised engineering supervision, one of the great dangers with which the Madras Presidency is now threatened will have been successfully averted. But, even to carry out with complete efficiency the wise measures already announced by his Grace, the local Public Works Department will, I should think, require some addition to the strength of its staff, and some relaxation of departmental rules. The Governor of Madras has, no doubt rightly, preferred schemes for storing surplus water to projects for carrying it away; and the Madras engineers are, perhaps, the best hydraulic engineers in all India. It will be my earnest endeavour to afford the Government of Madras every encouragement and assistance in my power, for the prompt and bold development of large local public works of every useful kind. In the circumstances we have now to deal with, it is not absolutely necessary that such works should be remunerative in the ordinary sense. Since relief labour must now be employed, and employed on an enormous scale, it is, in my opinion, a matter of primary importance that it should be employed on works of the greatest possible permanent utility, even though such works be wanting in the remunerative conditions requisite to justify our sanction of them in ordinary times

34 So long as we might reasonably hope that the worst difficulties and dangers of the Madras famine would by this time be passing over, I have purposely refrained from visiting that Presidency, lest my presence there should, however unintentionally, prove embarrassing, rather than helpful, to the efforts of the local Government

35 But, in face of the facts recorded and reviewed in the preceding paragraphs of this Minute, I can no longer question the urgency of my own duty, and that of all concerned, under the pressure of a natural calamity greater than any which, so far as I know, has in modern times afflicted India. It is now clear that the humane efforts of the Madras Government have proved insufficient to diminish the intensity, or reduce the area, of this calamity. The distress, which appears to be increasing with frightful rapidity, must, even under the most skilful, the most economical, and the most energetic management, strain to the utmost the administrative abilities of the local Government, and the financial resources of the Empire. Therefore I cannot doubt that the Governor of Madras is entitled to receive from the Viceroy the unreserved assistance of all the technical skill and special experience this Empire can furnish, for the relief of the people and the revenue by a vigorous prosecution of the wisest measures that can be devised. In short, we are now fairly engaged in a terrible conflict with nature—our line of battle has been broken at Madras and Mysore, and it is therefore at these points we should now concentrate all our reserved force

36 Nothing could be further from my intention than to interfere unduly with the local authorities, and the devoted officers, who have so long and zealously been combating the growth of a gigantic catastrophe. Although, up to the present moment, the result has not equalled the assiduity of their untiring efforts, yet the energy and devotion of the district officers throughout Madras, during the protracted and increasing strain upon their physical and mental faculties, cannot, I think, be too highly or gratefully appreciated. It is not to inadequate energy or intelligence, but to inadequate numbers and inadequate executive powers, that I attribute the incompleteness of their success

37 My journey, therefore, to the famine-stricken districts of Southern India, and more especially my journey to Madras, is prompted by the hope that it may enable me to strengthen and augment the means on which his Grace the Governor of that Presidency is now dependent for the satisfactory solution of a problem as serious as any which has ever occupied the mind, or taxed the abilities, of an Indian statesman

38 I think that the highest expert talent procurable from any part of India should now, at once, be placed unreservedly at the disposal of the Duke of Buckingham His Grace will be able to supplement and direct the special knowledge of experts by the large generalisations of a varied experience. Such a combination can scarcely fail to ensure ultimately to the Government of His Grace an administrative success commensurate with the magnitude of those difficulties which nothing short of the coolest judgment and most resolute firmness can now overcome

(Signed) LYTTON.

No. 132.

Telegram, dated 13th August 1877.

FROM GOVERNOR OF MADRAS TO SECRETARY OF STATE

Please direct Medical Officers of Madras Army now on sick leave in Europe to return to duty, unless pronounced to be unfit for present service in the tropics

No 133

Telegram, dated 14th August 1877.

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE TO VICEROY.

Ahmedabad Pahlunpore Railway We authorise construction on broad gauge

No. 134

Telegram, dated 14th August 1877

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE

Please order immediate compliance with entire indent for Western Rajputana line, forwarded with Despatch 182 of 1876, shipping everything to Bombay till further advised. The essential materials first wanted are rails and fastenings, sleepers, points, and crossings, locomotives, break-vans, trolleys, low sided and covered waggons, for at least 100 miles of line, the continued drought in parts and difficulties of distributing food may call for temporary lines of railway, and this material will be kept in Bombay till wanted. We have no spare material at present, and therefore no reduction should be made in this indent in consequence of our wish to carry out southern section of Western Rajputana Railway on broad gauge. Your approval of our proposal on this last head is also earnestly solicited, so that earthworks may be commenced

No. 135.

Telegram, dated 14th August 1877.

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE TO VICEROY.

Yours July 30th Locomotives Great Indian. If ordered immediately 12 can be delivered here December, remainder January, February, March
I am willing to give authority if you agree. Telegraph reply

No. 136.

Telegram, dated 14th August 1877.

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE TO VICEROY.

Dhond Railway As your available resources are limited, we think it better that you should decide at Madras what lines you wish to pledge yourself to
Let me know your views after inquiry at Madras

No 137.

Telegram, dated 15th August 1877.

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE

Your telegram of the 10th We do not fully understand the object of it Our instructions about publicity refer only to local purchases from trade We decided at outset that private trade would import grain more efficiently than Government, and we have lately reasserted publicly our determination not to interfere.

Do you intend to say that you think it probable that Government ought to make large import of grain? We can foresee no circumstances under which such Government interference with private trade would not be ruinous mistake. Trade towards famine country from Bengal, Central and Northern India is most active, and we see no reason to doubt that the necessary supplies will be furnished. We are convinced that far more food from abroad or elsewhere will reach Madras if we leave private enterprise to itself, and we should paralyse it by Government competition. Free trade cannot co-exist with Government importation.

Even if we anticipated failure in source of supply, we should still believe that Government interference would only decrease total amount of food available, and aggravate catastrophe. If Her Majesty's Government should think differently, we request we may receive distinct intimation of the fact. We cannot take upon ourselves any responsibility for a course which would be, in our opinion, fatal, nor can we usefully give calculations. Local estimates say from four to five thousand tons of grain must be imported daily. Grain actually ready for export on Great Indian Peninsula Railway reported to be 120,000 tons. Stocks in Bengal, Central India, Northern India, believed to be large.

No 138

Telegram, dated 15th August 1877.

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE

General improvement in prospects of season in Madras, Mysore, Bombay, and North-West maintained during present week. In Madras, moderate rain in Chingleput, Salem, Trichinopoly, North Arcot, Kurnool, Bellary, Nellore, and Kistna, and also in parts of Cuddapah, Madura, Tinnevely, but light in Tanjore, South Arcot, Coimbatore. In Mysore good showers, in Coorg abundant rain.

Rain still much wanted in Punjab, Rajputana, and western part of North-West Provinces.

Of Bombay, Temple telegraphs message begins,—rain good in Southern Collectories, continues partial and uncertain in rest of famine area, Concan and western tracts light, but sufficient for cultivation. Some autumn crop lost, but much still preserved by frequent light showers. Anxiety still felt regarding Guzerat and Kattywar. Prices of grain slightly easier, still very high, coast and all imports increasing, improvement of situation retarded by want of general rain, people feeling still more continued pressure of high prices. Difficulty in Bombay aggravated by state of Madras Presidency and Nizam's dominions, and by inability of railway to bring forward grain sufficient for great demand. Message ends.

Prices of grain continue exceedingly high throughout famine districts, but in Madras are slightly easier than in week preceding, and still are lower in every part of that presidency than in worst parts of Bombay and Mysore. The question of grain stocks and supplies continues to cause anxiety. Regarding stocks in Calcutta, previous information confirmed. Eden reports, after full conference with Calcutta firms, that trade is most active, ninety thousand tons shipping engaged, monsoon not likely to interfere much.

Condition of Mysore continues critical. We have sanctioned as relief work earthwork of railway from station to town of Bangalore.

Numbers relieved generally increasing in Madras, further increase one hundred eighty-nine thousand, making three hundred eighty-five thousand increase in last fortnight. This appears partly owing to village money dole system, of which we have requested reconsideration. In Mysore labourers on works decreasing, and charitably relieved increasing. In Bombay reverse occurring, but slight general increase in totals relieved.

In Madras 983,000 on works, 1,001,600 charitably. In Mysore 43,000 on works, 164,000 charitably. In Bombay 265,000 on works, 119,000 charitably.

No 139.

Telegram, dated 16th August 1877.

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE

Please order immediate completion of State Railway broad gauge engines for which we have indented, and let us know by what dates first deliveries can be made in England, and at what rate continued. Also, if more of same type be now ordered, when and at what rate can deliveries be made. On receipt of this information, which we would wish to have early, we shall be better able to make final recommendation on Peninsula Company's demand for 100 engines.

No 140

Telegram, dated August 16, 1877.

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

I start to-morrow for Madras and Mysore. No change in position of affairs. I consider the present state of things frightful, and future prospects most alarming. There is everywhere the greatest zeal and devotion, but want of unity in administrative authority. My desire is to introduce into Madras a system similar to that which has worked with admirable success in Bombay, to employ the people on great works of permanent value, and, while relieving as far as possible all real distress, to apply proper tests. We have in the excellent administration of the Bombay famine a model for imitation in Madras. My plan is to induce the Duke to take into his own hands the entire management of the Famine Department, with General Kennedy as his chief executive officer. I will place at his disposal the best ability and experience that India can furnish, to act in any way that he desires in co-operation with his own officers, and will then leave him entirely unfettered by interference of Supreme Government. The strong local officers are admirable, and I desire that the Duke should give his orders to them without intervention of Council or Revenue Board. He would be his own Famine Dictator, as Lord Northbrook virtually was in 1874.

No 141

MR A. C. LYALL TO COLONEL BURNE.

Encl. in
No 215

MY DEAR COLONEL BURNE,

16th August 1877

I AM very much afraid that the whole of Rajpootana, north and west of the Travellis, from near Deera in the extreme south-west to Ulunr in the north-west, is threatened with serious dearth. Up to this date, if rainfall of two or three inches in the middle of July be excepted, the south-west monsoon has failed altogether, and we have had much less rain than in the season of 1868, which was followed by the famine of 1868-69. The crops are already damaged widely, and what is almost more important in the great pastoral plains of the west the grass is withering up. Nevertheless, if rain falls before the end of August, and plentifully, we shall escape (the natives tell me) a famine, but if the drought continues, it will go hard with the country. Eastward and southward of the Travellis the condition of the country is not so precarious, but it is bad everywhere, though in the south-east there is less to be feared, because that part of Rajpootana usually gets some of the later rain from the Bay of Bengal.

I leave Aboo in a few days, as soon as my baggage has got ahead, and I go first to Jodhpur, then to Ajmere, where I shall take up my quarters. Unless matters mend, we shall be obliged to begin relief works soon, and it will probably be of great use to push on the Western Rajpootana Railway into Marwar. Perhaps the Public Works Department may be instructed to give very early consideration to any proposals of that nature which I may send from Ajmere.

I remain, &c
(Signed) A C LYALL

No 142.

MR C A DANIELL TO MR C ROBERTSON, Secretary to the Government, North-West Provinces and Oudh.

Encl. in
No 215

MY DEAR ROBERTSON,

Jhansi, 16th August 1877

I am afraid we are drifting into a condition which must very soon call for unusual measures.

Our last rain fell on the evening of the 6th, and up to last Saturday, 11th, we were just holding our own. Since then we have had nothing but sunshine, dry air, occasional high wind from the south and west, with no present appearance of any change for the better.

I have no doubt but that, if we get a reasonable fall of rain by the 25th, we may hope to pull through so far as to save a fair amount of crops sown in Jhansi, and a good amount in Lalitpur, and to admit of even some being sown during the last week of the month.

In the Jalaun district, however, the failure is more than in this district (Jhansi), and unless we get there in Jalaun good healthy rains within a week, I doubt if there will be any kharif crop at all

In the whole division the difficulty which presents itself now is this. The poorer class of cultivators, the ploughmen and labourers, cannot get food except with great difficulty. The Banias close their advances to the cultivators, and the labourers have no work to do.

The Banias are in the habit of feeding the poorer class of cultivators on the strength of, and on the security of, the crops in the ground, whenever there is little or no crop sown, or when the sown crop is endangered by drought, the Banias close their money bags and refuse food or its equivalent. The people are then thrown on their own resources, which are *nil* in so many cases, and it is with regard to these people I now write.

We have at present fair stocks of grain, and prices at this moment are not very high, but the prices may rise at any time, and I expect a very rapid rise at the end of eight or nine days from now, unless we have good rain.

I have just had a long talk with Porter, and have to-day heard from White and Adams.

I shall, no doubt, I fear, in a few days have to recommend that works be thrown open for employment of those who are ready to come, and of necessity the question of funds must arise.

Lalitpur for the present can get on with the Saugor road, for which we have sanction.

In Jhansi Porter recommends the Mow and Jalaun road to begin with. This is a very desirable work, cutting the worst part of the district; plans and estimates have been prepared on the rough for some time, but have not been sent on; the work has been too much for the regular division funds.

White will in due course state his projects.

I write now to you to say that I fear I shall in all probability have to come up to you very soon for a demand for money.

May I now obtain demi-official sanction to make emergent advances within certain limits should our troubles come upon us too quickly to admit of regular sanction in time to save real distress.

The case will be reported officially directly I obtain from the Deputy Commissioners their official proposals.

I have to-day issued the circular for stock of food grains to the Deputy Commissioners.

Yours sincerely,
(Signed) C A DANIELL.

No 143

No 1425, telegram, dated 16th of August 1877.

TELEGRAM from DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF BARA BANKI, to the COMMISSIONER OF THE LUCKNOW DIVISION

Subject—Agricultural prospects of this district for week ending Thursday, the 16th August 1877

- Has the honour to submit a brief report on above
2. Unless rain should fall very soon, what little now remains of kharif will be lost, and the intermediate crops of mash and moth will not be sown
 3. Cattle are reported to have died from eating joar which has dried up
 4. Very hot wind blowing Thermometer in Court 96°

No 144

No. 1540. From DEPUTY-COMMISSIONER, HARDOI, to the COMMISSIONER, SITAPUR DIVISION, 16th August 1877

No rain except a slight shower at Hardoi. Kharif crops generally dried up. Cane much injured. Hot west wind. No prospect of rain.

No 145.

MEMORANDUM presented to the Viceroy by his Highness the MAHARAJA of JEYPORE, dated Agra, 17th August 1877

Encl in
No 215.

THE Maharaja's object in asking the favour of this interview with his Excellency the Viceroy is to acquaint his Excellency of the signs which are now visible on all sides of the fearful famine which is fast developing itself, not only in the Jeypore territory, but throughout Rajpootana, and even beyond it. The calamity, which was not at all apprehended two months ago, is now assuming so serious an aspect that his Highness has felt it necessary to wait on his Excellency for the favour of his Excellency's valuable advice as to the precautionary measures the Durbar should adopt for saving its people from the impending danger.

The following measures are now under consideration, and the Durbar will carry them out as soon as it is assured of their efficacy, and submit to Government its official reports on the subject. —

1 As the cultivating classes are already under the necessity of borrowing money and corn to save themselves from starvation, the Durbar would offer every inducement to the Bowras, or money-lenders, to lend money and corn to the subjects without hesitation. The Durbar would promise to help such money-lenders to recover the loans they may give as soon as the times are changed for the better. Should any money-lender hereafter find cause to bring any civil suit against any Raj subject, for the recovery of any such loan, the usual court-fees will be wholly remitted.

2 The Durbar would issue orders to the effect that the greatest discretion and lenity be used in realising all arrears of revenue and the dues for the current year, so that the cultivating classes may not be put to any inconvenience or difficulty.

3 At places where there may not be any Bowras, or money-lenders, the Raj would offer to lend money to the subjects from the State treasury without charging interest.

4. The agricultural classes are now keenly feeling the want of provender for the live-stock in their possession, the Raj would, therefore, pass orders that the cultivating classes be allowed to raise green vegetables on land surrounding wells, tanks, and on the sides of canals without any land-tax or dues of any kind. All pasture lands which are usually reserved for the Raj be thrown open to the agricultural and pastoral classes for grazing cattle.

5 In order to provide for day-labourers the Raj would undertake extensive irrigation works within the State and other works of public utility, and would commence working the stone quarries on an increased scale. It would also take in hand the preparation of all marble pillars and cut-stones which may hereafter be required for the Albert Hall and other public buildings proposed to be erected.

6 Preliminaries are now being arranged for opening almshouses for the aged and infirm, as well as others unable to earn their livelihood.

7 As increased distress of this kind is likely to cause increase of crimes, the Raj would add to the police force located at every station and issue special instructions for the guidance of police officers towards effectual suppression of plunder and theft.

8 All feudatories, jaghirdars, and other tenure-holders should be strictly ordered to adopt the same measures within their respective jurisdictions for relieving their own people.

9 The Durbar would pass orders to the effect that arrears of tribute and other dues should not, for the present, be demanded from these tenure-holders, so that they may be better able to take care of their people. The Durbar would also offer to lend money to such of them on indulgent terms as may already be in pecuniary difficulties.

The Maharaja would beg to submit the above measures to his Excellency the Viceroy for the benefit of his Excellency's valuable opinion as to their efficacy, and would also beg of his Excellency to favour him with further instructions which will enable the Durbar to save its subjects at this crisis. Should the rains unfortunately still hold off, the calamity will certainly become very serious, and in such a case the Durbar's exertions will scarcely be sufficient to cope with it. The Maharaja feels it his duty to inform his Excellency of the present state of affairs, and of his apprehensions for the future, before things assume a serious aspect, so that his Excellency may have sufficient time to think over the question, and that his Excellency's Government may be prepared to lend its kind assistance whenever the Durbar stand in need of it.

MR H. B. WEBSTER to MR C. ROBERTSON, Secretary to Government, North-Western Provinces and Oudh

MY DEAR ROBERTSON,

Mainpuri, 17th August 1877

I DARESAY Sir George would like to know something about the state of this division at once, so, without waiting for the detailed information which Collectors are gathering for me, I will give you a brief statement of the present condition and prospects of the country as far as I have knowledge, personal or acquired, from interrogation of Government officers, traders, and Zemindars

The staple food of the common people for a portion of the year (say, roughly, from October to March) consists in this part of the country of bajra, juwar, and pulses (moong, mote, and oord) Of these grains juwar alone has been sown to any extent, it has germinated and at least 50 per cent of the crop has escaped drying up and would now yield an average produce, *if rain should fall within 12 or 15 days* Bajra has as yet been but little sown, but in the Agra Division (I am assured on all hands) it will not be too late to sow it with every prospect of an average yield if rain fall within a fortnight, this would not be the case in Meerut, for there the seed sown now would produce little as it would surely be nipped before the perfect formation of the ear by the early frosts, there is no such danger here. The pulses cannot be sown now

To sum up, if rain fall within the next fortnight about half of what has been sown will produce a fair return, and the sowings, which will then become possible, will yield an average amount of produce

All the prospects of the kharif harvest then depend upon the weather of the next fortnight; at present the sky is cloudless, the wind steadily in the west, and the heat intense

Prices are on the rise, wheat is here at 16 to 16½ seers, and at Etawah 14½ seer per rupee

On the other side of the Jumna, in Gwalior and Bhurtpoor, the pressure of the drought is beginning to be felt by the people who are immigrating in weekly increasing numbers with their cattle in search of food and forage These immigrations have not yet reached important dimensions; I am carefully watching them, for they will (as they were in 1868) be a source of some embarrassment to us, and they certainly will, if they increase much, render it necessary for us to open relief works earlier than we should be compelled to do for the sake of our own people alone

If we do not get rain in abundance in September to enable the ground to be prepared and sown for the rabbi, the day labourers and the smaller class of cultivators will be in distress, and it will be necessary to find employment for them on useful public works.

My experience in the famines of 1860 and 1868 has convinced me of the immense importance of affording assistance to the labouring classes in the shape of employment on public works *early*

The thing is to get all such persons at work on ordinary rates *before they have had time to become enfeebled and emaciated by want* You thus (setting aside the merely humane view of the question) secure a fair day's work for a fair day's wage from your labourers employed on relief works, and avoid the pitiable waste of money which is the invariable result of letting men, reduced and weakened by insufficient nutriment, to labour for wages, even if those be fixed at the minimum which will support life There are two works which, I am informed by the Collectors, have received administrative sanction, and for which allotments have been made, which appear eminently suited to become relief works for Etawah and Mainpuri These are—(1), the new canal cut starting from somewhere in the Mustafabad Tahsil in the Mainpuri District, and running through the Shekoobad Tahsil down through the Etawah District to a place called Bhognipoor in Cawnpore, (in fact I believe that the projected cut is known by the name of the Bhognipoor Branch); and (2), the extension of the Lower Ganges Canal which (already partially excavated) passes through the northern and eastern parts of the Mainpuri District I think that in the present very doubtful state of the agricultural prospects of the neighbourhood it would be *most advisable* to call on the Canal Department to have matters so arranged that it should be possible to begin operations on these two works with large gangs immediately on the first appearance of distress

I will, as soon as possible, in consultation with district officers, prepare other projects for immediate commencement in case of need in other districts

The two works above mentioned will, I think, suffice for the possible needs of Etawah and Mainpuri, and their nature renders them most appropriate relief works

I hope I have not made it appear that I am an alarmist, or that I take an unnecessarily gloomy view of affairs in thus asking that we may be prepared with relief works, matured and ready for the immediate commencement of work should the necessity arise. I do not take at all a gloomy view in reality, but I wish to be ready for the work, I fully share the hopeful frame of mind in which, I am glad to say, both land-owners and cultivators still are; they are a long way from the beginning of despair, and the predictions of the Pundits, that timely rain will fall are fortunately believed in by all classes of natives, with the result of keeping them in spirits and preventing them falling into that dull and apathetic state which was among the worst of the effects of the drought of 1868 in the cultivating classes; who (in the Saharanpore District at any rate) were so dispirited at the approach of misfortune that they would hardly make an attempt to help themselves; in many places they would not even attempt to dig kutchra wells, though the soil was in all respects suitable to them and I offered to pay the expense of the operation

With regard to grain stocks, the detailed inquiries ordered by Government are going on, and I will report the result as soon as they are complete; but I can say that all classes of persons whom I have interrogated in the different parts of the division I have visited, are agreed that the grain stock now in the hands of the Zemindars and of the corn-dealers is very large, in spite of the heavy exportation which has been going on for some months past. *Apropos* to this subject I may mention that the dealers who had already sent grain for despatch to the railway stations are now (induced thereto by the rise of prices) removing such portions as the Company has been unable to carry up to date

This retention of the stock of grain originally intended for exportation has caused a slight fall in prices

The health of the people is generally good. I will write a detailed official account of matters when I return to Agra a week hence, by which time I shall have seen a very large proportion of the division and have received the reports of Collectors of the inspections they and their Assistants are now making under my orders

Yours sincerely,
(Signed) H. B. WEBSTER.

No 147.

No. 3357, telegram, dated 17th August 1877.

TELEGRAM from the DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF LUCKNOW to the COMMISSIONER OF LUCKNOW
DIVISION

Subject—Agricultural report for the week ending the 16th of August 1877.

There were eight-tenths of rain in Mohanlalgunj on evening of the 12th, and one inch and two-tenths in Mallhabad. No rain in Tehsil Lucknow except some slight showers which could not be measured

Prospects of kharif crops unfavourable. Hot winds blowing.

No. 148.

TELEGRAM from the DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, UNAO, to the COMMISSIONER OF LUCKNOW.

Hot winds Unirrigated crops burnt up. Koari hopeless. Aghani daily more critical.

No. 149

No 1,602 From the DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, KHERI, to the COMMISSIONER, SITAPUR
DIVISION 17th August 1877

I am unable to send you a more favourable report this week. Excepting two-tenths of an inch at the Sadar on Tuesday, about noon, and a drizzle on Tuesday night at Mohundi, there has been no rain gauged at any of the three Tehsil rain gauges

There was good rain on the other side of the Chauka, at Jankinagar, in the Bhow Taluk between the Singhai and Dhaurehra Parganahs, in Tehsil Nighasen, and the police at the Dhaurehra Thana give favourable accounts of the crops in the Terai Parganahs of Dhaurehra and Firozabad. The Singhai report is not so favourable.

Lightning was observed on Sunday evening a great distance off due south, but I have been unable to learn that it reached this district.

Speaking generally, excepting in the Terai portion of the district, the prospects are gloomy. The crops in the highlands are reported to be rapidly drying up, and those in lowlands even to be suffering much from want of rain. During yesterday and to-day hot winds from the west have commenced to blow.

One curious feature in the present drought is shown in the drying up of jowar this year, which has acquired in the process a poison which is fatal to any cattle eating it. The Tahsildar of Mohamdi reports the death of 60 head of cattle from this cause, and his account of the fatality to animals eating is confirmed by Messrs. Healsey and Carnegy, landowners in that Zillah.

No. 150.

Telegram, dated 17th August 1877.

FROM GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

Have journeyed South Mahratta country; crops excellent there, August rains being favourable, but prices continue extremely high, though trade is active. Regret no good news of rain elsewhere, and monsoon still scanty everywhere, save in Concan, where rains somewhat better. Renewed tendency decrease numbers relief works, but pressure of prices augments numbers on gratuitous relief; no trouble in any district save Kaladgi, where deficient monsoon has reduced people generally, and caused numbers on relief to rise excessively. Great anxiety and difficulty in meeting demands for carriage of grain by rail for want of enough engines. Demands of famine supplied by suspending general traffic, but engines and drivers overworked.

No. 151.

Telegram, dated 17th August 1877.

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

Dhond Railway. Our first object in indenting for rails and sleepers is to use this line, even temporarily, for facilitating carriage of grain to famine-stricken districts of Southern India, and to guard against a possible break on the Western Ghâts, a catastrophe which would be attended at this crisis with the most disastrous results. We would press for an immediate compliance with our indent, which, in any case, need not embarrass us in any subsequent decision with reference to other railways that may be projected.

No. 152.

MR. R. M. EDWARDS to MR. C. ROBERTSON, Secretary to Government, North-western Provinces and Oudh.

MY DEAR ROBERTSON, Budaon, 18th August 1877.

The enclosed will show his Honour that matters are very bad here, far worse than in Bareilly. The whole way, 22 miles, from the Ramganga to this place there is scarcely a green field to be seen.

The area prepared for the kharif is sown in Tahsil Sahaswan, the same as in usual years, but in only two Tahsils and one Pargana, of a third has half the tilled area been sown, the remaining five parganas only exhibit one-ninth, one-eighth, or one-third. The unsown area is already for seed, and, if rain falls within the next eight or even ten days, an immense quantity of bajra will be put into the ground; if rain holds off beyond that period, then all becomes dark and gloomy. The scarcity, as yet, is mainly confined to the common labourers, for whom there is none of the usual field weeding. These men cannot last beyond 10 days without assistance, and neither Mahajans nor Zemindars will

give any The latter have all the Assamees' grain, and refuse even a chittack, rejecting all Tumussooks, promises to pay, &c There is, I believe, ample grain in the "Kathis," but the only thing likely to make the Mahajan open his store is the fear of his having it looted—a far from improbable contingency. The people are applying to the Collector to force the Zemindars to give them grain on their bonds, and I have heard of Assamees distinctly telling their Zemindars that the grain intended for the market town should not leave the village. A party of 29 men were sent in to-day for looting grain which was being despatched, the poor emaciated fellows one and all admitted it saying they got five seers each and took it to save their own lives and those of their families. The best disposed find that their strenuous efforts to irrigate are foiled by the dry west wind, which literally burns up the soil and everything in it. The heat is terrific, but the health of all good. What is wanted is labour. I have told Sandys to start all his road repairs at once. The dry weather is opposed to good and effective work, but we must not delay until the people get too weak to work or until they are forced to support life by theft and violence.

Authority should be sent to Sandys here to commence relief-works the very hour he finds it is absolutely necessary. I have arranged what they shall be, and they can be started at 12 hours' notice. I give a list further on. Should it be necessary to have more extensive ones, I would suggest that the earth-work of the Oudh and Rohilkhund Railway continuation from Moradabad towards Bijnour be commenced. Employment will fill bellies and keep the people out of mischief and prevent their sitting idly, brooding over their future. If this is not done within the next 10 days, so far as this district is concerned, there will be serious and general crime and an overflowing jail, unless, of course, rain falls in sufficient quantity. Hitherto the little that has fallen has been so partial that only a very general tour through the entire district will procure the necessary acquaintance with the actual facts. Sandys and Robinson go out in accordance with the last Government circular received to-day. The enclosed shows the crop probable three days ago, but the cane is losing an anna every day of this west wind. All yesterday it blew very strong; to-day is almost still. I find the Pillibhit sub-division to be far better off than was anticipated, and Major Parsons is straining his canals to the uttermost. The alarm here is very general with too good reason, but I still look hope-fully for rain. None of the other district reports have reached me here, and I hope they have been sent direct. I go back to Bareilly to-night, and will send fuller details on Monday. I hurry this to save the Dak, which goes inconveniently early. I have closely examined all the Tahsildars and have interviewed many natives. One and all have the same cry "If we get good rain within eight or at most ten days, we shall pull through; but any longer delay will here cause a vast deal of suffering," and we must be prepared for the sad contingency.

Yours sincerely,
(Signed) R. M EDWARDS.

Proposed works on which to employ the poorest—

Repairs to second-class roads

Do to third-class do.

Construction of road from Kulrala to Oosehut, 25 miles.

Consolidation of Budaon and Aounla road, 19 miles

Increase width of this road by 10 feet (earth portions)

Construction of a bund to prevent the Ganges running up the Maharananuddi and flooding numerous villages 10 feet at top, 80 at base. Probable cost 12,000 rupees

These will employ a great many. Authorities at Narora have been asked if they can utilise labour

Works will have to be simultaneously started in other districts or the poor and starving will flock into Budaon

(Signed) R. M. EDWARDS.

For what Period.	Weather and Rain-fall	Agricultural Operations and Prospects.	Prices	Health.	General Conditions and Prospects of the Crop.
From 10th August to 18th inclusive	Hot and strong wind from west blowing throughout district. Rain-fall— Budaon, 14th Aug. 1 Bisauli - - - 8 No rain elsewhere	BUDAON The showers on 14th allowed of some sowing for kharif and ploughing for rabbi. All the young crops much injured by the hot wind and irrigation almost abandoned as useless. Almost all kharif area tilled, but less than one-half sown.	Wheat - 8 0 Barley - 16 8 Rice, first - 9 9½ Do, second 12 0 Gram - - 17 6 Urd - - 15 9½ Moong - 15 0 Urhar - 16 12½ Prices falling fast. Wheat, 18½ seers on 18th	Good -	Prospects very gloomy. Agricultural labourers already in great straits as there is no field-weeding or other employment for them. Loads of wood or grass brought from the jungle, which usually fetch 2 annas per load, are sold for 2 pice. Zemindars and Mahajans storing their grain expecting higher prices, and will not assist Assamese. Extensive or wealthy Zemindars are scarcely known in district. Last rabbi was excellent and plenty of grain said to be in district. Crmo increasing.
Up to 17th August, by telegram	Very damaging west wind prevailed during week, injuring all crops, especially sugar and checking ploughing and spring crops	MORADABAD Ploughing for rabbi partial. Prospects bad	Prices rising fast	Do -	People said to be losing heart
Up to and including August 14th. No telegraph station	No rain. Wind mostly westerly during week, strong and very hot, drying up the young crop and sugar-cane. Prospects more discouraging weekly	BENOUR Prospects very gloomy	Prices rising - - Wheat has risen to 17s 7c from 19 seers Government weight	Do -	The Collector is in the interior of the district making personal inquiries. Nothing good to report, but no direct intelligence from Collector of very late date.
By letter and telegraph. Up to 18th August.	No rain. violent hot winds from west.	SHAHJAHANPUR The general rain-fall throughout the district since 1st July has been 2.9. The average for the same period for the last five years has been 19.8. Save where irrigation is plentiful, sugar and cotton crops are in an almost hopeless state. Other crops scarcely exist, save in Tahsil Farnayan, which has had 8.6 of rain.	On 18th wheat fell to 15 seers, but has since been selling at 16s 7c Barley - 8 c Gram - 24 to 24 Rice - - 8 to 12	Do -	The area usually cultivated for the kharif is about 327,421 acres, area tilled this year, 222,789, area sown, 138,608, area in which the seed has germinated, 114,517. Prospects best in Tahsil Farnayan and Jelaishad, worst in Shahjahanpur and Tilbur.
Up to 19th August	No rain - - - Strong westerly winds throughout week, burning up the sugar-cane and young crops	BAERILLY The drying properties after continuous high west wind defeats all efforts at common irrigation	Prices rising - - Wheat, 13 seers. Baerilly, weight 102	Very good.	Collector says there is nothing new to report. Prospects are becoming worse daily

(Signed) R. M. EDWARDS,
Commissioner

No. 153.

Encl. in
No. 215.

MR. C. P. CARMICHAEL to MR. C. ROBERTSON, Secretary to North-Western Provinces and Oudh

MY DEAR ROBERTSON,

Benares, 18th August 1877

LOOKING to the fact that we have had no rain here since Saturday week, and that for the last four days a hot and strong westerly wind has been blowing, I had hardly hoped to have been able to send to you anything like a cheerful report. But Basti excepted (for the western portion of which district I have great fears), we are

as yet safe But I cannot say what may not happen if another week of this hot wind continues

Benares—Church writes,—“Notwithstanding that no rain has fallen since my last report, and that at the present moment a high westerly wind prevails, I see no reason at present to apprehend any serious failure of the kharif provided we have rain in the next few days Travelling down the rail the other day to Phulpur (this is in the direction of Jaunpur), I was surprised at the fine condition of the crops, especially cane and flax The rice also looked green and good, but it is of course likely to suffer unless timely rain should come”

Mirzapur—Lumsden writes,—“Rain-fall from 7th to 13th August was as follows; Mirzapur nine notches, Chunar *nil*, at Robetsganj 11 notches, at Chakia 46 notches, at Kourh 10 notches. More rain required for the kharif crops, especially in the Chunar Tahsil If it keeps off much longer, prospects will be as bad as before.

Azamgarh—Gardener writes:—“The early kharif crops are suffering from want of rain The planting out of rice is being effected wherever irrigation is practicable, but the full area will in no case be planted Fear is entertained that the sugar cane will be deteriorated Rain anxiously awaited.”

Ghazipur—Barstow gives a very full report The pith of it is that prospects are good in those Tahsils which border on the Ganges, or more properly speaking, in the low lands of those Tahsils Tahsils Balia, Kooruntadih, Saidapur, and Zamaniah are all good Ghazipur not so, and Rasrah decidedly bad, the rice crop there as also the cane being seriously injured Prices of grain, however, stationary; barley being 28 seers and wheat 18 seers for the rupee Urd 21 seers, urhur 32, bajara 18, rice 14. The abundance of rain they have had in Patna adjoining evidently keeps down the prices. I fear the kharif in the Rasrah Tahsil is all but gone

Gorakhpur—Moens writes:—“After I had written my last report we had fair showers of rain on the 8th and 9th, since then to 15th great heat and bright sun which did much damage to the young crops To-day (15th, date of his report) we are having a heavy shower It is the first really heavy monsoon like rain we have had, and it will do much good The crops to the east and north of the district looking very well on the whole To the west and south, where there has been but little rain, the crops are poor and backward” He concludes by saying that “on the whole to-day’s rain, if general, will make things look brighter than they did last week”

Basti—In a demi-official dated yesterday (the 17th) from Markham, he writes.—“Nothing could possibly look worse than at present Yesterday and to-day we have hot westerly winds To-day it is like the *loo* of April Half a tornado, and loaded with dust” In his official report simultaneously received, he writes,—“To the west the crops are in a very bad way, and in parts the people have begun to graze their cattle on the rice. Everywhere, except in Bansi, and in parts of Khalilabad, the general outlook is distinctly worse than at date of last report In Bansi things are improved and to the north-east of Khalilabad a recent copious shower has revived the face of the country. The vitality of the crops is proverbial, and I have reason to think that if good rain were even now to set in, taking one tract with another, a good eight-anna crop would still be realised Prices stationary, and health of district good”

The above will show you that in Benares we are as yet safe In Mirzapur the same, the Chunar Tahsil excepted, where rain is much wanted Ghazipur good, all excepted the Rustah Tahsil Azamgarh critical and shaking for want of rain Gorakhpur a great improvement on last week’s report, and Basti fairly good to north and east, bad to west All will depend on the next ten days, or say fortnight at the outside If rain comes by then, the kharif crop is saved, if not lost, and our thoughts must be turned then to wishing for late rains for the sowing of the rabbi I go over to Mirzapur on Wednesday, and shall stay there for three or four days and confer with Lumsden and his Tahsildars After my return here I shall leave for Ghazipur, Azamgarh, Gorakhpur, and Basti I can hardly expect to get back here much before the 15th proximo unless I can sets in, when I shall terminate my travels abruptly. The heat is something fearful

Yours sincerely,
(Signed) C P. CARMICHAEL.

Encl. in
No. 215.

No. 154.

Telegram, dated 18th August 1877.

TELEGRAM from the COMMISSIONER, LUCKNOW, to the SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, North-western Provinces.

No rain of consequence except in some Lucknow villages where about one inch fell
Hot winds. Prospects daily worse.Encl. in
No. 215.

No. 155

FROM the DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, SITAPUR, to the COMMISSIONER, SITAPUR DIVISION
18th August 1877.

No rain For the last four days a strong west wind drying up everything

Encl. in
No. 215

No. 156.

No 2597, dated Naini Tal, the 18th August 1877.

COMMISSIONER, SITAPUR DIVISION, to the SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, North-Western
Provinces and Oudh

Report of agricultural prospects in the Sitapur Division

Submits for the information of his Honour the Lieutenant-Governor and Chief
Commissioner, copies of the Deputy Commissioner's
Reports detailed in the margin.D C H's No. 1,540, dated 18th August 1877
D C K's " 1,602, " 17th " "
D C S's " " 18th " "Encl. in
No. 215.

No. 157.

MR. A. FRASER to all COLLECTORS and DEPUTY COMMISSIONERS, North-Western Provinces
and OudhEXTRACT from the PROCEEDINGS of the GOVERNMENT, North-Western Provinces and
Oudh, Nos. 372-418 A.C., dated Naini Tal, the 18th August 1877

Read the following. —

To all Collectors and Deputy Commissioners, North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

DEAR SIR,

It is within the bounds of possibility that the want of rain this year may result
in at any rate a partial failure of the kharif crop, and the Lieutenant-Governor is
of opinion that, although there is no immediate danger of famine, or even of scarcity,
yet it would be advisable to be prepared (in the event of the continued dry weather
resulting in the destruction of the crops) with matured projects to meet the requirements
of relief to a small or large extent.2. I am, however, to impress upon you that the preparation of these projects is only a
precautionary measure to meet a contingency that the Lieutenant-Governor trusts is only
remotely possible, and as it would be inadvisable that a mistaken impression should
get abroad that his Honour considers a condition of scarcity to be imminent, I am to
request that you will consider this communication as confidential, and prepare, with the
aid of your District Engineer, the necessary projects to meet all possible contingencies,
without making public the views of Government3. I am to refer you to the annexed extracts* from Chapter XIII.A. of the Public
Works Code, paragraphs 36 and 37, and to observe that the object
of the Government is, in adopting
the gradual scale of work therein
enjoined, to start relief by exe-
cuting works of use to the State
at ordinary rates, with full task
of labour.* 36 It is important that the means of obtaining work and food should be
brought within the reach of the people of a distressed district as early as
possible, and that the offer of relief should not be delayed so long as to lead to
their strength being destroyed by continued want before they are provided with
employment. All danger of creating any objectionable interference with
the natural demand for labour on these occasions is at once rendered impossible
by properly limiting the wages offered on relief-works. If the rate is fixed so
low as merely to give a bare subsistence, it is certain that no one will seek
employment on the relief-works who can do better for himself in any other
occupation. When a real pressure begins, the real sufferers will be led to the
works, and, as soon as that pressure is taken off, they will leave them.37 The distinction between employment in time of famine on ordinary
works, where a full rate of wages is given, and a full quantity of work is exacted
in return,—and on relief-works, where a bare subsistence is given for whatever
work the labourer can perform,—must be distinctly remembered. The two
classes of works may, with perfect propriety, be going on at the same time not
only without interference, but with mutual advantage. The relief-works at which
support is given without labour, the relief works at which a subsistence is
given for a minimum of labour, and the ordinary works where ordinary wages
can be earned for the full day's work, provide for the labouring population a
gradation between the most complete pauperism and misery, and the healthy
state of self-supporting labour4 Your project should take
the form of separate lists of works
under the following heads, and
should be progressive, being
graduated to meet the require-
ments of your district in stages
of less or greater distress.

5 The works that should first engage your attention should be those connected with repairs to communication, and might be enumerated under the heading.—

A Repairs—

I.—Repairs to first-class roads.

These would comprise the collection of a supply of metal sufficient for the repair of the road for the next three or four years, and the thorough repairs to the patris or unmetalled portions

II.—Raising and improving second-class roads, so as to place them in a condition to require but trifling repairs for some years to come.

III.—Improving third and fourth class roads.

IV.—Improving approaches to boat bridges, and ferries.

V.—Repairs to canals, tanks, bunds, &c.

VI.—Repairs to drainage works.

6. In the event, however, of these projects not affording sufficient work for the needy population, and of the necessity arising for instituting relief works at reduced rates, so as to meet the principles laid down in the paragraphs of the Code above quoted, it would be necessary to turn to original works as a source of relief, and I am therefore to request that you will supplement the repairs list with others, under the head of—

*B. Original Works—*which should comprise—

I.—Works for which projects, which have received the sanction of Government in either this Department or in the Irrigation branch, exist, and which have been postponed for want of funds

II.—Works which have received the administrative sanction of Government in the General or in the Public Works Department, in either of its branches

III.—Works that have not received the sanction of Government, but for which projects have been more or less considered and matured by you.

IV.—Works which have as yet been unconsidered, but which in your opinion would at once form an efficient mode of affording relief, and be subsequently of use to the district, and for which you could prepare projects without additional agency

V.—Works, the preparation of projects for which would require your obtaining additional assistance from the department.

NB—The list for repairs and original works should be separate under each head in the Buildings and Roads, and Irrigation branches, and the list of projects under head V might be submitted hereafter should the necessity of greater relief become obvious

7. Looking forward even to the worst contingency, viz, the absence of rain in September, resulting in the loss of the rabi crops. It may be presumed, considering the excellence of the cold weather crops of 1876-77, that there are large stocks of grain in the country; and that consequently the increase of distress in your district could only be very gradual, and it is with a view to meeting the possible gradually increasing demands for relief, without incurring unnecessary expenditure to the State, that you have been requested to arrange your proposals on a progressive system, so that the requirements of the district, so far as relief works are concerned, may be met at every possible stage.

8 The form that accompanies this letter will enable you to fill up a statement that will furnish all the necessary information to enable Government, in the event of the initiation of relief works becoming necessary, to instruct you as to the way in which relief can be afforded with the greatest advantage to the inhabitants of your district, combined with a minimum of direct loss to the State; and in view to this desirable end, I am directed to impress upon you the necessity for giving the preparation of this return your most serious attention.

9. Having completed your return, you will submit it to the Commissioner of your division, who will be instructed to forward it (with such remarks as his experience and knowledge of your district may dictate) to Government; and it is hoped that armed with ample data, such as will be furnished by these reports (if carefully prepared), his Honour will be in a position to meet most satisfactorily the requirements of your district, should scarcity or even famine render the direct intervention of Government necessary for its relief

10 I am directed to reiterate the assurance that Sir George Cooper sees no immediate cause for alarm, and to impress upon you the necessity for avoiding any action that might lead to the impression that scarcity in any of the districts of the North-

Western Provinces and Oudh was in any way anticipated by the Government, but, I am finally to request that you will carefully bear in mind the principles for relief in time of famine laid down in Chapter XIII. of the Public Works Code

Yours, &c
(Signed) ALEX. FRASER.

No. 158.

Telegram, dated 18th August 1877

FROM GOVERNOR OF MADRAS TO SECRETARY OF STATE

After fullest consideration of railway famine requirements, possible aid from India, and consultation with railway officials, we have decided that 20 locomotives, 600 high-sided waggons, and 80 break-vans are urgently and immediately required for Madras Railway. Railway officers' estimate much greater. Locomotives should be Trevethick's design, not similar to new Kitson's, waggons carrying 12 tons each, break-vans weighing 10 tons. Please sanction and communicate to Directors for immediate execution and despatch

No. 159.

Telegram, dated 19th August 1877

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE TO VICEROY

(Replying to telegram from Viceroy, dated 15th August 1877, p 117.)

I do not understand your objection to making calculations. Situation is one requiring extreme vigilance, and Government should possess all attainable information which can enable it to forecast probable necessities of people and available sources of supply. The importation of grain into any district will only become incumbent on Government where it appears probable that trade will fail to provide food necessary for keeping population alive, and where Government is able to supply the deficiency. Except in this exigency, I admit that competition with private trade would discourage it, and therefore would be dangerous. Such exigency is not probable because obstacle which will hinder private trade will usually hinder Government also, but in an utterly abnormal calamity such exigency is not impossible, and should not be excluded from your consideration. It will be well to ascertain how far probable arrivals of grain correspond with estimated need

No. 160.

MR. R. M. EDWARDS to MR. C. ROBERTSON, Secretary to Government, North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

MY DEAR ROBERTSON,

Bareilly, 19th August 1877.

I ENCLOSE the District Weather and Agricultural Report. Alas! it is in every respect gloomy and unsatisfactory. I only got back from Budaon at midnight, and am off again to-morrow night to Shahjehanpur. Heat terrific, but wind back to east; sky as clear as ever, so it will probably be west again in an hour or two.

No Collectors have yet applied for relief works, so I trust the state of things I yesterday reported from Budaon is not universal, and the big Zemindars and Talukdars of the two western districts will, I expect, listen to advice and counsel, and enable the tenants to tide over the difficulties

In haste, &c
(Signed) R M EDWARDS

PROSPECTS OF SEASON.

Tahsil.	WEEKS ENDING										Area ploughed for Kharif compared with that usually ploughed.	Area sown.	STATE OF CROPS							
	4th June 1877	11th June 1877	18th June 1877	26th June 1877	3rd July 1877	9th July 1877	16th July 1877	22nd July 1877	29th July 1877	6th Aug 1877			13th Aug 1877	Total	Rice	Musa.	Cane		Cotton	Indigo
Budson	—	5	—	—	20	2	—	4	—	19	—	50	{ Budson all Uphani all	{ One-half Do	AS	AS	AS	AS	AS	{ Bajra, Jowar, Char, Urd, Mung, Mote, Lobia, Til, about one-fourth of area sown and still flourishing
Biasuh	8	15	—	—	61	—	24	4	—	—	—	112	{ Yammaswar, all Biasuh all Satan all Do Rajpura, all Asadpur all Sahaswan, two- thirds. Kot, all	{ Do Do One-quarter Do One-third Do One-half One-eighth One-fourth	AS	AS	AS	AS	AS	{ Bajra, &c., one-half of area sown and unin- jured as yet Bajra, &c., none sown, Char, & As. crop Bajra, &c., about one- fourth of area sown and is As crop Bajra, &c., one-fourth area sown and crops flourishing
Gummar	1	—	—	—	17	1	2	—	—	2	—	22	{	{						
Sahaswan	8	8	—	—	59	—	8	1	—	2	—	78	{	{						
Dataganj	—	10	—	—	24	—	4	8	—	—	—	41	{	{						

(Signed) M. SANDYS, Collector.

No. 161.

Telegram, dated 20th August 1877

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE TO PRESIDENT, Simla.

Broad-gauge locomotives 20 under Railway Letter 14 of 1877, delivery, one in November, one a week afterwards, possibly faster. 20 under letter 87 of 1877; three probably in January, three a week afterwards for remainder of indent and for any addition, if orders given immediately

No. 162

Telegram, dated Danowle, 20th August 1877.

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

In the north-west no rain or prospect of rain Throughout the whole of Rajpootana serious scarcity now imminent; crops widely damaged and grass withering Famine impending in Gwalior In Hyderabad, resources of State, after expenditure of over 12 lakhs, said to be nearly exhausted, and scarcity increasing, as also in Baroda Native States beginning to stop their export trade, if dearth continues, as seems likely, the condition of the northern provinces may affect the whole of India, more seriously even than the present severe famine in Madras, where, for this reason, it is more than ever necessary to prevent wasteful expenditure if possible.

No. 163.

Telegram, dated 20th August 1877

FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

The Viceroy has communicated to me proposals for administering famine business in Madras, which appear to me wise The essential point of it is that the management shall be centred entirely in your hands, your staff being strengthened by Secretaries who have had famine experience elsewhere. It will relieve me of much anxiety if you can see your way to agree We have complete confidence in you, but some of your administrative machinery is circuitous and cumbersome Such a calamity should be dealt with by your undivided authority free from any impediments of customary routine.

No 164
No. 34 of 1877.

From the GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce,
to the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA.

Simla, 20th August 1877.

No. 161.
Enclosures
Nos. 84,
94-5, 97-9,
101-2, 109,
126

We have the honour to report that in view of the renewed failure of the south-west monsoon in many quarters, and of the circumstances set forth in the accompanying Minute by his Excellency the Viceroy, it has been thought advisable that his Excellency, accompanied by Sir Alexander Arbuthnot, should visit Poona, Bangalore, and Madras for the purpose of conferring with the local Governments and the Chief Commissioner of Mysore on the condition and prospects of the three Provinces, and on the measures necessary to enable them to deal effectively with the situation. We trust that this determination will meet with your Lordship's approval.

We have, &c
(Signed) E C BAYLEY
F P HAINES
A. CLARKE
J. STRACHEY
E B JOHNSON
W STOKES.

No. 165.

Telegram, dated 21st August 1877.

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE

Your telegram 19th, grain calculations; will reply from Poona. Our great deficiency is not in grain, but the means of carrying and distributing it. At Jubbulpore, which I have just left, 24,000 tons of grain waiting to go south, and equal quantity ready to replace it, but railway can only carry 1,000 tons weekly.

Merchants are beginning to send their grain northwards to Agra, in consequence of increased scarcity in north-west and deficiency in crops.

Government is of course collecting information and making calculations, but my reasons for not sending them were, first, they cannot be implicitly relied on, second, they cannot influence principles of our policy. Government grain useless unless rapidly distributed, and in that case mischievous, because it would monopolise means of transport already of insufficient strength. Trade will import grain when necessary and know when and how to do this better than Government. Even therefore in event you refer to we should not import, but have authorised local authorities to purchase by public tender for supply of any places not reached by trade. I fear even this is liable to dangerous abuse.

Government of Madras has been considering supply of betel nut and tobacco for paupers, and has sanctioned indents for condensed Anglo-Swiss milk for infants, has also raised allowance to children under seven from 3 to 6 pice. On arrival at Poona I shall meet railway authorities to discuss remedy of alleged defects in railway affairs.

No 166

Telegram, dated 21st August 1877.

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE TO VICEROY.

A firm offer to ship to Bombay or Madras, in about eight weeks, 300 miles light tramway, four feet eight and a half gauge, 60 engines, 1,800 waggons, carrying each four tons; to lay tramway, erect engines and waggons, at cost inclusive of 1,350*l.* per mile.

Further undertake working of lines at price to be agreed for every ton carried, and to supply engineers and drivers. Would accept in payment Indian Exchequer bonds, carrying four per cent interest. Government to supply sleepers, and pay carriage from Indian port to interior.

What reply shall I make?

No. 167.

Telegram, dated 21st August 1877

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE TO VICEROY.

Suggested traction engines may be of service.

The steam sapper is said to be most approved of, owing to light weight, simplicity, and drawing power. Weight when working, 116 cwts 3 qrs., width of track, 5 feet 9 inches, consumes 49 pounds of coal per hour on ordinary roads, and 35 to 48 gallons of water. It can draw on roads, with slopes not exceeding 1 in 11, 10 tons. Carriages for grain would weigh 2 tons each, and carry 3 tons. Speed on fair roads, $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 miles an hour.

No. 168.

Telegram, dated Callian, 21st August 1877

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

Yours of 19th I thank your Lordship for supporting our view that, save under exigencies of which in our opinion there is not the slightest probability, Government should not engage in importing grain. In our telegram about Saigon offer, we stated that existing private importation occupied all available means of internal transport, this is still the case, our object is to increase these means for special local exigencies. Where supply is short, Collectors are authorised to obtain grain through trade in ports of three districts, this is already doing.

Our information and calculations of probable arrival of private grain are,—total demand for Madras and Mysore, 4,500 tons daily, average daily despatches of rice from Bengal to Madras ports during past two weeks, 3,050 tons per diem, steam freight from Bengal for additional 90,000 tons, reported by Eden to be taken up. Burmah despatches only 170 tons daily, 300 tons daily despatched inland from Beypore, where increase expected. Great Indian Peninsula delivers 800 tons a day at Raichore for Madras district, some part of 750 tons delivered daily at southern port reaches Western Mysore and Bellary, excluding this last, calculations give altogether 4,320 tons daily, by this week's discussion I hope to raise Raichore deliveries for Madras to 1,200 tons daily. Supply waiting despatch on Great Indian Peninsula enormous, as already explained. Madras Railway power to receive will increase when new and borrowed engines come into work.

No. 169.

No. 1754—A, dated Naini Tal, the 22nd August 1877

From C ROBERTSON, Esq., Officiating Secretary to Government, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, to the SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

I am directed to report, for the information of his Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council, that owing to the deficiency in the usual rain-fall there is every prospect of a most serious and extensive failure of the kharif crops in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

2 In the beginning of July it seemed as if the rains were commencing, and there was between the 1st and 3rd of that month a fall which was pretty general throughout the province. During the rest of the month very little rain fell except in the eastern districts of the Benares Division, and serious apprehensions were excited which were, however, for a time allayed by what seemed a recommencement of the regular rains in the first week of August. The fall during this week did not, however, extend to all districts in the Provinces, the Meerut and Agra Divisions, part of Rohilkhund, and the greater part of Oudh having received a very scant supply of rain. It was sufficient, however, to let agricultural operations be resumed everywhere, and had the fall continued all would have gone well. Unfortunately, the wind again went round to the west on the 6th, and a few days later it became a high scorching blast which raged for a week and did immense mischief, checking agricultural operations, drying up the crops which had germinated, and threatening to kill even those which were irrigated.

3 At present there is no prospect of improvement. The state of the crops is daily becoming worse, and, if rain do not fall in a few days, there can be no kharif, except perhaps in parts of the Benares Division, or where irrigation may avail to save the crop.

4 This serious failure affects the Meerut, Agra, Jhansi, and Rohilkhund Divisions, and the greater part of Oudh. As yet the prospects in Allahabad and Benares Divisions

are better, but there also, unless rain fall soon, the hope of a harvest, except on irrigated land, must be abandoned

5. The measures taken under the Lieutenant-Governor's orders to ascertain the extent of the calamity that is impending, and the provision there is for meeting it, have been separately reported. But as illustrating generally how grave the situation and the prospects are, I am desirous to forward copies of some of the latest reports from Commissioners

6. With reference to matters mentioned in these reports, I am to state that the Commissioner of Jhansi has been directed to report at once the character of the emigration which is taking place from that division, what classes are leaving, and where they are going. Authority has also been given to all Commissioners to begin at once to give employment on public works of Class A, described in the accompanying circular, to persons who, for want of it, may be in distress.

7. The Commissioner of Rohilkhand has also been directed to impress on the Collector of Budaun the importance of urging on the Zemindars of his district the duty of aiding their tenants in the present state of affairs

8. Further details of the state of the Provinces will be communicated hereafter when the detailed reports, which have been called for, are received

9. In conclusion, I am to say that, while every endeavour will be made to observe economy, His Honour trusts that he will be authorised to incur the expenditure which, judging from the present aspect of affairs, appears to be inevitable

No. 170.

Telegram, dated Gunneskhind, 22nd August 1877

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

Your two messages of 21st

Traction engines already tried in India and failed, unsuitable for famine work

We decline offer of light tramways; we urge instead immediate despatch of materials indented for Rajputana Railway, metre gauge.

No 171

Telegram, dated Gunneskhind, 22nd August 1877

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE

Good showers in parts of Kistna, Kurnool, South Arcot districts, light showers in parts of Bellary, Tinnevely, Salem, and elsewhere Prospects of autumn crop improved in part of Kurnool, worse in Madura and coast districts

Numbers on works 1,077,682, on gratuitous relief 958,160 Prices not easier, supplies sufficient, save in a few small tracts

Mysore crop prospects improved by continuance of light showers, and heavy rain in Coorg Numbers on works 46,231; on gratuitous relief 187,175 Prices from twelve to eight pounds per rupee Bombay, 6 inches rain in Carwar Temple reported, on 17th, good rainfall, and autumn crops thriving in Dharwar, Belgaum, Sattara, and Sholapore, on western Ghâts and Concan rain sufficient; anxiety increasing in Kattywar and Guzerat, where rainfall withheld. Numbers on works 257,450, on gratuitous relief 121,072. Temple adds to-day good rain in Concan, elsewhere none worth mentioning. Strain on people in Deccan increasing; condition of crops in Khandesh and Guzerat critical. Kattywar agriculture suspended, failure apprehended. No sign of monsoon returning, but time yet for rain to come and restore everything

Grain trade intensely active, total now supported by Government in all famine provinces 2,647,775.

Bengal and Burmah accounts good Available rice surplus in Bengal estimated at 350,000 tons, if crop now in ground continues good Central provinces crop prospects good, North-west and Oudh no rain, except at Benares, hot winds, autumn crops withering where sown without irrigation much anxiety about condition of north-west, and effect of failure there Prices dear, scarcity of fodder felt in Agra Division Punjab crops suffering much from drought, in South Indore no rain Gwalior threatened with famine. Malwa crops need early rain, Rajputana, no rain, crops damaged, position very critical; Baroda autumn crops part lost, rest in danger Prices very dear Hyderabad, Deccan, no rain.

Statement regarding the scarcity in the Deccan and Southern Malabar Counties together with a Summary of Government Orders issued during the week ending 30th August 1877

District	Area in Square Miles	Affect. Area in Square Miles	Population of District	Affect. Population	Collectors' Reports by Telegram dated 24th to 30th August 1877	Works in Progress	Number of People employed.			Expenditure up to latest known date	Prices of Staple Grain in lbs per Rupee		Average Rainfall of the past season of all the Talukas for five years	Average Rainfall during the past season of all the Talukas	Average Rain-fall during the present season, as ascertained from Collectors' weekly reports	
							During the past Week	During the Week ending 24th Aug.	Percentage of labourers to population of District		Ordinary Prices	During the present Week				
R A	Khandesh	10,162	5,500	1,028,642	646,944	11 1/2 inch rainfall which has extended over four days, has been plentiful and general gauging at Dhulia 9 inches. Crops reviving and prospects much improved. People leaving relief works 138 deaths from cholera	Roads - Tanks - Miscellaneous -	9,793	8,683	84	Rs 3,76,787	Rs 2,07,336	Jowari - 56 17 1/2 Bajri - 54 16 15 1/2	24 94	14 4	9 30
	Nasik	8,113	2,000	729,252	250,000	Rain general, 3 inches at Malgaon, an inch and a half in northern, and half an inch in other Talukas. Prospects much improved 81 deaths from cholera	Ditto	3,631	5,591	76	5,49,146	3,31,687	Jowari - 54 18 18 Bajri - 47 16 16	35 99	87 55	14 57
	Ahmednagar	6,647	5,650	773,938	677,376	1 inch 55 cents of rain at Ahmednagar, 1 inch 60 cents at Shrigonda. 1 inch 90 cents at Kurjat, 8 cents at Newasa, 20 cents at Kopergaon. Good rain in parts of Rahuri, Farnar, and Akola. Crops benefited in these Talukas. Grain supply sufficient. People emigrating from four Talukas 14 deaths from cholera	Ditto	127,023	184,970	4 51	15,68,367	6,81,081	Jowari - 76 19 1/2 Bajri - 66 12 12 1/2	34 3	10 6 1/2	8 48
	Poona	5,099	2,500	907,335	318,601	48 cents of rain at Mawal 40 cents at Indapur, 10 cents at Poona, and 1 cent at Khed. Rain wanted everywhere. Crops in eastern districts withering, some withered. A few cases of cholera	Ditto	25,093	24,369	2 68	15,59,768	10,92,351	Jowari - 65 12 12 Bajri - 51 12 12	30 6	20 76	13 58
	Sholapur	4,486	4,406	718,084	718,084	1 inch 18 cents of rain at Pandharpur, 50 cents at Sangola, and 10 cents at Sholapur, more required for young crops. Green grass plentiful. High prices cause suffering 21 deaths from cholera	Ditto	14,518	14,699	2 04	30,76,884	16,57,069	Jowari - 66 10 1/2 Bajri - 60 - -	25 1/2	8 11	12 88
	Natara	4,988	2,682	1,064,092	461,000	Showers in some Talukas. Crops in western Talukas generally good, but in eastern are in much need of rain. Grain supply sufficient. 14 deaths from cholera	Ditto	18,508	19,046	1 79	11,74,682	9,10,312	Jowari - 39 11 1/2 Bajri - 35 12 1/2	54 60	25 43	25 04
	Kaladgi	5,695	5,695	816,037	816,037	12 cents of rain at Badami, much khair withering. Grain importation active 31 deaths from cholera	Ditto	122,166	122,166	14 97	27,69,248	17,14,028	Jowari - 56 9 9 Bajri - 76 9 1/2	22 48	6 13	6 15
	Belgaum	4,591	2,660	938,750	501,000	Upwards of an inch of rain in Athni, and nearly an inch in Gokak, showers in other Talukas. Crops improved where not past recovery. Grain supply sufficient. No cholera	Ditto	22,781	26,059	2 77	9,00,981	8,11,677	Jowari - 48 10 10 Bajri - 54 - -	30 48	31 34	18 65
	Dharwar	4,564	3,000	988,037	630,000	From 3 to 82 cents of rain in six Talukas. No rain in south since 18th, and crops there perishing. Elsewhere crops suffering, and sowing late crops retarded in consequence of want of rain. Migration to western Talukas continues, and immigrants are arriving from other districts	Ditto	20,669	23,148	2 34	18,25,574	10,14,277	Jowari - 48 9 8 1/2	26 89	18 81	11 98
	Total	54,365	24,169	7,963,927	5,018,992			264,122	278,781	8 5	1,32,96,258	84,19,769				

* Such as digging and repairing wells, prickly-pear clearances, &c
† Corrected figures given

† All the labourers upon the Dhond-Manmad Railway have been included under Ahmednagar
‡ Last week's figures given

¶ For details and dates see table appended.

Good rain has fallen in Khandesh, Nasik, three talukas of Ahmednagar, one taluka of Sholapur, and two talukas of Belgaum. In the rest of the famine area more is much wanted, and the crops are suffering. The fall in Khandesh has been very heavy, and removes almost all anxiety regarding that collectorate.

2 The average price of jowari continues to be $12\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. per rupee, the only noticeable rise is in Satara, from which district crop reports are now not quite so favourable as they have hitherto been.

3. The number of people upon relief works in the nine affected districts is 278,731 against 264,122 last week, and there are also 802 hill-men and immigrants employed in Ratnagiri. The increase is general, except in Khandesh and Poona, and is due chiefly to the continuance of high prices and the absence of general rain. The increase shown against Ahmednagar is, however, partially due to the recent introduction of piece-work upon the Dhond-Manmar Railway. This piece-work is paid for according to a scale founded upon the famine wage, but the introduction of the system enables an industrious labourer to earn rather more than a mere subsistence. The plan has been introduced with a view to completing the railway at the earliest possible date, in order to facilitate the transport of grain into the famine districts of this Presidency and of Southern India.

4. Cholera appears to be decreasing.

5. The table showing the rainfall and prices in each taluka is appended.

6 The following table gives the expenditure by Government, during the week ending 11th August, upon charity in the relief of the aged and infirm poor, and in payments made to the young children of labourers employed upon relief works. Comparing the results shown in the table below with those shown in the last summary, it will be seen that the number of persons in receipt of Government charitable relief has decreased from 51,166 to 45,572, while the number of children under 7 years of age has increased from 80,292 to 80,388. During the week referred to, there was again a slight increase in the number of people upon relief works.

The number of people charitably relieved was 17 per cent of the number of labourers upon relief works during the same week.

Districts.	Collector's Discretionary Grant.			Expenditure incurred under the authority of Government Resolution No 312 C W - 1,116, of 26th December 1876, on account of children under 7 years of age whose parents are upon Relief Works		
	Average number of persons relieved during the week	Expenditure during the week.	Total expenditure up to date	Average number of children, and of women taking care of them	Expenditure during the week	Total expenditure up to date
	No	Rs	Rs	No	Rs	Rs
Khandesh - -	*	*	1,785	896	98	2,152
Nasik - - -	141	65	1,130	1,704	245	16,026
Ahmednagar -	1,867	650	30,491	12,208	1,392	30,936
Poona - - -	16,571	9,815	99,257	9,921	1,291	51,478
Sholapur - -	7,204	4,849	93,006	3,980	644	39,638
Satara - - -	4,416	3,007	37,921	6,477	797	38,459
Kaladgi - -	9,529	6,238	1,00,081	32,998	6,235	54,403
Belgaum - -	5,832	4,371	73,511	6,065	832	16,946
Dharwar - -	†	†	41,546	6,043	695	24,293
Kanara - - -	11	7	5,214	†	†	1,526
Ratnagiri - -	1	4	427	96	11	372
Total - - -	45,572	29,006	4,84,369	80,388	12,240	2,76,229

* No expenditure has been incurred by the Collector

† Collector's return not received

‡ No expenditure has been incurred by the Collector and the Executive Engineer

7 The following table gives the distribution of the people among the relief works in the nine affected districts employing 1,000 labourers, or more, during the week ending 18th August. It will be seen that 223,719, or more than five-sixths of the labourers, were concentrated upon the works enumerated :—

District.	Works.	Number of Labourers	Total	Remarks
Khandesh	Dhulha Pimpalnar Road - - -	2,138	4,560	
	Songur-Nandoorbar Road - - -	1,297		
	Jhorga-Bhorkand Road - - -	1,125		

District	Works	Number of Labourers	Total	Remarks
Nasik - -	Bayarbari-Satana Road - -	1,343	1,343	
Ahmednagar	{ Dhond-Manmad Railway - - Barighat-Kolhar Road - -	{ 24,473 1,393	25,866	
Poona - -	{ Nira Canal - - - - Mutha Canal - - - - Motoba Tank - - - - Shirsophal Tank - - - -	{ 11,851 4,385 4,187 2,016	22,439	
Sholapur	{ Ashti Tank - - - - Pangaon Lake - - - - Bhend Tank - - - - Sholapur-Takli Road - - - -	{ 3,711 2,921 1,651 1,073	9,356	
Satara - -	{ Mhaswad Tank - - - - Nehr Tank - - - - Pingli Tank - - - -	{ 8,386 4,894 3,935	17,166	
Kaladgi - -	{ Indr Sirodon Road - - - - Sholapur-Bellary Road - - - - Panchgaon-Bagalkot Road - - - - Muddibihal-Tahkot Road - - - - Bagewari-Mangoli Road - - - - Hipergi-Tahkot Road - - - - Shindgi-Kudni Road - - - - Sholapur-Hubli Road - - - - Hundgund-Nundwadgi Road - - - - Bagalkot-Hungund Road - - - - Byapur-Hipergi Road - - - - Kaladgi-Badami Road - - - - Byapur-Athni Road - - - -	{ 19,360 14,098 10,828 9,910 8,864 8,763 7,754 5,876 5,807 5,126 3,521 2,854 2,366	104,322	
Belgaum - -	{ Gokak Canal - - - - Belgaum-Panchgaon Road - - - - Athni-Kanamadi Road - - - - Athni-Belanki Road - - - - Metalling Mail Road - - - - Kohlapur-Byapur Road - - - -	{ 10,085 3,650 3,490 1,484 1,163 1,015	20,887	
Dharwar	{ Karwar-Bellary Road (Two Sections) - - Poona-Hurryhur Road - - - - Ron-Nawalgund Road - - - - Hullal-Anngerry Road - - - - Hubli-Kaladgi Road - - - -	{ 8,456 3,946 2,402 1,751 1,326	17,781	
Grand total - - - -			223,719	

8 Tables (A) and (B) are appended as usual. It will be seen that during the week ending 18th August the number of people upon Civil works in the nine affected districts was 23,601, the number upon works under Public Works Department Agency being 239,423. The proportion of people upon the former continues, therefore, less than 10 per cent of the total. It is to be noted that the figures given in these tables are taken from the progress returns of the works, and are brought up to the week ending 18th August, while the figures in the table prefixed to this summary are taken from the Collectors' telegrams, and refer to the week ending 25th August. It will be seen that the net decrease in the number of people on relief works during the 10 weeks subsequent to 9th June has amounted to 142,101.

9. Maps are not sent with this summary.

10. A table is appended, showing the condition of the affected Native States.

11. With regard to the movements of food-grains, 748 tons were exported from Bombay to the Southern Mahratta ports during the week ending 25th August, and

during the same period 5,038 tons were carried by the Great Indian Peninsula Railway to stations upon the Poona-Sholapur and Nasik-Bhusawal lines, making a total of 5,786 tons for the week. The table below shows the quantities of grain sent by sea and rail from October till the 25th August to the Southern Mahratta ports and the railway stations in the distressed districts. It will be seen that the total amount delivered up to the 25th August was 384,161 tons :—

Food-grains sent to	In October, November, and Decem- ber 1876	In January, February, and March 1877	In April 1877	In May 1877	In June 1877	In July 1877	In August (up to 25th)	Total
Southern Mahratta ports	Tons 44,215	Tons 46,332	Tons 21,399	Tons 28,657	Tons. 4,491	Tons 857	Tons 13,048	Tons 1,08,999
South-Eastern line, from Poona to Sholapur.	67,195	41,708	12,856	12,594	20,348	20,464	15,958	191,143
North-Eastern line from Nasik to Bhusawal.	12,829	7,471	2,346	1,221	2,014	1,524	6,614	34,019
Total - - -	124,239	95,511	36,601	42,472	26,868	22,865	35,620	384,161

12. During the week very good rain has fallen in Khandesh and parts of Nasik, far rain has fallen in the rest of Nasik and in parts of Ahmednagar, Sholapur, and Belgaum, while in the remainder of the famine area the showers have been light where they have fallen at all. This has been chiefly eastern rain, the south-west monsoon on the coast still continuing to be very inadequate. There has also been very favourable rain in Surat, and the fall in Broach and Kattywar has not been unsatisfactory. More rain is required in Kaira and Ahmedabad, but, upon the whole, anxiety regarding Guzerat and Kattywar, Khandesh, and Nasik, is very materially lessened.

Prices of food-grains continue almost stationary.

Imports of grain on the coast show a very marked decrease, due probably to two causes, viz, the celebration of Cocoa-nut day by the seafaring population, and the diminution in the number of steamers engaged in the trade owing to the recent loss of two of their number. Imports by rail again show a slight decrease, due to the cause already more than once noticed.

There has been a net increase in the number of people upon works of 14,350 and an increase of 96 in the number of young children. On the other hand, there has been a decrease of 5,594 in the number of people upon charitable relief; but this result is due in some measure to the non-receipt of complete returns.

A distinct improvement in the general situation has taken place since last week. Anxiety is to a great extent removed regarding Kattywar, Guzerat, Khandesh, and Nasik, but the continuance of high prices, and absence of general rain, in the seven famine collectorates south of Nasik, retard improvement in the condition of the people of those districts.

Cholera appears to be decreasing

(Signed) C. J. MERRIMAN,
for Major-General, R. E., Secretary
to Government

STATEMENT regarding the condition of Native States

Native States	Area in Square Miles	Affected Area in Square Miles	Population of State	Affected Population.	Reports from Political Agents for the week ending	Works in progress	Number of People employed			Allotments granted	Expenditure up to latest known date	Prices of Staple Grain in lbs per Rupee.		
							During the past Week	During the present Week.	Ex-cessive of Labour in Population of District.			Ordinary Prices	During the past Week.	During the present Week.
Kolhapur and Southern Mahratta Country States.	5,408	2,999	1,373,988	620,482	19th August — Good rain Prices falling Little cholera at Inchaikaranyi, 8 cases, 7 deaths. In other States no case has been reported.	Roads - Tanks - Miscellaneous*	26,468†	29,566†	1 64	Rs 7,81,286	Rs. 7,02,260	Jowari - 51 Bajri - 44	10½ 10	11½ 11½
Akalkot - - -	498	378	78,222	58,000	15th August — 24 cents of rain at Akalkot. Prices rising	Ditto -	484	623	79	72,602	65,558	Jowari - 61	11½	11½
Jath - - -	884	879	64,000	63,628	Report not received - - - - -	Ditto -	484	400	69	86,949	48,667	Jowari - 63	8½	8
Phaltan - - -	897	397	59,124	59,124	18th August — No rain The state of the crops is the same as reported last week.	Ditto -	100	96	15	28,500	19,531	Jowari - 54	12½	12½
Pant Pratumdi - -	218	188	68,385	44,594	20th August — Crops still in a good condition. Rain wanted everywhere	Ditto -	271	252	86	88,285	20,920	Jowari - 58½	11½	11½
Sawant Wari - - -	904	—	190,814	—	Telegram dated 28th August — Half an inch of rain below Ghauts Crops good. Cholera decreasing	Ditto -	188	188	09	2,525	2,162	Naahani - 55	17½	18½
Savanur - - -	70	18	15,757	2,020	18th August — 1 cent of rain Sufficient supply of grain, and importation continues Jowari slightly dearer Early crops still in good condition More rain urgently wanted for rice crop	Ditto -	‡	‡	‡	10,000	1,844	Jowari - 61½	10½	9½
Total -	8,374	4,804	1,850,190	847,948						10,15,147	8,55,287			

* Such as digging and repairing wells, prickly-pear clearances, &c

† Figures for 4th and 11th August given, complete returns for the week ending 18th August not having been received

‡ The Savanur great tank work has been stopped owing to rainfall

§ Report not received.

TABLE contrasting the Number of Labourers upon Relief Works under Civil and Public Works Department Agencies.
(Accompaniment to Statement No XLI.)

Districts	For the week ending 12th May 1877		For the week ending 19th May 1877		For the week ending 26th May 1877		For the week ending 2nd June 1877		For the week ending 9th June 1877		For the week ending 16th June 1877		For the week ending 23rd June 1877		For the week ending 30th June 1877		For the week ending 7th July 1877		For the week ending 14th July 1877		For the week ending 21st July 1877		For the week ending 28th July 1877		For the week ending 4th August 1877		For the week ending 11th August 1877		For the week ending 18th August 1877			
	Civil Agency	Public Works Agency	Civil Agency	Public Works Agency	Civil Agency	Public Works Agency	Civil Agency	Public Works Agency	Civil Agency	Public Works Agency	Civil Agency	Public Works Agency	Civil Agency	Public Works Agency	Civil Agency	Public Works Agency	Civil Agency	Public Works Agency	Civil Agency	Public Works Agency	Civil Agency	Public Works Agency	Civil Agency	Public Works Agency	Civil Agency	Public Works Agency	Civil Agency	Public Works Agency	Civil Agency	Public Works Agency		
Khandesh	—	2,591	—	2,659	—	2,404	—	2,591	201	2,312	156	2,002	—	1,865	6	1,442	64	2,289	5	2,732	73	2,460	154	2,111	528	2,280	759	3,174	1,219	5,971		
Nasik	—	10,719	—	10,267	—	8,146	—	8,610	—	6,813	—	5,098	—	5,228	—	4,011	—	4,067	—	4,266	—	3,795	—	3,922	—	3,245	—	2,419	—	4,691		
Ahmednagar	2,255	22,211	2,478	22,758	2,049	22,551	2,274	22,750*	2,247	22,162	3,190	22,021	3,559	22,079	2,278	22,705	788	22,212	207	22,541	207	22,616	104	22,313	—	22,297	—	22,447	8	22,422		
Poona	2,260	29,510	2,268	27,422	2,222	27,222	2,222	27,222	2,222	27,222	2,222	27,222	2,222	27,222	2,222	27,222	2,222	27,222	2,222	27,222	2,222	27,222	2,222	27,222	2,222	27,222	2,222	27,222	2,222	27,222	2,222	27,222
Sholapur	2,000	21,222	2,000	21,222	2,000	21,222	2,000	21,222	2,000	21,222	2,000	21,222	2,000	21,222	2,000	21,222	2,000	21,222	2,000	21,222	2,000	21,222	2,000	21,222	2,000	21,222	2,000	21,222	2,000	21,222	2,000	21,222
Satara	1,015	20,400	1,511	22,048	1,222	22,222	1,222	22,222	1,222	22,222	1,222	22,222	1,222	22,222	1,222	22,222	1,222	22,222	1,222	22,222	1,222	22,222	1,222	22,222	1,222	22,222	1,222	22,222	1,222	22,222	1,222	22,222
Kaladgi	2,171	27,070	7,122	22,222	2,222	22,222	2,222	22,222	2,222	22,222	2,222	22,222	2,222	22,222	2,222	22,222	2,222	22,222	2,222	22,222	2,222	22,222	2,222	22,222	2,222	22,222	2,222	22,222	2,222	22,222	2,222	22,222
Belgaum	4,022	21,222	2,222	21,222	2,222	21,222	2,222	21,222	2,222	21,222	2,222	21,222	2,222	21,222	2,222	21,222	2,222	21,222	2,222	21,222	2,222	21,222	2,222	21,222	2,222	21,222	2,222	21,222	2,222	21,222	2,222	21,222
Dharwar	1,260	20,111	4,214	21,222	2,222	21,222	2,222	21,222	2,222	21,222	2,222	21,222	2,222	21,222	2,222	21,222	2,222	21,222	2,222	21,222	2,222	21,222	2,222	21,222	2,222	21,222	2,222	21,222	2,222	21,222	2,222	21,222
Total	20,724	221,222	22,222	222,222	22,222	222,222	22,222	222,222	22,222	222,222	22,222	222,222	22,222	222,222	22,222	222,222	22,222	222,222	22,222	222,222	22,222	222,222	22,222	222,222	22,222	222,222	22,222	222,222	22,222	222,222	22,222	222,222
Grand total	222,222	2,222,222	222,222	2,222,222	222,222	2,222,222	222,222	2,222,222	222,222	2,222,222	222,222	2,222,222	222,222	2,222,222	222,222	2,222,222	222,222	2,222,222	222,222	2,222,222	222,222	2,222,222	222,222	2,222,222	222,222	2,222,222	222,222	2,222,222	222,222	2,222,222	222,222	2,222,222
Ratnagiri	222	2,222	222	2,222	222	2,222	222	2,222	222	2,222	222	2,222	222	2,222	222	2,222	222	2,222	222	2,222	222	2,222	222	2,222	222	2,222	222	2,222	222	2,222	222	2,222
Kanara	1,212	4,147	1,240	5,024	1,222	3,222	1,112	1,222	222	222	122	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222
Total	1,722	7,222	1,222	7,222	1,222	5,222	1,222	2,222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222
Grand total of the 11 districts	222,222	2,222,222	222,222	2,222,222	222,222	2,222,222	222,222	2,222,222	222,222	2,222,222	222,222	2,222,222	222,222	2,222,222	222,222	2,222,222	222,222	2,222,222	222,222	2,222,222	222,222	2,222,222	222,222	2,222,222	222,222	2,222,222	222,222	2,222,222	222,222	2,222,222	222,222	2,222,222

* Alteration made in the Ahmednagar and the total figures from 2nd June in consequence of the receipt of supplementary returns from that date from a division on the Dhond and Yennad State Railway

B

TABLE showing the Weekly Expenditure and description of Persons employed on Relief Works under Civil and Public Works Department Agencies, respectively

Week ending	Civil Agency					Public Works Department Agency					Grand total of				
	Expenditure up to date.	Men.	Women	Children.	Total.	Expenditure up to date	Men.	Women.	Children	Total	Expenditure up to date.	Men	Women	Children.	Total.
	Rs				Rs					Rs					
12th May	13,20 783	10,878	14,529	6,882	80 74	35,83 750	123 743	146,829	51,230	321,802	46,84,522	134,316	161 358	68,963	382,536
19th May	13,41 025	11,301	15,369	6,240	32,940	37,30 066	133 640	153 215	53 750	335,540	51,21 121	130,981	168 014	50 930	336,485
26th May	13,64 362	11,350	16,308	6 507	33 740	40,28,866	130 180	155,437	52 064	340 779	53,01,016	141,418	171 319	61,621	374,458
2nd June	13,80 469	11 620	17 440	7 738	37 804	43 01 146	135 001	162 450	57 636	355,636*	56,79 554	146,630	179 830	60 061	393 400
9th June	14 10 132	12 442	19 283	8 782	40,50 07	45 04,624	136 608	166,202	59 163	362 033	59,83 750	140 110	186 495	67 946	402,540
16th June	14,22 130	11 543	19 181	9,232	41,984	48 10 047	119 457	160 940	63,680	324,277	62,02 177	131,200	170 121	62,942	394,369
23rd June	14 78 541	9 694	15 900	7 361	32 785	50 10 304	108 978	138 235	46 392	325 120	64,04,545	118 077	164,035	55 723	327,849
30th June	15 01 368	7 851	13 084	5,800	26,225	52 30,855	88,679	127 828	44,398	371 005	67 29 213	106 630	141 012	50,288	277,330
7th July	15,20 808	6 831	11 872	4 948	23,551	54,54,380	91,512	123 175	42,295	250 672	69 75,348	98,443	138 047	47 238	290 628
14th July	15 40 151	6 031	10 195	4 469	30 076	53,47 717	88 189	118,822	33,514	243 056	71 34 345	94,230	135,517	43 894	293 701
21st July	15 61 302	5 942	9 734	4,109	19 785	58,25,535	84 080	110,888	37 150	232,048	78 29 287	98 973	130 022	41 269	261,383
28th July	15,81 304	5 780	9 014	4 112	19 708	60 20 032	80 905	100,891	36,679	234 476	70 11 936	96,074	116 995	40 871	244,270
4th August	16,02 304	5 087	9 708	4 027	30,029	62 22 779	86,847	117 138	40 183	245,239	59 11 283	91 964	129 306	44,710	235,350
11th August	16,21 055	6 432	10 375	4 858	21 476	65,25 445	96 031	118,810	40 930	246 080	81 75,000	102,273	138 965	46 798	267 056
18th August	16 73 029	6,895	11,020	5,698	25,001	67 45,840	84,254	116,344	39,626	239,423	84,19 709	91 239	126,234	46,521	285,028

NOTE—The totals are not invariably the sum of the men, women and children as in a few returns these particulars have not been given, the total number of labourers alone having been entered. These figures are for the nine distressed Districts only. The people upon Relief Works in Ratnagiri and Kanara are shown in Table A. * See first Note, Form A.

TABLE contrasting the RAINFALL as yet reported during the current season (i.e., from 1st January 1877) with the RAINFALL of the past season, showing also the current prices (in pounds per rupee) of staple food-grain.

(According to the Collectors' Weekly written Reports.)

Collectorate	Taluka	Rainfall					Average for the Collectorate during current season	Staple Food-grains	
		Average Annual Rainfall	Total Rainfall during past year	Rainfall prior to 19th June 1877	Rainfall of and subsequent to 19th June 1877	Total for current season.		Price of Jowari for week ending 18th August	Price of Bajri for week ending 18th August.
KHANDASH	Raver	Inches	Inches	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	9 30	18 25	18 25
	Saula	—	13 40	2 66	3 98	6 64		18 00	18 62
	Pitupalner	26 78	16 81	4 76	5 31	10 07		24 00	18 75
	Chopra	—	11 97	3 05	7 39	10 44		16 00	16 75
	Jamner	—	13 26	1 56	8 38	9 94		18 50	17 75
	Nasrabad	—	12 31	1 16	3 18	4 34		17 25	16 88
	Sipur	20 55	11 24	3 65	5 15	8 80		18 88	17 75
	Amalner	21 93	15 15	1 95	5 83	7 78		17 25	17 75
	Nizampur	—	—	3 30	8 88	12 18		18 88	18 75
	Patola Petha	—	—	4 52	4 54	9 06		16 25	16 00
	Erandol	30 40	14 79	1 64	4 53	6 17		15 50	15 50
	Nandurbar	24 74	16 37	3 58	6 92	10 50		18 00	18 25
	Pachora	28 31	12 96	4 63	7 34	11 97		15 50	15 00
	Virdol	18 57	7 85	3 83	2 65	6 48		18 00	17 75
	Bhadgaon Petha	—	—	4 71	4 59	9 30		15 50	14 25
	Chudgaon	28 19	13 21	2 45	4 01	6 46		16 25	15 25
Aloda	29 40	23 32	3 09	9 76	12 85	20 62	20 50		
Bhosawal	26 47	8 41	2 82	10 55	13 37	17 25	16 88		
Falabud Petha	—	—	2 58	4 76	7 34	19 62	18 88		
Shasthda	21 36	16 60	2 54	8 00	10 54	21 00	19 50		
Yonal	—	—	4 31	7 74	12 05	16 00	17 00		
Dhula	23 83	12 78	2 36	6 47	8 83	17 25	16 00		
NASIK	Igatpuri	109 59	114 57	5 57	47 59	53 16	14 57	19 25	15 38
	Nasik	29 41	15 97	3 22	5 15	8 37		19 63	15 50
	Dindori	25 57	17 65	5 94	6 00	11 94		—	16 00
	Sinnar	22 49	10 65	3 12	5 04	8 16		17 25	15 88
	Naphar	17 94	12 89	2 95	5 22	8 17		—	14 00
	Chandor	32 55	12 58	5 32	3 83	9 15		18 00	16 50
	Yeda	26 62	14 96	6 32	2 35	8 67		16 50	14 00
	Nandgaon	26 15	13 66	5 26	7 48	12 74		15 00	14 50
	Mahsum	21 60	10 42	3 96	4 74	8 70		18 00	17 50
	Baglan	38 60	14 32	6 88	2 68	9 56		20 12	18 38
Kalwan	—	16 10	4 55	4 19	8 74	14 62	17 25		
Pant State	38 20	77 40	4 54	22 95	27 53	—	16 50		

Collectorate.	Taluka.	Rainfall.						Staple Food-grains		
		Average Annual Rainfall.	Total Rainfall during past year	Rainfall prior to 19th June 1877	Rainfall of and subsequent to 19th June 1877	Total for current season	Average for the Collectorate during current season	Price of Jowari for week ending 18th August	Price of Bajri for week ending 18th August	
AHMEDNAGAR	Jamshed - - -	28 76	8 77	4 32	6 04	10 36	8 43	9 00	9 00	
	Karjat - - -	21 38	6 70	5 55	6 57	12 12		12 00	11 00	
	Shrigonda - - -	28 12	15 29	3 65	1 75	5 40		12 00	12 00	
	Kopargaoon - - -	23 57	10 50	5 89	2 62	8 41		15 00	15 00	
	Nagar - - -	27 99	8 64	8 47	3 59	12 06		13 00	13 00	
	Rahuri - - -	23 60	10 57	6 53	1 51	8 04		13 00	12 00	
	Newasa - - -	24 57	13 49	4 25	3 31	7 55		13 00	13 00	
	Sheogaon - - -	29 34	20 00	5 03	4 88	9 91		12 00	12 00	
	Sangamner - - -	20 16	6 45	3 81	2 99	6 80		16 00	14 00	
	Akola - - -	21 33	8 98	2 27	3 17	5 44		16 00	13 00	
Parner - - -	23 30	8 28	3 05	3 61	Up to 18th August 1877	6 66	Up to 18th August 1877	12 00		
POONA.	Junnar - - -	22 34	17 90	4 91	4 70	9 61	13 59	*11 12	*11 25	
	Khed - - -	23 50	18 90	3 01	5 40	8 41		13 00	12 05	
	Ambeogaon Petha - - -	-	-	8 17	5 22	13 39		10 25	10 25	
	Mawal - - -	-	76 79	4 44	35 91	40 35		14 25	12 75	
	Haveli - - -	33 10	14 90	3 31	7 92	11 23		10 20	10 30	
	Petha Mulsehi - - -	-	-	5 12	20 42	25 54		-	12 12	
	Purandhar - - -	23 24	17 54	4 83	5 66	10 49		13 12	11 87	
	Srur - - -	17 30	10 94	2 81	2 43	5 24		12 50	11 50	
	Bhimthari - - -	20 73	5 97	2 80	0 97	3 77		11 25	11 25	
	Petha Baramati - - -	-	-	5 84	2 90	8 74		11 80	11 60	
Indapur - - -	21 76	4 82	8 10	4 59	12 69	Up to 18th August 1877	Up to 25th August 1877	10 15	10 10	
SHOLAPUR.	Sholapur - - -	28 35	8 68	7 14	8 49	15 63	12 83	10 35		
	Barsi - - -	29 40	11 14	7 69	4 11	11 80		11 25		
	Madha - - -	25 32	6 45	9 40	5 40	14 80		10 80		
	Karmala - - -	22 37	8 41	6 27	7 83	14 10		9 62		
	Pandharpur - - -	24 64	6 80	6 09	4 88	10 97		11 88		
	Sangola - - -	21 76	4 29	6 20	4 11	10 31		10 05		
	Malharas - - -	18 06	11 78	9 35	2 87	Up to 18th Aug 1877		Up to 18th Aug 1877	10 25	
SATARA.	Satara - - -	40 40	33 59	2 92	11 96	14 88	25 04	10 00	12 50	
	Man - - -	20 89	9 35	3 78	0 70	4 48		9 50	9 50	
	Janli - - -	74 30	59 84	6 56	33 38	39 94		12 25	12 50	
	Patan - - -	61 71	48 82	4 22	29 62	33 84		13 25	14 25	
	Malcolm Peth - - -	273 22	243 18	7 23	115 96	123 19		-	12 50	
	Tasgaon - - -	25 77	9 79	12 81	3 97	16 28		10 50	12 00	
	Khanapur - - -	23 34	11 40	5 86	3 22	8 58		10 00	10 25	
	Walwa - - -	25 24	12 85	4 63	7 65	12 29		13 00	12 50	
	Wai - - -	32 88	25 34	4 77	8 69	13 46		12 50	12 50	
	Khatso - - -	22 38	11 51	7 21	1 33	8 54		11 75	12 00	
Karad - - -	27 97	19 75	3 67	9 76	13 33	12 00	11 50			
Koregaon - - -	27 77	20 19	4 60	7 10	11 70	12 50	12 25			
KALADGI.†	Indi - - -	27 32	3 98	2 76	1 83	4 09	6 15†	†10 50	†10 50	
	Mudebihal - - -	24 46	5 14	1 76	0 94	2 70		11 00	10 00	
	Shundga - - -	20 83	6 53	2 96	1 20	4 16		10 50	10 50	
	Bagewadi - - -	23 98	6 18	4 59	1 37	5 96		9 25	9 25	
	Bijapur - - -	17 90	3 71	8 23	2 60	10 83		9 20	10 40	
	Bagalkot - - -	22 77	8 87	7 93	1 23	9 16		9 00	8 50	
	Badam - - -	22 00	7 17	4 55	1 97	6 52		9 00	-	
	Hungund - - -	20 22	7 49	2 85	2 64	5 49		9 50	8 00	
	Kaladgi - - -	-	-	5 80	0 60	6 40		8 20	8 10	
BELGAUM.	Belgaum - - -	41 88	35 78	6 88	22 77	29 65	18 65	§9 00	§10 00	
	Sampgaon - - -	32 52	17 97	6 15	6 93	13 08		9 00	-	
	Chikori - - -	19 86	15 56	8 02	6 61	14 63		11 00	-	
	Parasgad - - -	21 38	15 77	9 64	0 92	10 56		9 00	-	
	Gokak - - -	19 72	6 94	5 12	2 40	8 52		10 00	10 00	
	Athni - - -	18 57	6 74	7 90	2 51	10 41		11 00	-	
	Bidi - - -	59 44	50 64	3 04	40 69	43 73		9 00	-	

* For the week ending 25th August.

† This is chiefly eastern rain

‡ The figures for Kaladgi are for the week ending 11th August, later returns not being available

§ For the week ending 11th August.

Collec- torate	Taluka	Rainfall.					Staple Food-grains.		
		Average Annual Rainfall	Total Rainfall during past year	Rainfall prior to 19th June 1877	Rainfall of and sub- sequent to 19th June 1877	Total for current season	Average for the Collec- torate during current season	Price of Jowar for week ending 18th August.	Price of Bajra for week ending 18th August
DHARWAR.	Mundargi Petha -	—	—	Inches 6·69	Inches. 2 31	Inches. 8 90	11 93	10 12	
	Hubli -	27 33	14 18	9 06	7 65	16 71		9 25	
	Nargund -	22 22	6 65	9 30	2 20	11 50		10·12	
	Nargund Petha -	—	—	5 00	1 03	6 03		8 75	
	Ron -	23 48	4 70	7 94	1 95	9 89		7 75	
	Gadag -	25 67	11 10	6 85	3 75	10 60		10 12	
	Bankapur -	21 83	15 23	8 90	6 40	15 30		9 25	
	Rambennur -	22 53	10 90	7 74	2 05	9 79		9 25	
	Hangal -	34 83	22 39	7 59	8 30	15 89		9 25	
	Karagi -	25 23	13·33	8 39	2 90	11 79		8 25	
	Kalghatgi -	33 09	20 23	3 30	6 66	9·96		9 25	
	Kod -	21 26	15 46	3 95	4 24	8 19		8 25	
	Dharwar -	32 34	20 71	5 78	9 04	14 82		8 00	
Mugad Petha -	—	—	3 03	14 71	17·74	9 25			

Telegraphic returns of more recent rain have been received, but cannot yet be properly collated
The monsoon set in on the 19th June above Ghauts

No. 173.

FROM MAJOR-GENERAL M. K KENNEDY TO COLONEL O. T. BURNE.

Encl. in
No. 15.

MY DEAR COLONEL BURNE,

22nd August 1877.

I THINK that Jeypore Durbar should be advised not to be in too great a hurry to commence public works for relief purposes, the fact of the failure of the rain does not mean that the people at once become helpless and without resource, they can subsist for some time on their means, and it is an error, calculated to lead to needless outlay, to assume they are without any means.

Even if favourable rain had fallen, or should fall, there is still an interval, *ie*, until the crops can mature, during which the people would have to subsist on the resources I assume them to have, later on, if the scarcity be clearly developed, and when the people begin to show signs of distress, the State might open well-selected public works; these should, if possible, be works of irrigation, particularly large tanks, such as are capable of holding at least two years' supply of water.

The earthen dams of such tanks must very generally be heavy works on which large bodies of unskilled labourers can be profitably employed and efficiently superintended. On these works the scale of wages and tests that we have found effectual should be introduced, and I shall be most happy to furnish the Governor-General's Agent with copies of all our orders bearing on the subject.

But if the dearth and the consequent distress be not very great, and very widely extended, I think Mr. Lyall's proposal for carrying through the Western Rajpootana Railway a very good one, and it would probably supply nearly all the relief work that may be needed, and of a very suitable kind.

The Durbar should very carefully avoid small scattered works near the homes of the people needing relief.

As to the specific measures proposed by the Durbar, No. 1 is good in so far as it may encourage the "Bowras" to grant credit; but the Durbar should enter into no engagement on this head, which they might hereafter find it difficult to fulfil. The remissions of court fees would imply no pledge; but if the Durbar were to encourage loans under a promise to the lenders that they would assist in their recovery, they would, to a great extent, become responsible for such recovery.

Should there be a drought it would be a fair and proper arrangement to use discretion and lenity in collecting arrears of revenue.

As regards the third proposal of granting loans, *ie*, Tuccavi, I doubt the wisdom or necessity of such an arrangement, except for purposes of land improvement, such as digging or deepening wells, at all events at so early a period of the distress. Such a

plan would only be needed when the time for the next sowing occurs, to enable the cultivators to procure seed or cattle; even then Tuccavi should be granted very cautiously, and only to those who may be small holders, and presumably without capital or credit.

All waste pasturage belonging to the State might be freely opened by grazing

Alms or poor houses should not be opened too soon, at an early period of drought, the people are able to maintain their own poor

From the above it will be seen that, on failure of a season's crops, I think that, for some time, the people should be left to their own resources, which they must possess, and that relief, either in the way of employment or charity, should only be given after a time when the people begin to feel distress, and have exhausted their own means.

That when relief is given it should, as regards charity, be very closely controlled, and, as regards works, be afforded on large undertakings, where labour can be properly concentrated and overlooked, and which, when completed, are likely to be of permanent use

That Tuccavi, except for land improvement, should be sparingly given, and only at that period of the distress when preparations for renewed cultivation are being made; if this be not attended to, there is danger in "Tuccavi" being merely another name for alms

No 174.

Telegram, dated Gunneshkhind, 23rd August 1877

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE

Madras indent on you for locomotives and waggons not sent to us, irregularity causes inconvenience In July we questioned sufficiency of Madras rolling stock, they did not fully explain plans, but asked for 16 engines and 200 waggons, we borrowed and have partly arranged for engines, but difficulty about waggons Shall meet Duke in three days, and after inquiry will telegraph definitely. Additional supply of engines and waggons probably necessary; present information incomplete

No. 175.

Telegram, dated Simla, 23rd August 1877.

FROM PRESIDENT TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

We have decided, for reasons explained by letter and with Viceroy's approval, after consultation at Poona, to obtain 60 additional engines on behalf of the State, and not for exclusive use of Great India Railway, though specially to meet its wants should they continue We therefore request that immediate orders be given for 60 additional broad-gauge engines of same type as the only engine now under construction. The contracts could provide for delivery as rapidly as is consistent with good work The deliveries previous order and of any new demand stated in your message of 20th compare very unfavourably with delivery of Great Indian engines stated in your message of 14th, every effort should be made to expedite deliveries Perhaps bonus might be offered for earlier deliveries

No. 176.

Telegram, dated Gunneshkhind, 23rd August 1877.

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE

I earnestly beg immediate sanction to project for laying rails on Dhond and Munmarne, and to early despatch of material See my telegrams of 2nd and 3rd and our despatch of 6th August. This line will immensely shorten famine traffic and relieve transport difficulties. The Bombay Railway officers estimate that it will set free 36 Great Indian Peninsula engines.

No. 177.

Telegram, dated 23rd August 1877.

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE TO VICEROY.

Your telegrams Dhond and Munmar Railway.
Construction on broad gauge sanctioned Materials will be sent out as soon as possible

No 178

Telegram, dated the 23rd August 1877.

FROM RESIDENT, Hyderabad, to C BERNARD, Esq., Viceroy's Camp

As affairs in Hyderabad territory are becoming critical, I beg to report as follows for Viceroy's information — His Highness' Government has already expended 10 lakhs on famine relief, and a further sum of 15 lakhs is now under allotment. Revenue for past year short by 37 lakhs, owing to failure of crops Present forecast contemplates necessary relief of minimum number of 120,000 persons in four worst districts, being 15 per cent of their full population, for 18 months at 5 lakhs per mensem; the districts are Lingsagat, Raichore, Shorapore, and Goolburga. The above per-centage of persons is, in my opinion, an under estimate, on the other hand, if next season be of ordinary character, full relief will not be required for the whole of estimated term, should failure of rain continue during rest of year throughout the whole of the Hyderabad territory, the demand on Government will be little short of three crores, including loss of revenue, and to meet this, it is understood that no funds are now, or are likely to be, available. At present the number receiving relief in the four districts named above is 70,000, but this does not represent the real number of sufferers, many of whom will not leave their homes for relief. In these districts jowari and rice are about 8 lbs the Government rupee, if fair rain falls generally throughout territory within a short time, there will, of course, be a great change in present prospects, but any such change in those of four named districts will depend on rainfall in the east monsoon, the effects of which can be felt till March next. At present weather hot, sky clear, and no signs of rain. 300 tons of grain daily coming from Bombay to capital, and it is believed that there are considerable stocks in the territory, except in the four districts, but holders keep their stores back, and prices continue at famine rates, rice being 8 lbs. per Government rupee

No 179

Telegram, dated the 23rd August 1877.

FROM RESIDENT, Hyderabad, to C BERNARD, Esq., Commerce.

Referring to clear message of this day, I deem it right to report that Nizam's treasury is empty, and that efforts made by Minister to raise money locally have failed. Looking at present and future requirements, and probable difficulties from continuous failure of rain, I quite expect that his Highness' Government will be compelled to solicit a loan from British Government to enable famine expenditure

No. 180

No 8-B, dated Hyderabad Residency, 23rd August 1877

FROM THE SECOND ASSISTANT-RESIDENT, Hyderabad, to C BERNARD, Esq., C.S.I.,
Additional Secretary to the Government of India

I am directed to report, for the information of the Government of India, that late reports from Bejar betoken some uneasiness on account of want of rain, especially in the

Encl in
No 215.Encl in
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No 215.

Rainfall from 1st June up to 1st August, since which no returns yet received, but it may be stated that there has been no rain in Akola. A fall in Mulkapur, however, has been alluded to in a late report

	inches
Akola District - - -	9½
Mulkapur (Buldana District) 4½	

the next fortnight bring timely rain. It is of course impossible to say what may be the consequence of an entire absence of rain during the next month

2 But so far, though distress has set in, it would not appear to be caused by anything like a want of grain, as exportation of grain is still going on, but by high prices and want of work. The failure of forage and brushwood has thrown many people who used to cut and sell grass and wood out of employ, weeding operations are at a stand-still, and thus a number of persons have nothing to do, and cases are reported of several persons who have only one meal in two days. The class chiefly affected are the poorer Mahomedans; but of course when wheat and jowari are selling as at Akola, all persons of small means who depend mainly on these staples for food must suffer

AKOLA DISTRICT.

Average Prices per Rupee.

	This year	Former year.
Wheat	8 seers.	23 seers
Jowari	10 "	40 "

3. Some time ago, in view of scarcity, certain works were selected for relief purposes in the event of an influx of persons from the Bombay famine districts rendering it necessary to find employment for them in Berar, and these and others will now be taken in hand as relief works as may be found most convenient

To provide labour in the Akola district, Sir R. Meade has, on the urgent recommendation of the Commissioner of the assigned districts, sanctioned the commencement of earthwork on a project for water supply at Sheagaon, which is estimated to cost rather more than Rs. 40,000, and which will be duly submitted in the Public Works Department for the approval of the Government of India. The whole sum that has to be subscribed by the people for this work is Rs. 18,435, of which Rs. 10,441 have already been contributed, and the greater part of the balance can, it is believed, be realised without difficulty.

4. To alleviate distress in the Akola district very considerable liberality has been shown by private individuals, and the efforts of the local officers in organising relief measures are both diligent and judicious. At Akola many persons have subscribed to open a store of grain, to be sold at a fixed moderate rate to the poor—an excellent form of charity for all who are not absolutely destitute. To encourage the liberality manifested in this district, the Resident has, on the application of the Deputy Commissioner and Commissioner, sanctioned a grant of Rs. 5,000 from the general revenue of the Province, to be expended under the supervision of the Commissioner, if found absolutely necessary in such way as may be deemed most desirable

5. The Resident hopes the action taken by him, as noted in paragraphs 3 and 4 of this letter, will be approved by the Government of India

Encl in
No. 215.

No. 181.

FROM COLONEL O T BURNE TO MR. A. C. LYALL

MY DEAR MR. LYALL,

Gunesh Khund, 24th August 1877

I HAVE laid before the Viceroy your letter of 16th August expressing your fears of severe distress being imminent in Rajpootana. The Maharaja of Jeypore, who was admitted to an interview with his Excellency on Sunday last, also expressed great apprehension on the subject; and laid before Lord Lytton a memorandum of the measures which he proposed to adopt.

It is with great concern that Lord Lytton hears of the probability of this severe distress, which is not only deplorable on its own account, but aggravates grievously the difficulties caused by scarcity in other parts of India. I am directed to forward the Maharaja's memorandum for your consideration, and to give you an outline of the views which Lord Lytton has arrived at on the main point of the memorandum, and which may be communicated to his Highness. You will find, in the accompanying copy of Lord Lytton's Minute of the 12th August, a distinct enunciation of the general principles which, in the Viceroy's opinion, should guide the authorities in dealing with

the various stages of famine. Applying these principles to the suggestions contained in the Maharaja's memorandum, Lord Lytton would deprecate any very early adoption of a "vigorous" policy. It is necessary to be prepared with schemes of works of permanent public utility, but it is not desirable to open them in the very early days of scarcity. It seems to Lord Lytton that the result of this season's failure ought not *prima facie* to be felt in anything like an extreme shape for some months to come, in fact, till the kharif crop would in ordinary course have come into the market, and consequently it should not be readily assumed that the people's own resources have failed before that time, nor should the State be called upon to assist before the inability of the people to live on their own resources is apparent.

Then avoiding, as far as possible, the pernicious system of employing people on petty local works near their homes, and the still more pernicious system of giving relief at their homes to any save those who are absolutely helpless and infirm, the Maharaja should be advised to concentrate his efforts, in the first instance, in providing adequate large works of permanent utility to give employment to large numbers from whom a full, or nearly a full, day's work should be exacted, and these works should be placed under careful and strict professional control. If works of irrigation—such as large tanks, holding two years' supply of water—are possible, and are suited to the country, they have a great advantage, not only in offering profitable employment for unskilled labour, but in the facility with which they can be superintended. The question of going on with the railway through Western Rajpootana is one on which Lord Lytton can give no decisive answer till the papers come before him in due course, but if you find any large relief work really and urgently necessary, this line, which has been already sanctioned by the Secretary of State, and for which indeed the permanent way has, I understand, been ordered out, seems to be the sort of work which should be undertaken, though beyond the attraction of some surplus labour, it will not be of much direct use in the Maharaja of Jeypore's famine difficulties. I have sent a copy of your remarks on this head to the Public Works Department.

To come now to the specific proposals of the Maharaja: Lord Lytton rather deprecated the idea of the Durbar making itself in any way responsible for the recovery of loans granted by money-lenders. So far as the credit of the cultivator goes, the money-lender will tide him over the difficulty without any inducement from the State, and if the State creates an artificial credit, by inducing the money-lender to extend his operations, the State practically becomes security for the loan. Now, experience has shown us that, if a loan can at all be recovered from a cultivator, the money-lender is the person who has the greatest facilities for recovering it, and if he cannot do it the State will only be able to do it by running him. The same objection perhaps does not apply to the remission of court fees, which is a matter of detail on which the Durbar can best decide for themselves, but any interference with the business of the money-lenders—any State advances at this stage, however disguised—any interference with the usual process of recovering debts, and therefore with the whole fabric of credit—and, above all, any interference with the natural prices of grain, Lord Lytton emphatically condemns as a false and unchievous policy.

The Viceroy has no objection to the suggestion made in proposal No. 2 for exercising great leniency in the collection of revenue.

In regard to No. 3, for the reasons above given, Lord Lytton deprecates any competition by the State with the ordinary business of the money-lender. Where (if anywhere in the world) money-lenders are not, the State would do well to undertake the work only on such terms as to interest as may prevent too ready a resort to its coffers, and may protect the State from loss by bad debts. To the fourth proposal the Viceroy can have no objection in principle. It is a matter of detail which the Durbar can best decide about.

I have already explained his Excellency's views as to the undertaking of works generally, and need not recapitulate them in reference specially to the fifth proposal. The opening of almshouses may become a necessity, and it is as well that the preliminary arrangements should be made, but in Lord Lytton's opinion these should not be opened while the people can support their own poor, nor, when opened, should any be admitted to them, save under stringent tests and checks, it is a matter of extreme difficulty to move people, who have been once fed at an almshouse for nothing, to public works, where they are forced to give labour in return for subsistence.

On proposals 7 and 8 it is scarcely necessary for Lord Lytton to pass an opinion, nor on No. 9. In fact, his Excellency wishes to confine his advice to matters of principle,

not of detail; and I am to repeat that, in the long run, the Maharaja will find it the more humane and beneficent course to take stringent measures for testing and controlling the issue of alms and gratuitous relief generally, to concentrate all relief labour on large works under professional superintendence, to interfere as little as possible with the business of the money-lender, and give no advances except with an immediate view to the renewal of cultivation.

I am to request that you will convey to the Maharaja Lord Lytton's high appreciation of his humanity and far-sighted consideration of the responsibilities which the threatened distress have thrown upon him. I am to add, that if the Maharaja will communicate with General Kennedy, who has been directing most successfully the measures of relief in Bombay, he will find the rules and tests there introduced of the greatest assistance to him. I enclose copy of a letter addressed by General Kennedy to me on the subject raised in the Maharaja's memorandum.

Yours truly,
(Signed) O T BURNE

No 182

Telegram, dated 24th August 1877.

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE TO VICEROY

Yours to-day.

President's message yesterday asks for 60 additional engines for State railways, which we assume cancels Great Indian Peninsula indent for 100 engines, including 10 ghât engines.

May these 60 be of Great Indian Peninsula type if that construction will expedite delivery?

No. 183.

Telegram, dated Gunneshkhind, 24th August 1877.

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

Famine conference held with Temple and railway officials. Pressing need for additional engine power, Bombay. I urge earliest possible despatch of all five foot six gauge State Railway engines for loan to Peninsula line—extra payment probably necessary for quicker delivery and despatch of each engine when ready. Telegraph probable dates of arrival at Bombay; early receipt of engines important on famine, financial, and commercial grounds. Probably shall be obliged to suspend all general, in favour of famine, traffic, which cannot otherwise reach famine districts. Unless we can formally assure trade that general traffic will be renewed by beginning of next year at least, commercial crisis at Bombay is inevitable. To justify this assurance, engines must be delivered not later than 1st of January, in which case crisis can be averted. Can we reckon on delivery of whole by that period? Please tell me what is present condition of State engines already ordered.

No 184.

Telegram, dated Gunneshkhind, 25th August 1877.

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE

Yours yesterday. It must be distinctly understood that the 60 engines for State Railways are additional to the 40 engines previously ordered. This cancels indent for 100 engines, including 10 ghât engines for Great Indian Peninsula Railway, but has no

reference to 40 engines under construction for Great Indian Peninsula Company Your sanction to Dhond-Munmar Railway renders 10 ghat engines unnecessary. All the 60 to be of State Railway type five foot six gauge.

No. 185.

Telegram, dated 27th August 1877.

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE TO PRESIDENT

Dhond-Munmar Railway. Engine turntables and traverses in store at Kanoo Junction, East Indian Will they do?

No. 186.

Telegram, dated 27th August 1877.

FROM GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

Since my telegram of the 17th there has been good rain in eastern part of Kattywar, in districts of Surat, Khandesh, and part of Nassik, also showers in parts of Poona, and Sholapur, light rain only in Concan; and one rainstorm in Dharwar. All this constitutes clear improvement in situation in Bombay Presidency, but monsoon still irregular, and distress considerable. Crops far from secure, but may yet be mainly saved if more rain comes.

No 187.

Telegram, dated Simla, 27th August 1877.

FROM PRESIDENT TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

If wooden sleepers be sent for Dhond-Munmar Railway neither chairs nor keys will be required, but spikes wanted.

No 188

Telegram, dated 28th August 1877.

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE TO VICEROY.

Yours 25th

Will order at once 60 engines, State Railway type, but wish you distinctly to understand that this will probably involve considerable delay, as engines of Great Indian Peninsula type could be delivered more rapidly.

No 189

Telegram, dated 28th August 1877.

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE TO VICEROY.

Yours 23rd

If waggons wanted 500 can be delivered here in ten weeks from date of order; cost about 150/ per waggon in India

No 190.

Telegram, dated 28th August 1877.

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE TO PRESIDENT, SIMLA

Yours 27th

Sleepers for Dhond-Munmar ordered Firms at work.

Encl. in
No 289.

No. 191

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of the BOARD OF REVENUE, Madras, No. 3,989, dated
28th August 1877

READ again—

G O., dated 3rd August 1877, No 2,441, recorded in Board's proceedings, dated
13th August 1877, No 3,778.

*p 153

The accompanying demand, collection, and balance statement* of land revenue as compared with the average of the past three Fashis is, submitted to Government, with reference to the requisition contained in the telegram of the Government of India embodied in the Government order read above. The particulars are given for the Fashi year ending 30th June 1877 as the demand is fixed for that period.

2 The demand shown in the statement for Fashi 1286 is only approximate, as the jamabundy has not yet been completed in all the districts.

No. 192.

Telegram, dated Madras, 29th August 1877.

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE

Your telegram, 28th Early arrival of engines most important. If four weeks saved in time of delivery by adoption of Peninsula type, please order 30 engines of that type for Company, and 30 of State Railway type for reserve. Please telegraph progress of 40 engines for State previously ordered, and probable date of arrival.

Encl in
No 215.

No 193.

No 755, dated Madras, 29th August 1877

From C. BERNARD, Esq, C.S.I, Additional Secretary to the Government of India,
to the RESIDENT AT HYDERABAD

Your letter, No 8-B, dated the 23rd August, regarding anticipated distress in the Akola District of Berar, has been laid before his Excellency the Viceroy, who has (since the receipt of your letter) been glad to learn from yourself that good rain has fallen in Berar, and that the crops thus far promise well

2 But, in the event of difficulties requiring, I am to explain his Excellency the Viceroy's views to the following effect. Though there may be some distress among the poor, yet it is to be hoped that general distress would not be felt in a rich province like Berar, so early in the season as August, after a good harvest last year, and at prices not dearer than 10 seers the rupee. Until real distress becomes felt among a considerable section of the population it is generally undesirable to open relief works or to begin relief measures. Paragraphs 19 and 20 of the enclosed Minute by the Viceroy express his Excellency's views as to the way in which relief employment ought to be prepared and given. If, or when, distress threatens in Berar, no time should be lost in preparing projects for large useful works, and when necessity arises, such works should be opened under strict professional supervision. If at centres of population, like Akola or Shegaon, relief employment is required before general distress declares itself, such employment should be given under stringent professional supervision, and the wage-rate should be kept very low.

From the SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, to the SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT, North-West Provinces.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No 1,754, dated 22nd August, with enclosures, concerning the effects of the recent drought on the autumn crop of the North-Western Provinces. The present condition appears to be in brief that the un-irrigated autumn crop has already been lost over a great part of the Meerut, Agra, Jhansi, and Rohilkund Divisions, as well as over the greater part of Oudh; that the autumn crops of the Benares and Allahabad Divisions are in a critical state; and that even the irrigated crops have suffered much from the hot dry winds.

2 His Excellency the Viceroy is much concerned to learn that already the loss of crop in the North-Western Provinces should have been so great. Telegrams received from the Secretariat at Allahabad since the date of your letter (22nd August) show that rain still holds off everywhere, save in the Benares Division. It is satisfactory that the reports now received confirm the general impression that, notwithstanding the large exportation of the past season, the food stocks in the hands of landholders and dealers are unusually large.

3 His Excellency the Viceroy has been much interested in reading Colonel Fraser's letter, which conveys his Honour the Lieutenant-Governor's views to the Commissioners and Collectors; and he thoroughly approves the warning against undue alarm. Your seventh paragraph mentions that authority has already been given to all Commissioners to begin at once giving relief employment on public works of Class A, that is to say, on repairs to main roads, on collecting metal, on improving cross-roads, on repairs to canals, tanks, and drainage works. If this authority does no more than permit Commissioners to begin earlier than usual the ordinary works of this class, for which funds are provided in the local or provincial budgets, then the Viceroy will not interfere with the discretion of the local Government, though his Excellency advises that the relief wage on such works be fixed at the lowest subsistence rate, and that full professional supervision be exercised over such works from the very first.

4 If, however, the authority spoken of in your seventh paragraph permits Commissioners to begin at discretion famine relief works of the type described under Class A of Colonel Fraser's letter, and if the request for sanction, made in your ninth paragraph, imports that the cost of these works is to be charged as famine expenditure against the Government of India, then his Excellency the Viceroy must request that the matter may be reconsidered. His Excellency's most decided opinion—that opinion is confirmed by the experience of the past year—is that at the very beginning of a scarcity relief employment should be given on large, professionally supervised public works only, and that no relief policy can be financially more dangerous than to open all over the country scattered relief works on which adequate supervision must be practically impossible. Lord Lytton's views on this subject—views in which his Excellency's colleagues fully concur—will be found in the annexed extracts from a Minute recorded by him on the present condition of famine affairs in Southern India.

5 In accordance with the views expressed in the extracts in question the Government of India must request that, if relief employment is given at the cost of the general treasury in any part of the North-Western Provinces, such employment shall from the outset be given on large public works and under professional supervision only. His Excellency the Viceroy believes that the North-Western Provinces and Oudh Government already

* For instance—
The Ganges Canal improvement
The Lower Ganges Canal (Rajmohore) Scheme.
The Sarala Canal Project.
The Rohilkund Canals
Branch railways in Oudh, Rohilkund, and parts of North-Western Provinces.

possesses many* great and useful projects, which, though hitherto postponed on financial grounds, would be of permanent benefit to the country, and might fitly be selected for execution either wholly or in part, in the event of a heavy expenditure, as famine relief becoming necessary. His Excellency therefore requests that some such work may be selected for each district or division, as the first relief work to be opened in each tract. All

projects requiring relief employment would then be sent to, and employed on, large, adequately supervised undertakings of permanent utility.

No 195.

Telegram, dated 30th August 1877

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

20th to 28th, Madras Insufficient rain in Kistna, Northern Circars, Bellary, North Arcot, Kurnool, Cuddapah; light showers elsewhere. Rainfall not general Situation not improved anywhere, distinctly worse in Madura, Salem, Combatore, Nellore; prices high, supplies from seaboard sufficient Double line open. Arconum railway working from Madras improving, Raichore supplies short

Numbers on works, 919,771; on gratuitous relief, 1,326,971. Many people left works for village relief.

In Mysore, crop prospects worse; showers less frequent; prices dear as before; 49,200 on works; 194,083 on gratuitous

Bombay, plentiful rain in Khandesh, good general rain in Tanna, Kolaba, Broach, Surat, Nassik, in greater part Kattywar, parts Ahmednagar, Belgaum, showers in Dharwar, Sattara, Sholapore, part of Kaladgi, some places in Guzerat. Prices very dear. Deccan crop prospects on whole better; number on relief, as before North-West autumn crop nearly lost in Agra, Mirat, Jhansi, Rohilkund Divisions, greater part Oudh crop on irrigated land suffering from hot wind, no rain. Telegram to-day says, good general rain in Meerut and Rohilcund will do much good. Crops in Allahabad, Benares Divisions critical

Punjab, condition of crops critical In South Bengal, Burmah, Central Provinces, crop prospects good; also in Berar, where recent rain. Central India, good rain at Indore Rutlam, much benefited Gwalior, no rain, prospects bad Rajputana, no appreciable rainfall, failure crops and pasturage expected Hyderabad no rain, much failure and distress reported south of Nizam's dominions.

No 196.

Telegram, dated Madras, 30th August 1877

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE

Have inquired into Madras Railway requirements and recent indent on your Lordship I consider that 20 locomotives, 600 waggons, and 40 break-vans should be despatched promptly Locomotives should form part of State reserve, and should be of State Railway five feet six inch gauge type Molesworth wishes additional quarter inch thickness of engine framing We will accept engines of Madras Railway type, as designed by Madras Locomotive Superintendent, if these can arrive sooner, but we object to engines of type recently received in Madras Waggons to be of State Railway type to carry 10 tons, break-vans of type indented by Madras

No. 197.

Telegram, dated 31st August 1877.

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE TO PRESIDENT, Simla.

Yours, 14th. Western Rajputana Railway

Railway materials and rolling stock for 100 miles will be provided at once as stock

No. 198.

No. 2,619, dated Fort St George, 31st August 1877.

FROM ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS TO ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

With reference to the telegram from the Honourable T C Hope, dated 31st July 1877, and in continuation of my letter No. 2,511 C, dated the 16th instant, I am directed to submit, for the information of his Excellency the Governor-General in Council, a statement prepared by the Madras Board of Revenue showing the approximate demand, collection, and balance of land revenue for Fash (revenue year) 1,286 compared with the average of the preceding three years

STATEMENT showing the APPROXIMATE DEMAND, COLLECTION, and BALANCE of LAND REVENUE for FASLI 1286 compared with the average of the preceding THREE YEARS

DISTRICTS	DEMAND, COLLECTION, AND BALANCE ON THE AVERAGE OF THREE YEARS ENDING 30TH JUNE 1876											
	LAND REVENUE DEMAND			LAND REVENUE COLLECTIONS AND REMISSIONS								
				COLLECTIONS			REMISSIONS			TOTAL		
	Arrears.	Current	Total.	Arrears	Current	Total	Arrears	Current	Total	Arrears	Current	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs.	Rs	Rs	Rs.	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs
1 Ganjam - -	2,17,437	11,92,778	14,10,215	1,72,649	10,47,354	12,20,008	1,043	- - -	1,043	1,73,692	10,47,354	12,21,046
2 Vizagapatam - -	81,153	13,91,044	14,72,197	65,212	13,28,436	13,93,648	1,617	- - -	1,617	66,829	13,28,436	13,95,265
3 Go'avery - -	4,70,952	42,07,158	46,78,105	2,14,714	39,83,987	41,98,701	12,412	- - -	12,412	2,27,126	39,83,987	42,11,113
4 Kistna - -	2,51,204	40,60,486	43,11,690	1,76,226	38,31,412	40,07,638	10,858	- - -	10,858	1,87,084	38,31,412	40,18,496
5 Nellore - -	6,00,001	22,41,078	28,41,079	4,37,103	16,89,430	21,26,533	14,668	- - -	14,668	4,51,771	16,89,430	21,41,201
6 Cuddapah - -	2,66,550	18,89,986	21,56,536	2,18,636	17,07,109	19,25,745	6,369	- - -	6,369	2,25,005	17,07,109	19,32,114
7 Bellary - -	1,02,023	24,82,798	25,84,821	67,244	23,87,382	24,54,626	11,876	- - -	11,876	79,120	23,87,382	24,66,502
8 Kurnool - -	35,744	14,97,668	15,33,412	26,922	14,66,373	14,93,295	1,339	- - -	1,339	28,261	14,66,373	14,94,634
9 Madras - -	42,386	78,375	1,20,761	19,307	67,643	86,950	5,413	85	5,448	24,720	67,678	92,398
10 Chingleput - -	5,78,070	14,38,176	20,16,246	3,83,642	11,71,728	15,55,370	15,512	- - -	15,512	3,99,154	11,71,728	15,70,882
11 North Arcot - -	5,04,127	24,02,118	29,06,245	3,32,681	21,14,143	24,46,824	17,644	3,000	20,644	3,50,825	21,17,143	24,67,468
12 South Arcot - -	2,62,006	31,41,104	34,03,110	2,01,505	27,81,922	29,83,427	19,219	- - -	19,219	2,20,724	27,81,922	30,02,646
13 Tanjore - -	1,71,374	41,94,530	43,65,904	1,38,350	40,40,644	41,78,904	1,710	- - -	1,710	1,40,060	40,40,644	41,80,704
14 Trichinopoly - -	1,12,277	15,09,111	16,21,388	86,616	14,25,789	15,12,405	1,849	- - -	1,849	88,465	14,25,789	15,14,254
15 Madura - -	13,23,765	24,09,095	37,32,860	10,27,719	16,44,579	26,72,298	3,044	275	3,319	10,30,763	16,44,864	26,75,617
16 Tinnevely - -	3,81,238	28,20,474	32,01,712	3,54,270	24,28,929	27,83,199	9,133	- - -	9,133	3,63,403	24,28,929	27,92,332
17 Combatoore - -	1,92,537	26,02,893	27,95,430	1,75,800	23,81,621	25,57,421	1,606	- - -	1,606	1,77,406	23,81,621	25,50,027
18 Nilgiris - -	1,942	45,165	47,107	423	41,849	42,272	1,109	- - -	1,109	1,532	41,849	43,381
19 Salem - -	3,56,459	22,35,189	25,91,641	2,28,837	19,58,426	21,87,263	28,305	- - -	28,305	2,57,142	19,58,426	22,15,668
20 South Canara - -	56,244	12,74,683	13,30,927	47,612	12,11,997	12,59,609	762	- - -	762	48,374	12,11,997	12,60,371
21 Malabar - -	1,11,678	18,43,000	19,54,678	49,947	17,74,630	18,24,577	4,791	- - -	4,791	54,788	17,74,630	18,29,368
Total - -	61,19,167	4,49,56,904	5,10,76,071	44,25,415	4,04,85,383	4,49,10,798	1,70,279	3,310	1,73,589	45,95,694	4,04,88,693	4,50,84,387

(continued)

STATEMENT showing the APPROXIMATE DEMAND, COLLECTION, and BALANCE OF LAND REVENUE for ~~FASLI~~ 1286, &c —(continued).

DISTRICTS	DEMAND, COLLECTION, AND BALANCE ON THE AVERAGE OF THREE YEARS ENDING 30TH JUNE 1876—continued.				DEMAND, COLLECTION, AND BALANCE OF FASLI 1286 ENDING 30TH JUNE 1877					
	LAND REVENUE BALANCE			Per-centage of the Balance to the Demand.	LAND REVENUE DEMAND.			LAND REVENUE COLLECTIONS AND REMISSIONS.		
	Arrears	Current	Total		Arrears	Current	Total	Collections.		
				Arrears.				Current	Total	
1	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs.	Rs
1. Ganjam - - - -	43,745	1,45,424	1,89,169	13' 4	1,64,919	11,88,658	13,63,577	1,03,431	10,95,651	11,99,088
2. Vizagapatam - - -	14,324	62,608	76,932	5 2	80,917	13,83,805	14,64,722	65,313	12,90,185	13,55,492
3. Godavary - - - -	2,43,826	2,23,166	4,66,992	10' 0	4,52,159	41,71,301	46,23,460	1,77,746	40,36,723	42,14,469
4. Kistna - - - - -	64,120	2,29,074	2,93,194	6 8	2,87,052	35,97,935	38,34,987	1,38,163	29,14,896	30,53,059
5. Nellore - - - - -	1,48,230	5,51,648	6,99,878	24 6	7,46,482	9,98,879	17,45,361	4,41,948	4,21,529	8,63,472
6 Cuddapah - - - -	41,545	1,82,877	2,24,422	10 4	1,76,973	7,55,500	9,32,473	1,01,539	1,32,482	2,34,021
7. Bellary - - - - -	22,903	95,416	1,18,319	4' 6	1,45,354	3,00,000	9,45,354	79,278	2,18,393	2,97,671
8. Kurnool - - - - -	7,483	81,295	88,778	2' 5	34,428	7,06,167	7,40,595	19,814	78,506	98,320
9. Madras - - - - -	17,666	10,697	28,363	23 5	24,013	78,014	1,02,027	8,250	64,103	72,353
10. Chingleput - - -	1,78,916	2,66,448	4,45,364	22 1	3,64,942	6,13,000	9,77,942	1,69,774	1,83,446	3,53,220
11 North Arcot - - -	1,53,802	2,84,975	4,38,777	15 1	4,32,028	15,61,000	19,93,028	1,73,961	5,41,777	7,15,738
12 South Arcot - - -	41,282	3,59,182	4,00,464	11 8	5,52,476	26,00,000	31,52,476	5,00,836	15,11,505	20,12,341
13. Tanjore - - - - -	31,314	1,53,886	1,85,200	4 2	2,08,144	40,19,068	42,27,212	1,66,678	36,77,421	38,44,099
14 Trichinopoly - -	23,812	83,322	1,07,134	6 6	77,823	14,67,592	15,45,415	52,155	13,21,171	13,73,326
15 Madras - - - - -	2,93,002	7,64,241	10,57,243	28 3	5,57,147	18,09,198	23,66,345	4,93,647	2,74,383	7,68,030
16 Tinnevely - - - -	17,835	3,91,545	4,09,380	12 5	4,39,671	24,25,884	28,65,555	4,15,743	18,54,771	22,70,514
17. Combatore - - -	15,131	2,21,272	2,36,403	8 5	2,53,479	23,11,428	25,64,907	2,22,557	10,17,509	12,40,066
18 Nilgiris - - - - -	410	3,316	3,726	7 9	9,025	56,527	65,552	8,151	45,380	53,531
19 Salem - - - - -	99,317	2,76,763	3,76,080	14 5	4,15,327	18,20,709	22,36,036	2,42,504	4,46,738	6,89,242
20 South Canara - - -	7,870	62,686	70,556	5 3	90,715	12,95,294	13,86,009	81,010	12,23,792	13,04,802
21 Malabar - - - - -	56,940	68,370	1,25,310	6' 4	1,44,182	18,24,732	19,68,914	63,700	17,69,521	18,33,221
Total - - - - -	15,23,473	44,68,211	59,91,684	11 7	56,57,256	3,54,84,691	4,11,41,947	37,26,193	2,41,19,882	2,78,46,075

STATEMENT showing the APPROXIMATE DEMAND, COLLECTION, and BALANCE OF LAND REVENUE for FASLI 1286, &c.—(concluded).

DISTRICTS	DEMAND, COLLECTION, AND BALANCE OF FASLI 1286 ENDING 30TH JUNE 1877—(continued)									Per-centage of the Balance to the Demand.
	LAND REVENUE COLLECTIONS AND REMISSIONS—(continued)						LAND REVENUE BALANCE			
	REMISSIONS			Total.						
	Arrears.	Current.	Total	Arrears	Current	Total.	Arrears.	Current	Total.	
1	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33
	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	
1 Canjam - - - -	6,798	- - -	6,798	1,10,229	10,95,651	12,05,880	54,690	93,007	1,47,697	10 9
2 Vizagapatam - - -	3,687	- - -	3,687	69,000	12,90,185	13,59,185	11,917	93,620	1,05,537	7 2
3 Godavery - - - -	59,402	- - -	59,402	2,37,148	40,36,723	42,73,871	2,15,011	1,34,578	3,49,589	7 5
4 Kistna - - - - -	8,294	- - -	8,294	1,46,457	29,14,896	30,61,353	1,40,595	6,83,039	8,23,634	21 2
5 Nellore - - - - -	72,064	- - -	72,064	5,14,007	4,21,529	9,35,536	2,32,475	5,77,350	8,09,825	46 4
6 Cuddapah - - - -	3,496	- - -	3,496	1,05,035	1,32,482	2,37,517	71,938	6,23,018	6,94,956	74 5
7 Bellary - - - - -	8,035	- - -	8,035	87,313	2,18,393	3,05,706	58,041	5,81,607	6,39,648	67 7
8 Kurnool - - - - -	3,778	- - -	3,778	23,592	78,506	1,02,098	10,836	6,27,661	6,38,497	86·2
9 Madras - - - - -	2,609	- - -	2,609	10,659	64,103	74,962	13,154	13,911	27,065	26 5
10 Chingleput - - -	43,664	- - -	43,664	2,13,438	1,83,446	3,96,884	1,51,504	4,29,554	5,81,058	59 5
11 North Arcot - - -	18,063	- - -	18,063	1,92,024	5,41,777	7,33,801	2,40,004	10,19,223	12,59,227	63 2
12 South Arcot - - -	7,144	- - -	7,144	5,07,980	15,11,505	20,19,485	44,496	10,88,495	11,32,991	35 9
13 Tanjore - - - - -	1,380	- - -	1,380	1,68,058	36,77,421	38,45,479	40,086	3,41,647	3,81,733	9·0
14 Trichinopoly - -	5,992	- - -	5,992	58,147	13,21,171	13,79,318	19,676	1,46,421	1,66,097	10 7
15 Madura - - - - -	1,158	- - -	1,158	4,94,805	2,74,383	7,69,188	62,342	15,34,815	15,97,157	60 7
16 Tinnevely - - - -	1,975	- - -	1,975	4,17,718	18,54,771	22,72,489	21,953	5,71,113	5,93,066	20 7
17 Combatore - - - -	5,519	- - -	5,519	2,28,076	10,17,509	12,45,585	25,403	12,93,919	13,19,322	53·5
18 Nilgiris - - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	8,151	45,980	53,531	874	11,147	12,021	18·3
19 Salem - - - - -	17,310	- - -	17,310	2,59,814	4,46,738	7,06,552	1,55,518	18,73,971	15,29,484	68 4
20 South Canara - - -	80	- - -	80	81,090	12,23,792	13,04,882	9,625	71,502	81,127	5 9
21. Malabar - - - - -	11,742	- - -	11,742	75,442	17,69,521	18,44,963	68,740	55,211	1,23,951	6 8
Total - - - - -	2,82,190	- - -	2,82,190	40,08,383	2,41,19,882	2,81,28,265	16,48,873	1,13,64,809	1,30,13,682	31 6

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No. 199.

No. 772—(Famine).

From the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA to the SECRETARY
TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL.

Governor-General's Camp, Madras,
the 31st August 1877

The attention of his Excellency the Viceroy has been drawn to certain correspondence which has passed between the Lord Mayor of London and the General Committee, Madras Famine Relief Fund, in regard to a private meeting held in Calcutta for forming a Famine Relief Committee; and from this correspondence it appears that considerable misapprehension exists as to his Excellency's views on the subject of appeals to the public in aid of famine relief. I am, therefore, directed to communicate to you, in continuation of the Viceroy's telegram of the 12th August, the views of the Government of India on this important subject.

2. The Madras Government have undertaken to keep people alive by all available means within their power; they undertake to relieve the famine-stricken by giving work to those who can work; by giving food and attendance either in relief camps or kitchens to famine-stricken people who cannot work, and they distribute relief in the shape of a money-dole to nearly half a million of people at their villages; but in order to do this the whole available organisation of the country is strained to the very utmost, and it is impossible to place the organisation at the disposal of any irresponsible committee.

3. Before, therefore, the Government of India could properly ask for, or even accept, the charitable assistance of the public, it would be necessary to ascertain what measures of relief, other than those already adopted by Government, the Central Committee propose to adopt, and what organisation, other than the Government organisation, is at their disposal for carrying out those measures.

4. The Viceroy in his telegram of the 12th explained that he was unwilling "to appeal for public subscriptions in aid of the efforts which Government was making to "keep people alive," that is to say, he was unwilling to ask for public subscriptions in order to supplement the Government expenditure on the same lines, for the same ends, and through the same channels of organisation as the Government had already occupied. To have done this would be merely asking for public subscriptions in aid of the Indian revenues, and it was unlikely on the one hand that the public would have cared to subscribe for this purpose, while on the other the assistance which such subscriptions could have given would have borne but an infinitesimal proportion to the expenditure of half a million sterling a month which the Government has already to defray on account of famine.

5. There was another consideration which, in his Excellency's opinion, rendered it specially inopportune to appeal to the Indian public for subscriptions in aid of Imperial expenditure on famine, so long especially as the objects and agency of such charity are not distinctly and definitely separated from the objects and agency of Government expenditure. It had become manifest that, in order to meet the heavy drain on the finances of India, which the Madras and Bombay famines were already causing, the Government would sooner or later be obliged to resort to increased taxation over the whole country, and it followed necessarily from the nature of the case that the very class from whom subscriptions might be expected would have to bear the burthen of taxation, the Viceroy was, therefore, unwilling to ask for public subscriptions from the same persons, who would hereafter have to bear a heavy burthen of taxation for precisely the same objects as those to which their subscriptions were to be devoted.

6. This last consideration of course applies only to subscriptions raised in India, and in no way to appeals made in England; but its importance is increased by the fact that, in addition to the destitution in Madras, the Government have to face anticipated scarcity also over a great portion of Northern India.

7. His Excellency in his telegram of the 12th instant added that "if any definite objects can be specified which are beyond the scope of the operations of Government, and to which the subscriptions of the public can be usefully applied, there can be no objection." At that time the Government of India had received no communication

on the subject from the Government of Madras, and the newspaper reports of the public meetings left it quite uncertain whether the objects to which the Committee destined

" Committee earnestly solicit your Lordship's powerful influence, support, appeal, assistance, for afflicted population Southern India * * * Property sold for food, villages largely deserted, poor wandering near in sustenance, resources lower middle class exhausted owing famine prices prompt liberal assistance sympathy may mitigate suffering "

their funds were those already provided for by Government or not, in fact, the telegram ultimately sent home by the Committee to the Lord Mayor leaves the question still open to the utmost doubt, and points rather to the assistance being devoted to relief works and relief camps than to any fresh field of action. His Excellency has

now, however, had an opportunity of conferring with the Government of Madras, and learns from his Grace the Duke of Buckingham that the Committee propose to devote the funds received by them to special objects not coming within the scope of Government relief, two of which objects are understood to be the relief of those who are not yet so reduced as to leave their villages or to apply for Government assistance, and the support of orphans and destitute children not reached by Government agency. His Excellency is now in correspondence with the Government of Madras with a view to formulating somewhat more precisely the objects to which private charity will be devoted and the agency through which it will be applied.

8 While, therefore, it remains in the Viceroy's opinion undesirable for the Government itself to ask those who will hereafter have to bear the burden of taxation on account of famine expenditure to give their private subscriptions also towards the same object, his Excellency desires that every encouragement may be given to spontaneous efforts which may be made in this direction. Lord Lytton is very far from desiring to impede the flow of private charity, and is only anxious to secure that it should be devoted to useful purposes apart from those already taken up by the State, and that it should not be diverted into a simple contribution to the revenues of the State.

No. 200.

No. 773—(Famine).

Encl 1.
Nos 215,
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From the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA to the SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS, Famine Department

Governor-General's Camp, Madras,
31st August 1877

I am directed to forward, for the information of the Governor of Madras in Council, the accompanying copy of a letter which, under the direction of his Excellency the Viceroy, I have this day addressed to the Government of Bengal, in regard to the question of applying to the public for subscriptions in aid of famine relief

2 The immediate object of this letter was to explain to his Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal somewhat more fully than had been done in the telegram of the 12th of August the views and wishes of the Government of India in regard to appeals by Government for public subscriptions, and it is desirable that his Grace should also be informed of the considerations which led his Excellency to adopt these views

3 With reference to paragraph 7 of the enclosed letter, I am directed to state that his Excellency finds on the proceedings of the Committee* held on the 24th August, a resolution that the Fund should be devoted (1) to contributions in aid of

* General Committee, Madras Famine Relief Fund

local Committees for the relief of necessitous poor, not reached by the Government, (2) to contributions towards the care of destitute children, (3) to making allotment towards any other special objects which seem to come within the scope and ability of the Fund. The whole discussion tends to show that it was the desire of the Committee to adapt its work to objects and measures of relief other than those already covered by the action of Government, but in considering the terms by which the Committee define the objects to which their funds will be devoted the Viceroy fails to gather such complete and specific information on the point as he could desire. He has no objection whatever to the benefits of private charity being directed towards those necessitous poor whom the action of Government cannot reach, and accepts it as quite probable that among women of respectable classes, among persons on very small fixed incomes, and even among agriculturists who are struggling to remain at their homes, there may be cases which ought not to come within the scope of Government action, but which may very properly be relieved by private charity wherever private charity has the necessary agency at its disposal. Similarly, in regard to children, though Government is in one

way or another endeavouring to keep alive all destitute or orphan children that may be thrown on its hands, there may well be room for private charity in regard to children not within this category, and moreover the work of providing for and supporting such children hereafter, either by grants to orphanages or to those who will receive such children, is obviously a fit subject for private charity. His Excellency understands that it was not the object of the Committee to express, in a general resolution, specific rules or detailed instructions, but doubtless these will be drawn out hereafter. In the meantime, as Lord Lytton learns that the subject has been under the consideration of his Grace the Governor, he will be glad to receive information as to the conclusions which the Madras Government have come to, and to learn not only what are the specific objects in detail to which funds are to be devoted, but also what agency the Committee propose to employ, both in large towns and in the interior, for the attainment of those objects. In large towns there will, no doubt, be plenty of volunteer agency available, but in the villages his Excellency apprehends that outside the chain of relief organization subordinate to the Collector it will be difficult to find the requisite agency, and Lord Lytton deprecates the diversion of this organization to purposes other than those of Government relief. This objection is not based on imaginary grounds. Experience has shown that, when the Government relief organization has been placed under the orders of a Central Committee, it has led not only to the Collectors being burdened with additional work, having to submit double sets of returns, and to correspond with an additional master, but also to a considerable amount of friction and some unseemly discussions between Government officials and their superiors. His Excellency hopes, therefore, that the Government of Madras will be able to direct the operations of the Committee into some line where the agency to be employed will not be that of the overworked establishment already employed by Government.

Encl in
No 216.

No. 201.

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS.

No. 2,232, dated Fort St George, 31st August 1877.

From the Honourable D F. CARMICHAEL, Chief Secretary to Government, Madras, to
C. BERNARD, Esq., C.S.I., Additional Secretary to the Government of India.

His Grace the Governor having had the advantage of a conference with his Excellency the Viceroy respecting the control of future famine operations in this Presidency, I am directed to report, for the information of the Government of India, the steps which the Madras Government has decided to take, and the respects in which his Grace the Governor in Council desires the assistance of his Excellency the Viceroy of India.

2. In the first place his Grace the Governor has resolved to frame a rule under section 28 of the "Indian Councils Act," providing that all famine questions coming before the Government of Madras shall be laid before his Grace the Governor, and disposed of by him. Orders issued under this rule will thus have the force of orders of the Governor in Council.

3. Next, it has been decided that to his Grace the Governor shall be attached a high officer, possessing the confidence of the Government of India, who shall be a personal assistant to the Governor in famine management.

4. The Chief Engineers in all departments, the Collectors of districts, and other controlling officers engaged in famine management, will be instructed to address, for the future, all their references and reports to Government on famine matters (including relief works) to the Additional Secretary in the Revenue Department direct, and not through the Board of Revenue. Such reports, and the orders passed by Government thereon, will be communicated in the ordinary course to the Board, in order that the Board may be kept fully informed of all that passes, and that its members may be competent to advise the Government whenever their aid may be asked. If the work thus thrown on the Secretariat should prove excessive, his Excellency the Viceroy will, the Governor understands, be willing to sanction an additional Under Secretary or other requisite staff in the Government Famine Department.

5. His Grace the Governor proposes that members of the Board should be deputed, as heretofore, to visit the distressed districts, inspect relief operations, and report to Government the manner in which orders are being carried out.

6. His Grace the Governor was glad to find that his Excellency the Viceroy is in accord with himself as to the main principles which ought to guide the famine policy of

Government; but it seems advisable that these principles should be briefly recapitulated here. They are,—

I. *Grain-Supply*—That, as was decided by the Government of India at Delhi in January last, this Government should abstain from importing grain on its own account, and from any measure which might interfere with the activity of private trade. As the proposal to supply seed-grain to ryots might be held to traverse this general rule, it was noted at the conference that the Government of Madras would be free to buy a supply of such seed-grain if his Grace found such an arrangement better than advancing to ryots money for the purchase of seed.

II *Public Works*.—A large scheme of useful public works under departmental supervision should be the backbone of the relief system; all other forms of relief being subsidiary to the main scheme, and all relief-works of any magnitude being directed and controlled by agency belonging to the Public Works Department.

Large works under professional agency should not be limited (as has under standing orders been hitherto the case) to works which are deemed directly remunerative, nor even to works which may probably be finished during the continuance of the famine. The Governments of India and Madras will be prepared to accept a proportion of unremunerative and unfinished public works at the end of the famine.

III *Gratuitous Relief*.—All gratuitous relief should be, as far as possible, temporary, and subsidiary to the main object of getting the distressed people on to the works, or back to their homes and ordinary occupations. It will be necessary to maintain relief-camps in order to receive and support the starving, the helpless wanderers, and infirm persons, with a view of getting them into condition to labour. But the ultimate object of these relief-camps as receiving places only for people hereafter to be drafted to works, or to their homes, should ever be kept in view.

Secondly.—Village relief, other than casual relief to famine-stricken travellers, should be confined to resident villagers who are house-ridden, or otherwise unfitted for or incapable of labour.

7 In order to give effect to these principles, his Grace the Governor desires a very considerable temporary addition,

- (a) To the engineering staff of the Presidency,
- (b) To the European staff for the supervision of gratuitous relief.

His Grace the Governor would ask the Viceroy to lend him from other parts of India,

- (a) ten 1st or 2nd Grade Executive Engineers, ten 3rd or 4th Grade Executive Engineers, twenty Assistant Engineers of not less than one year's standing, twenty Upper Subordinates of the higher class,
- (b) one hundred active young European officers belonging to one or other of the following classes—

Staff Corps, Artillery, or other Military Officers not more than 35 years of age.

Assistant, or Acting Assistant Superintendents of Police.

European Inspectors of Police of the better class

Assistants in the Forest Department of not less than 18 months' service

Assistants from the Engineering Department of the railways

The extra allowances to be granted to these officers will be governed by the rules already in force regarding officers deputed for famine duty from other Presidencies.

8 For the due control and direction of relief-works, it will be necessary that the two Chief Engineers now serving under this Government should from time to time be deputed into the interior. And his Grace learns that the Government of India is willing to sanction a third (temporary) Chief Engineer, in the event of such an additional officer being wanted. If his Grace finds it necessary to establish temporarily additional district engineerships on the footing of Superintending Engineership in Bengal, he understands that such temporary appointments will, within moderate limits, be sanctioned.

No 775, Governor-General's Camp, Madras, the 31st August 1877

From C. BERNARD, Esq, C S I., Additional Secretary to the Government of India, Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce Department, to the CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No 2,232, of to-day's date, describing the measures which the Government of Madras, in pursuance of the conclusions arrived at in the conference held yesterday between the Viceroy and the Governor, proposes to adopt in order to secure promptitude of action and unity of control in famine administration, now that a second failure of the rains has greatly aggravated the pressure of distress throughout the Madras Presidency.

2 The Viceroy is greatly pleased to find that the Government of Madras has decided that the Famine Department shall be under the immediate guidance and control of the Governor; and that some shortening of the administrative chain has been found possible. The Viceroy believes that much benefit to the afflicted populations, in whose behalf his Grace has done so much, as well as great financial advantage to the public treasury, cannot fail to result from the increased efficiency of action and the improved unity of control which will be secured by the arrangements now made.

3 The Viceroy and Governor-General highly appreciate the motives which, in recognition of the great imperial interests concerned, have induced the Governor of Madras to associate with his personal administration, in the manner indicated in paragraph 3 of your letter, the services of an officer possessing the special confidence of the Government of India. I am, however, to point out that it is essential to the efficiency of this arrangement that all famine papers and questions submitted to the Government shall pass through the hands of the personal assistant, as was settled at the conference above referred to. It is, of course, by no means suggested, nor is it at all desirable, that any obstacle should be placed in the way of the personal relations of the Secretariat with and access to the Governor of Madras. But it is absolutely necessary that the personal assistant to the Governor, accredited as he is by the Government of India, should have full opportunity of stating his views to the Governor at the proper time.

4. The Viceroy and Governor-General, in accordance with the proposal formulated in your letter, and after due consultation with the Duke of Buckingham, is hereby pleased to attach temporarily to the Government of Madras, in the capacity of personal assistant to his Grace in famine matters, the Honourable Major-General Kennedy, R.E., who possesses the full confidence of the Government of India.

5 It is a source of much satisfaction to the Viceroy and Governor-General that the recent conference between himself and the Governor of Madras has established complete accordance in their views as regards the general principles of famine management, and the special measures best fitted for the application of those principles to the pressing difficulties, which now call for prompt and decisive action. I am to take this opportunity of forwarding a Minute (already communicated privately to his Grace) which was recorded by the Viceroy prior to his departure from Simla. This Minute will now be circulated to local Governments for their guidance in the administration of famine relief.

6 With reference to the clause in paragraph 6 of your letter, which touches on the possibility that seed-grain may have to be bought by Government for distribution to ryots, the Viceroy understands that, in those rare and special cases, where such purchases may be necessary, they will be made in the local markets, and that seed-grain will not be imported by Government from a distance.

7. His Excellency the Viceroy fully appreciates the importance of not detaining the people from their customary home avocations whenever the revival of agriculture shall have enabled them to resume those avocations without further dependence on State aid. But with reference to clause iii of your sixth paragraph, I am instructed to point out, that until matters improve, and people can really support themselves by labour or from credit in their villages, it is most inexpedient that they should be sent back to their homes to live there on gratuitous relief,—when they might be earning wages on large works, which would permanently benefit their country, or when if incapable of labour they might be better kept in relief camps. Village relief in the shape of a money dole, or in any other form, should be granted only to those who are both incapable of work and without other adequate means of support. The Viceroy would be glad that this point should be made quite clear in any orders which the Governor in Council may now issue to local officers.

8 The Viceroy presumes that the standing orders, cited as requiring that large public works should be remunerative, are the instructions issued regarding the selection of reproductive irrigation works in ordinary times. During the present famine this requirement, so absolutely necessary in ordinary years, has been relaxed in the Bombay Presidency, with the concurrence of the Supreme Government.

9 Steps are being taken to procure from other parts of India the additional engineering and other European assistance indicated in your seventh paragraph, as required by the Government of Madras. And it is hoped that the officers selected for Famine duty will shortly report themselves at Gooty or at Madras. The additional temporary appointments described in your fourth and eighth paragraphs can be made by his Grace the Governor, as soon as they are necessary, in anticipation of formal sanction, for which application, with full particulars of salary and allowances, should be made in each case.

10 In conclusion I am to express the hope of his Excellency the Viceroy that the arrangements now determined on will greatly facilitate the attainment of the objects with which his Excellency undertook his journey to Southern India. He trusts that they will strengthen the hands of the Madras Government, that they will secure full agreement on principles between the two Governments, and that they will combine, with the efficient relief of the afflicted population, that economy which is imperatively demanded by the financial interests of the empire.

No 203.

NOTIFICATION of the GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

In pursuance of the arrangement described in the foregoing correspondence, the Viceroy is pleased to appoint the Honourable Major-General M K Kennedy, R E., to be Personal Assistant to his Grace the Governor of Madras in famine matters as a temporary arrangement.

By order of the Viceroy and Governor-General of India.

C. BERNARD,
Additional Secretary to the Government
of India

Encl in
No 216.

No 204.

Telegram, dated 1st September 1877

From GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY to SECRETARY OF STATE

Since my telegram of 27th, rain in Malwa and Hyderabad, which further improves position in Bombay Presidency. Some rain Broach, Baroda, Ahmednagai, Belgaum, and Poona, more rain Surat and East Kattywar, condition of whole district Kaladgi bad. Situation critical in West Kattywar, Ahmedabad, Poona. Good rain in Concan, but monsoon irregular and defective. Drought north of India stopping influx of supplies by Jubbulpote; prices fallen in some places, but generally high, but stock large. Distress continues severe.

No 205

PROVINCE OF MYSORE.—SPECIAL FAMINE REPORT
(No. 29)

For the week ending 25th August 1877

(To avoid confusion, the tabular statement and letterpress refer only to returns closed at midnight on Saturday the 25th August. From that date to the despatch of this Return, any noteworthy incidents are briefly noted hereunder.)

Interim Report

Bangalore, 1st September 1877

The weather has given promise of rain during the last three days, but, with the exception of light showers, none has fallen, and high westerly winds have set in again.

Bangalore District—Markets fairly supplied, prices rose in six taluks. Rain fell in the Bangalore, Hoskote, Devanahalli, and Closepet taluks, the quantity registered varying

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from 20 cents to 2·10 inches. Crops in fair condition in some localities. Extended cultivation generally prevented from want of rain. Fevers, dysentery, &c prevail.

Kolar District—Markets continue supplied, except in the Gudibanda and Gumma-yakanpalya taluks, where the supply was limited; prices fluctuating, and show a tendency to rise. Rain fell in five out of the 10 taluks in the district, the quantity gauged at their head-quarters ranging from 56 cents to 2·25 inches. The standing crops are suffering from want of sufficient rain, and ryots appear disinclined to risk more seed. Some of the crops irrigated by wells were harvested. Public health is bad, owing to the prevalence of fevers, cholera, and small-pox.

Tumkur District—Markets pretty well supplied; prices unsteady. Rain fell in the Sira, Kadaba, and Maddagiri taluks, the maximum quantity registered at their head-quarters being 1·20 inches. Irrigated crops are doing fairly well, but the dry crops are fast withering. Prospects are gloomy to a degree, and distress is on the increase. Diarrhœa and dysentery are still prevalent.

Mysore District.—Markets sufficiently supplied, except in the Ashtagram, Gundlupct, and Malvalli taluks, where importation was rather slack, prices rising. Light showers of rain have fallen in all the taluks, the maximum quantity registered at the head-quarters of which amounted to 1·48 inches. The wet crops, especially those under river channels, are reported to be thriving, but the dry crops are withering. Javari is being harvested. Water-supply in wells is failing. Prospects remain unchanged. Cholera is abating.

Hassan District—Markets fairly supplied, except in the Nagamangala, Harnahali and Narsipur taluks, prices fluctuating. Light showers of rain fell in all the taluks except Arkalgûd and Belur, and from 10 cents to 1·15 inches were registered at their head-quarters. Crops in Manjarabad and in parts of the Hassan taluk, as well those below channels in the Attikuppa and Narsipur taluks, are thriving, but elsewhere they are suffering from the drought and from the ravages of insects. Javari raised in the beds of tanks has been reaped in the Nagamangala taluk, and horse-gram was sown in Arkalgûd. Fever and dysentery prevail generally throughout the district, and cholera also in two taluks.

Shimoga District—Markets continue fairly supplied, except in the Honnali and Nagar taluks, prices pretty steady. There was no rain during the week except at Nagar and Shimoga. The standing crops, except in the purely Malnad taluks, are withering for want of rain. Baragu (a kind of millet) was harvested in parts of the Honnali taluk. Cholera, fever, and dysentery are still prevalent.

Kadur District—Markets fairly supplied, except in the Mûdgera, Tankere, and Lakvalli taluks; prices fluctuating. Light showers of rain fell in all the taluks except Tankere and Lakvalli. Crops in the Malnad taluks and those under irrigation below tanks are doing well, but in other places are withering for want of rain. Public health is bad owing to the prevalence of fevers, small-pox, dysentery, and cholera.

Chitaldroog District—Markets sufficiently supplied, except in Davangere and Budihal taluks, where importation was slack, prices fluctuating. Excepting a light drizzle at Davangere, there was no rain in any of the taluks, in consequence of which the crops in many places are fading, and will be destroyed if no fall of rain occurs shortly. The water supply in the tanks has diminished considerably. Dysentery and fever are still prevalent, and cholera in some places.

General Remarks.

The district reports for the week ending 25th August, of which an abstract accompanies this narrative, show that there has been no improvement in the prospects. The rainfall was scanty, and the young crops were to a great extent suffering from drought.

2 The crops in the Malnad are reported to be doing well, but even in the Shimoga District the wet crops in the maidan taluks are, it is said, failing. In low lands the dry crops are holding on, but would, it is feared, seriously suffer should no rain fall in the course of a week.

3 The mortality returns show that cholera is somewhat on the decline, though public health continues to be bad owing to the prevalence of other diseases. The number of deaths from cholera reported during the week was 71, or 66 less than in the previous week.

4 The number of works in progress under revenue officers was 1,719 as against 1,711 of the preceding week, and the daily average number of persons employed on them was 25,644, or 701 less than in the previous week. The decrease was chiefly in the Bangalore, Kolar, and Hassan Districts. The amount sanctioned for works under civil officers was Rs 18,07,349, of which Rs 12,22,973 were expended, leaving an available balance of Rs. 5,84,376. As has been remarked in a previous report, the returns of expenditure d

not appear to include all works actually in progress, and the attention of Commissioners and Deputy-Commissioners will again be drawn to the very large sums shown in the taluk accounts as remaining unutilized. The expenditure during the week under review was Rs 18,486, or Rs 1,176 less than in the previous week, as shown below.—

	Fast Week	Present Week
Bangalore District	6,386	6,186
Kolar	3,383	2,902
Túmkúr	962	1,865
Mysore	1,105	535
Hassan	1,501	1,362
Shimoga	1,748	1,676
Kadur	643	1,457
Chitaldroog	2,894	1,739
Bangalore Municipality	933	643
Mysore	107	121
Total	19,662	18,486

5 The average daily number of persons employed on works carried on by the Professional Department was 22,975, showing a small increase of 120 over that of the previous week, but, taking the figures by districts, it will be seen that the decrease was general in all the districts excepting Túmkúr, Hassan, and Chitaldroog. The decrease on irrigation works is attributed partly to the completion of some of the works and partly to the ryots being employed on agricultural operations. In No. 11 Sub-division, Bangalore Range, there was a falling off in the number owing to the persons who were relegated from the Krishnarajapur kitchen last week not having been sent this week. The attention of the officer in charge of the kitchen will be drawn to this, with a view to such of the inmates as are able to do light work being regularly deputed to the works which are close by. In the Hemavati Division, it is said, there is a difficulty in procuring labour at present, as the ryots are employed in the cultivation of lands lately taken up. It is, however, anticipated that there will be a steady rise in the numbers on works, as transplanting operations have now ceased, and as failure of rains has thrown many of the ryots out of employment, and who as a class are too independent to willingly enter our kitchens. In the Roads and Buildings Branch the numbers are slowly increasing. On the Nelamangala road in the Bangalore Division the labour, it is said, was nearly double what it had been during the previous week, and the coolies were, it is reported, working freely. In the Kolar range the assistant engineer reports that labour had to be reduced for want of water. Further explanation has been called for on this point. It would appear that on the Bangalore-Bellary road, *via* Devanahalli, many men and women coolies have offered to collect and break metal provided they were paid daily, and without a rigid task being exacted from them.

6 The total number employed daily on works, both under civil and departmental public works officers, was 43,619, or about one per cent. on the total population and 1.86 per cent on the population of the affected area.

7. The number charitably relieved is still on the increase. The daily average number fed in kitchens and camps was 213,710, or 19,627 more than in the previous week, as shown under.—

	Increase over past Week.	Decrease
Bangalore District	4,054	—
Kolar	1,726	—
Túmkúr	7,510	—
Mysore	—	1,444
Hassan	1,223	—
Shimoga	260	—
Kadur	—	77
Chitaldroog	2,345	—
Bangalore Municipality	4,169	—
Mysore	—	139
Total	21,287	1,660
Deduct decrease	1,660	
Net increase	19,627	

8. There has been an enormous increase in the Bangalore District (including the town and cantonment); and as regards the large accession to the number in the Túngkú District, which had risen from 35,868 to 43,378, the Deputy Commissioner writes as follows.—

“It is feared this figure will rise even higher, as the distress in the district is assuming an alarming aspect, and the house-to-house visitation is being strictly insisted on. The poor seem now to welcome the relief which not long ago they would on no terms have accepted. Works have been sanctioned throughout the district on all the district fund roads, a measure which will keep many from the kitchens, but once these roads are brought up to standard, it will be imperatively necessary for some large imperial work to be taken in hand, as, judging from the strides the famine is now taking, there will be thousands seeking work, which, if not at hand, will simply necessitate our feeding them at the kitchens. The road works now undertaken will probably suffice till the end of September.”

9. In the Hassan District also distress is rapidly increasing, and arrangements are being made by the Commissioner to establish additional relief camps, and to carry on suitable relief works to afford employment to the distressed, and to prevent them from deserting their villages.

10. Of those relieved gratuitously 52,295 were men, 82,895 women, and 78,520 children. The proportion of the number in receipt of charitable relief to the total population and population of the affected area was 4.23 per cent on the former and 8.206 on the latter. Excluding the Nundydroog Division, the number gratuitously relieved in the other districts was about 1.06 per cent on the total population, and 2.06 on affected population. The attention of the Commissioner of Nundydroog Division is again drawn to the very large increase in the number charitably relieved in the three districts under his supervision, as compared with the numbers relieved in the other districts.

11. The total expenditure incurred up to date on account of gratuitous relief, is Rs. 15,20,539, of which Rs. 1,32,114 were spent during the week, as shown below:—

	Rs		Rs
Bangalore District	36,441	Kadur District	1,420
Kolar	11,106	Chitaldroog District	23,507
Túngkúr	30,422	Bangalore Municipality	16,771
Mysore	1,780	Mysore	1,220
Hassan	7,521		
Shimoga	1,926	Total	1,32,114

12. The physical condition of the persons who have been fed in the kitchens for some time is said to be improving, and the Commissioner of Ashtagram Division considers “that a portion of those receiving relief are either now, or will be soon, fitted for light labour;” but it is said there is a great difficulty in providing these, owing to the large proportion of women and children as compared with men. The district officers have been called upon to furnish a return of the number of persons fed in kitchens and camps from whom work of any kind is exacted. In the Bangalore District many are, as already reported, relegated from the kitchens to the nearest works to do some light work according to their capacity.

13. The weight of grain imported by rail during the week, including consignments to the Kolar road station, was 3,787 tons, being 1,493 less than in the previous week, as shown below:—

	Past week	Present week
From Madras	4,139	3,125
„ Beypore, Malabar, and Combatore Districts	521	174
„ Trichinopoly, Tanjore, and Negapatam	582	473
„ other places	38	15
Total	5,280	3,787

14. The quantity exported by road, from Bangalore to the interior of the province and the frontier taluks of the Madras Presidency, amounted to 2,438 tons, being 698 less than in the preceding week, as noted below:—

	Tons		Tons
Towards Túngkúr District	822	Towards Oosoor, in the Salem Dis-	
„ Bellary and Chitaldroog		trict	149
„ Districts	435	To taluks adjoining Bangalore	640
„ Mysore District	392		
		Total	2,438

15. The average prices of food grains were somewhat steady during the week, and the maximum and minimum rates which prevailed in the taluks were as shown in the following abstract —

	Maximum in lbs 2nd sort Rice	per Rupee. Bag.	Minimum in lbs 2nd sort Rice	per Rupee Bag.
Bangalore District -	10½	13	8½	10
Kolar „ -	11¼	13½	8½	11
Túmkúr „ -	9½	12	8	10
Mysore „ -	10	12	8	10
Hassan „ -	9	11	8	8
Shimoga „ -	10	9½	6½	8
Kadur „ -	9	10	7	9
Chitaldroog „ -	9½	12½	8	10

16 The Commissioner of Ashtagram Division having reported that occasional difficulties occur in the prompt supply of grain in the relief camps in the Mysore District, the Chief Commissioner has approved of tenders being invited for the supply, weekly, of the required quantity of ragi, till the end of November next, as it is apprehended that there will be an increased demand for the supply of grain to the kitchens for the next three months

17 The Committee for the examination of grain brought by rail to Bangalore report that during the month of July out of about 280,000 bags received 541 suspected to contain damaged rice were examined, of which 402½ were passed, and the remainder, 138½ bags, condemned.

18 The Director of Public Instruction has recently reported that a considerable number of pupils in both taluk and hobli schools have in certain places gained admission to relief kitchens or camps, and that in other places admission is denied to boys attending schools. In the case of those admitted to relief it would seem they are apparently required to leave school altogether, and to do a certain amount of task work in return for the rations received. The Chief Commissioner has ruled that, if the parents of the boys in schools are not themselves in need of relief, the boys should not be relieved gratuitously, as they should look to their parents for support, exception being made only as regards orphans, and that the boys who are deserving of relief may be exempted from work on the production of a certificate from the head master of the school that they attend and prosecute their studies regularly.

19 As a measure of relief to the poorer classes of pensioners of the Mysore State, who were reduced to great straits owing to the prolonged drought and high prices of the necessaries of life, the Chief Commissioner has directed that the usual famine allowance of Rs 1—8—0 per mensem be disbursed to them from 1st August till further orders. The concession is limited to those whose pensions do not exceed Rs. 8 per mensem.

20 In consequence of the great increase in crime caused by the present famine the work of the Deputy Commissioners in the three districts of the Nundydroog Division and of the sessions judge has considerably increased, and, on the urgent representation of the Judicial Commissioner, the Chief Commissioner has, in anticipation of the sanction of the Government of India, decided on appointing an additional sessions judge for the Nundydroog Division, under the provisions of Section 17 of Act X. of 1872, to relieve, temporarily, both the Commissioner and his deputies of a greater portion of their criminal work, and to enable them to devote more attention to famine operations.

PROVINCE OF MYSORE.

CONDITION STATEMENT FOR THE WEEK ENDING 25TH AUGUST 1877.

(No. 29)

DIVISIONS AND DISTRICTS.	Area in square miles.	Affected area in square miles.	Population	Population of the affected area.	No and description of works in progress under Revenue Officers.						Daily average number of persons employed on works of all kinds under Revenue Officers.		Daily average number of persons employed on works carried on by the Professional Department.		Amount sanctioned up to date of report for works under Revenue Officers.	Expenditure from the above amount known up to date.	Amount sanctioned up to date of report for works under Officers of the Professional Department.	Expenditure up to date from the above amount.	Particulars regarding gratuitous relief.					Prices of staple grains in lbs. per pees.					REMARKS.							
					Roads	Tanks.	Miscellaneous works.	Works present week.	Total last week.	During last week.	During present week.	During last week.	During present week.	During last week.					During present week.	During last week.	During present week.	Amount of private subscriptions up to date.	Amount of Government grant.	Total.	Total Expenditure up to date.	2nd sort Rice.	3rd sort Rice.	4th sort Rice.		5th sort Rice.	Average. Balance for five years in months, calculated up to 31st March 1876.	Total balance from 1st April 1876 up to 25th August 1877.	Balance during the present week.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34			
MYSORE DISTRICT	Bangalore	2,014	1,911	825,354	384,968	33	136	129	207	209	8,409	7,560	3,998	3,738	3,29,217	2,20,125			54,195	59,240	1,500	2,01,625	5,03,121	5,06,950	86	80	10	12	10	12	25	28	29	64		
	Kolar	2,577	2,577	618,954	618,954	54	244	64	382	331	4,608	4,401	3,510	3,620	2,90,682	1,85,692			16,332	15,669	6,094	1,51,127	1,37,231	1,31,946	32	30	10	12	10	12	25	24	27	29		
	Tankur	3,606	3,800	652,230	652,230	56	124	68	245	238	2,065	2,107	1,398	1,511	2,54,545	1,90,510			65,385	43,278	1,708	2,30,204	2,97,038	2,97,038	36	106	9	11	9	11	37	4	30	43		
ARECA GRAM	Mysore	4,127	1,470	948,187	118,032	36	30	6	62	64	814	705	5,301	5,174	1,15,771	78,970			3,961	2,617	7,481	15,401	35,172	31,896	24	70	9	11	9	11	24	3	38	56	68	
	Hasan	8,291	2,154	908,417	190,373	41	33	22	90	108	1,302	1,462	9,339	9,215	1,32,664	1,05,913			8,429	9,851	2,753	33,671	64,309	84,994	33	78	9	9	9	9	34	4	29	37		
NACAL	Bhimoga	8,797	288	408,976	47,431	33	71	41	125	128	1,216	1,232	1,400	1,267	2,26,060	1,42,638			3,273	2,538	5,509	14,723	20,522	18,630	30	78	8	8	5	8	38	4	34	60	61	
	Kadur	3,294	891	333,923	100,444	10	40	63	123	133	705	904	1,983	1,868	1,00,435	49,653			2,178	2,101	2,073	16,329	19,412	19,057	30	64	8	9	8	9	35	7	38	69	68	
	Chitaldroog	4,471	4,338	851,560	371,804	44	46	221	311	309	5,111	5,139	2,824	3,853	2,64,425	1,75,212			31,779	34,124	6,843	2,19,430	2,28,253	2,13,015	24	68	9	11	9	11	23	5	21	62		
Bangalore Municipality						1	55	56	57	1,062	603			30,769	31,527																					
Mysore Municipality																																				
Total	27,077	17,039	3,055,412	2,004,143	800	715	704	1,719	1,710	24,845	25,644	22,555	23,973	18,07,340	12,22,273	41,29,670	23,90,961	1,94,083	2,113,710	60,188	14,65,225	13,54,390	16,20,539													

NOTE—1 The expenditure entered in column 24 includes the amount contributed by private subscriptions as well as the Government grant-in-aid thereto
 2 The figures entered in columns 17 and 18 are based on the information received from the Examining Public Works Accounts
 3 The figures against the Shimoga District under columns 13 and 16 have been corrected according to a revised return recently submitted, and those in columns 19 to 24 include those of the Kavaladurga taluk where a relief kitchen has been recently opened.

T. R. A. THUMBOO CHETTY, Assistant Secretary

REGISTER OF RAINFALL RECORDED SCIENTIFICALLY AT THE GOVERNMENT OBSERVATORY AT BANGALORE FOR EACH WEEK IN THE YEAR, AS THE USUAL MONTHLY AVERAGES DO NOT GIVE SUFFICIENTLY RELIABLE INFORMATION IN A TROPICAL CLIMATE.

Week.	Month	Rainfall—Inches and Cents.					Remarks for 1877				
		Average of 1871, 1872, and 1873	1874	1875	1876	1877					
1st	January	—	—	—	—	—	—				
2nd		—	1	—	—	—	—				
3rd		—	1	—	—	—	—				
4th		—	—	—	—	—	—				
5th		—	—	—	—	—	—				
6th	February	—	14	—	—	—					
7th		—	—	—	—	—					
8th		—	—	—	—	—					
9th		—	9	—	—	—					
10th		—	40	—	—	—					
11th	March	—	—	—	—	—					
12th		—	7	—	—	—					
13th		—	—	—	—	—					
14th		—	41	—	—	—					
15th		—	20	—	—	—					
16th	April	—	40	—	—	—					
17th		—	2	—	—	—					
18th		—	1	—	—	—					
19th		—	86	—	—	—					
20th		—	19	—	—	—					
21st	May	—	6	—	—	—					
22nd		—	1	—	—	—					
23rd		—	39	—	—	—					
24th		—	10	—	—	—					
25th		—	88	—	—	—					
26th	June	—	15	—	—	—					
27th		—	14	—	—	—					
28th		—	11	—	—	—					
29th		—	71	—	—	—					
30th		—	19	—	—	—					
31st	July	—	8	—	—	—					
1st		—	2	—	—	—					
2nd		—	42	—	—	—					
3rd		—	98	—	—	—					
34th		—	97	—	—	—					
35th	August	—	54	—	—	—					
36th		—	30	—	—	—					
37th		—	24	—	—	—					
38th		—	1	—	—	—					
39th		—	56	—	—	—					
40th	September	—	12	—	—	—					
41st		—	11	—	—	—					
42nd		—	76	—	—	—					
43rd		—	48	—	—	—					
44th		—	5	—	—	—					
45th	October	—	38	—	—	—					
46th		—	47	—	—	—					
47th		—	10	—	—	—					
48th		—	49	—	—	—					
49th		—	42	—	—	—					
50th	November	—	8	—	—	—					
51st		—	1	—	—	—					
52nd		—	—	—	—	—					
		34	66	56	54	22	6	17	34	—	—
Mean Meteorological Results from the Bangalore Observatory Register				For the week ending 11th August 1877		For the week ending 18th August 1877		For the week ending 25th August 1877.			
Reduced atmospheric pressure				26 982		26 978		27 011			
Mean temperature of air				76 5		75 0		79 7			
Maximum solar heat in vacuo				150 0		147 8		151 8			
Maximum in shade				86 2		84 4		88 1			
Minimum in shade				67 3		67 7		67 3			
Depth of rain in inches				0 75		1 31		0 54			

Week ending 25th August 1877.

No 206.

Telegram, dated 2nd September 1877.

FROM GOVERNOR OF MADRAS TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

Famine matters fully discussed with Viceroy. No difference of opinion, all arrangements made perfectly satisfactory. Viceroy will leave me General Kennedy Council leave famine matters to me. Viceroy will give us the needed staff in works and for inspection.

No 207.

Telegram, dated Madras, 2nd September 1877.

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

I have sent the following telegram to President in Council Message begins,—

Governor and myself are in full accord on the famine policy to be pursued in Madras in present emergency, and in personal conferences we have decided upon following action. Governor has addressed me a letter, dated 31st August, containing following headings —

First. Governor, under section 29 of India Councils Act, purposes to take famine portfolio, and to dispose absolutely of famine questions; his orders to have force of orders issued by Governor in Council.

Second. An officer possessing the confidence of the Government of India to be attached to the Governor, in the position of personal assistant to Governor in famine management.

Thrd. All engineers and district authorities to address all references and reports on famine matters, including relief works, to the Famine Secretary direct, and not through Board of Revenue Board will be kept fully informed of all orders passed, and their advice asked when necessary.

Fourth. Members of Board of Revenue to be deputed to visit the distressed districts, inspect relief operations, and report to Government on them.

Fifth. Gram supplies. As decided in January last, Government not to interfere with private trade, but Government of Madras has permission to buy seed-grain if such arrangements be found better than advances of money

Sixth. Public works to be the backbone of relief system, all other forms of relief being subsidiary to main scheme, all relief works of magnitude to be directed and controlled by Public Works Department agency

Seventh. Gratuitous relief to be temporary, and subsidiary to main object of getting distressed people on to works. Necessary to maintain relief camps to receive the starving, helpless, and infirm, ultimate object to keep relief camps as receiving places only for people to be drafted on to works or to their homes.

Eighth. Village relief to be generally confined to resident villagers who are bed-ridden or otherwise incapable of labour

Ninth. To give effect to these principles, Government of Madras asks for a considerable temporary addition to the engineering and supervising staff of Presidency, consisting of 60 engineers and 100 active young European officers of army, police, or forest.

Tenth. The two chief engineers of the Presidency to be deputed from time to time into the interior. Government of India to sanction a third temporary chief engineer, if necessary.

In reply, dated 31st August, I have expressed satisfaction at results of our personal conferences, and at the measures adopted in the present crisis for promptitude of action and unity of control. I have appointed General Kennedy personal assistant to the Governor in famine matters, through whom all famine questions will be laid before his Grace. The object of this appointment is that the views of the Government of India may be permanently represented on the spot in the person of an officer possessing its full confidence. Viceroy and Duke are entirely agreed as to necessity of this arrangement, in order to unite and cover responsibility of both Governments without causing friction. I have signified pleasure of Government of India that the views of the Madras Government in questions of famine policy are now so entirely in accord with those of the Government of India. I have communicated to Madras Government officially my Famine Minute of 12th August, and urged general expedience of getting full proportion of relief recipients to employment on large public works of permanent usefulness to the country, and greater stringency in conferring gratuitous relief of all kinds to those who are unable to work. I have sanctioned purchase of seed grass

in those rare cases where it may be necessary, on condition that such purchase be made through trade I have promised to furnish the required engineering and other European staff necessary for giving effect to our policy, and have agreed to sanction such extra temporary appointments, engineer and other, as the Madras Government may require.

* This correspondence will be published in a Gazette to be issued on Monday Message ends

I trust you will approve the action above recorded My relations with the Duke are most cordial, and I take this opportunity of expressing to you my grateful appreciation of the frank and efficient manner in which his Grace has met and seconded my efforts The present arrangements, which have removed all cause of possible misunderstanding or divergent action between the two Governments, could not have been thus promptly and amicably concluded without this valuable co-operation to which I feel greatly indebted I am confident that, under the personal direction of his Grace, the famine will be managed with a vigour and sound discretion not otherwise attainable, and that great advantage will accrue both to the permanent welfare of this Presidency and to the public treasury

No. 208

No. 780, dated Madras, 2nd September 1877

Encl in
No 216

FROM ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA to the SECRETARY
TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY

The Viceroy's telegram of yesterday's date asked that the services of Major-General Kennedy might be temporarily placed at the disposal of the Government of India for employment in connexion with the famine in the Madras Presidency During the Governor-General's stay at Poona his Excellency Sir Richard Temple was good enough to agree to General Kennedy's accompanying the Viceroy on his present journey to the Madras Presidency Formal notification of the arrangement therefore is now solicited

2. The Viceroy and Governor-General desires to express his high sense of the public spirit and loyalty which have prompted the Government of Bombay thus to spare, for service in another part of India, an officer who has under their direction so well controlled the operations for mitigation of the famine which unhappily still afflicts the Bombay Presidency His Excellency the Viceroy is confident that the Government of Bombay, under its far sighted and energetic Governor, will, with the help of the officers of the Bombay services, meet famine difficulties in the future as successfully as they have done in the past. Meanwhile General Kennedy's personal experience of the Bombay famine management will be of the greatest value to his Grace the Governor of Madras

No. 209.

Telegram, dated September 3, 1877

FROM GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY.

Since telegram of 1st, further improvement situation Bombay Presidency, from rain—Baroda, Ahmedabad, Concan, and several parts Deccan

No 210.

No 2630 B, dated Fort St. George, September 3, 1877

From J. H GARTIN, Esq, Additional Secretary to Government of Madras, to
S C BAYLEY, Esq C S I, Additional Secretary to the Government of India

I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 1st instant, No 776, and to state that the Madras Government have taken no part in the matter of applying to the public for subscriptions in aid of famine relief, although, at the request of the citizens of Madras, the head of the Government consented to preside at a public meeting convened by the Sheriff to consider the advisability of appealing to England for such aid

2 I am to add that your letter will be communicated at once to the General Committee of the Madras Famine Relief Fund, with whom rests the duty of administering the funds raised, with an intimation that the officers of Government in their official

capacity will nowhere be allowed to be disbursers of any funds which may be placed at the Committee's disposal, although the Government have no reason to suppose that the Committee are relying on the agency of State establishments for the administration of their private funds

No 211.

THE GAZETTE OF INDIA EXTRAORDINARY

Governor-General's Camp, Madras, September 3, 1877.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, AGRICULTURE, AND COMMERCE
FAMINE.

The subjoined papers describing—

- (i) Administrative arrangements adopted after conference between the Viceroy and the Governor of the Madras, for meeting the increased pressure of famine in the Madras Presidency;
- (ii) The views of the Government of India regarding the collection of public subscriptions, and their expenditure by means of private organizations on the relief of distress outside the compass of Government operations,
- together with a minute recorded by his Excellency the Viceroy on the 12th August, and published for general information

By order of the Viceroy and Governor-General of India

C BERNARD,

Additional Secretary to the Government of India.

No 212

Telegram, dated September 5, 1877.

FROM GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

Though famine prospects are improving there is great want of revenue officers, as some are ill and some lent to Madras. The Bombay Government beg your Lordship will order the following officers to proceed to Bombay by the first mail in October — J. E. Olphant, R. Elphinston, J. R. Middleton, E. G. Sharkey, W. Ramsey, G. W. Vidal, G. B. Reid, W. G. Pedjar, J. Macleod Campbell, G. Waddington, W. Forman

No 213.

Telegram, dated Madras, September 5, 1877.

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE

Season telegrams as follows:—Madras 1 to 1½ inches of rain in Bellary, Cuddapah, Kurnool, much benefit, good rain in Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Kistna Thunderstorm and 1 inch rain in Madras on 4th, only ½ inch elsewhere, save occasional heavy showers Crops improved by rain, except South Arcot, Coimbatore, Salem, Madura. Prices dearer.

On works 901,227 on gratuitous 1,430,875 Grain importations large Railway transport improving

Bombay, showers throughout week everywhere. 4 inches of rain all over Guzerat, continuous heavy rain all Concan districts, good rain throughout Khandesh, Nassik, Sattara, Belgaum, and greater part of Poona and Sholapur; partial rain in Dharwar, Kaladgi, prospects much improved, prices not yet cheaper

Numbers on works 278,731; on gratuitous 125,960

Mysore, bad week; occasional light showers; good rain in Bangalore in night of 2nd September, gauging 1½ inches Dry crop, prospects worse in all districts Gratuitous numbers 213,000, works, number 49,000

Hyderabad, three days good rain, over 4 inches, much benefit, good rain in Berar, Rajputana; heavy rain in Aboo and south-west States, good rain in Jeypore, heavy showers in Ajmere, Meywar, and east States. Lyall telegraphs general prospect very materially improved, more rain needed in Ulwar, Meywar, Central India Good rain in Rutlam, Indore, and all Malwa; 2 inches rain in Neemuch, Gwalior, Bundelkund Too late to save much autumn crop in Gwalior, still prospects everywhere improved.

North-western Provinces . moderate rain in Allahabad, Benares divisions, 4 inches in Jhansi division, $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch in Agra, good rain, one day, in Meerut and Bareilly, rest slight partial showers. Autumn crop lost in many parts.

Punjab dry hot weather up to 2nd, then heavy universal rain over Province, gauging $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches at Ludhiana, too late to save autumn crops in parts. Lieutenant-Governor telegraphs, prospects immensely improved, spring crop sowings secured over the important grain producing districts

Bengal, Central Provinces, Burmah, Assam; seasonable weather, good prospects

No. 214

Telegram, dated Madras, 5th September 1877

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

Have verified Madras railway requirements I consider matters might be safer if we get 20 engines, besides Madras railway supply and indent for 20 sent by Madras Government and confirmed by me; but no good unless additional power available in short time Please telegraph when the 20 locomotives asked for by my message of 30th will reach, and when the extra 20 now proposed could arrive Make preliminary arrangements for extra 20 I will confirm order when I hear how quickly they can reach Type to be State Railway, unless "Trevehicks" type comes much sooner. Also say how quickly State locomotives for Bombay can reach with half bonus

No 215

No. 33 of 1877.

FROM the GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce (Famine), to the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA

Madras, September 5, 1877

In a letter dated the 20th August your Lordship was informed that I was about to leave Simla, accompanied by Sir Alexander Arbuthnot, and the officers named in the margin, on a journey to Poona, Madras, and Bangalore for the purpose of conferring with the Local Governments and the Chief

Commissioner of Mysore on the measures rendered necessary by the failure of the early rains (summer monsoon), and the alarming character of the prospects described in a minute by myself which accompanied that letter.

2 I now desire to lay before your Lordship a short account of what I have heard and seen, and of some of the more important references in famine matters, which have come before the Government of India during the past fortnight. In a separate letter of to-day's date will be found an account of my conference with the Governor of Madras, upon the lines of famine policy laid down by the Government of India, and of certain special administrative arrangements adopted by his Excellency in Council, for giving to that policy the fullest and most prompt effect. The following remarks on the condition of the crops and the prospects of the season, as they have appeared to me in the course of my journey from Simla to Madras, must be taken subject to correction by the light of more recent information. Our latest intelligence on these points is embodied in a telegram despatched to your Lordship to-day, and a copy of that telegram will be found in the last paragraph of this letter

3 Leaving Simla on the 16th August I met at Amballa the Commissioner of that division of the Panjab; who gave a very bad account of the prospects of the autumn crop. Over great tracts of the dry loose soil of the Cis-Sutlej country there had been no appreciable rainfall since early in July, a great part (the proportion could not be exactly stated) of the land prepared for autumn crops had not been sown, and much of what had been sown had withered. But there were still some weeks to the time for sowing the spring crops which yield the great food harvests, and should rain fall within that period these crops would be sown over a larger area than usual. Water in the irrigation wells was not failing, though the hot dry winds scorched the crops and made irrigation less efficacious than in ordinary years. The appearance of the land round Amballa was for the season of year extremely dry and arid

4. On the morning of the 18th I met the collectors of Agra and Allyghur in the North-West Provinces. Prospects in the Agra district were then as bad as in any part of the North-West Provinces, and they were said to be less hopeful than in the Amballa Division. In the Allyghur district there is more well irrigation and more canal irrigation, so that a considerable autumn food crop will be secured. In both districts there seemed to be already some fear about fodder for the cattle. In Allyghur, with its many canal channels, this difficulty will probably be not so great. But in the Agra district if rain holds off there must be great loss of cattle. The River Jumna there flows between high banks, unclad by verdure, and differs in this respect from the Ganges, which annually floods a broad belt of low ground beside its bed.

5. At the Agra junction station I was met by His Highness the Maharaja of Jeypore with some of his chief officials. The Maharaja is most laudably anxious about the prospects of his territory, and he placed in my hands a memorandum describing some of the measures he proposed to take for the prevention or relief of anticipated distress. The position in Jeypore was in brief, that crops had failed to a large extent, that the grass was withering, and that already dearth was beginning to be felt.

6. Simultaneously with this memorandum a letter was received from Mr. Lyall, the Governor-General's agent, stating that the whole of Rajputana, north-west of the Aravelli mountains, was threatened with serious scarcity, that the crops were widely damaged, grass withering, and pasturage already insufficient. In a subsequent letter Mr. Lyall stated that he had reason to believe there were large stocks of grain on hand, and that the people were hopeful. Opportunity was taken when answering these papers to explain at some length to the agent the famine policy which should be inculcated on the Maharaja of Jeypore, as well as on the Governments of other Native States similarly situated. As the Maharaja's memorandum, and my Secretary's reply to it, form Enclosure No. 1 to this letter, I need not here describe either the measures proposed by His Highness, or those which I have commended to his adoption.

Nos 141,
145, 173,
181.

7. At Allahabad the local officers reported that though some of the autumn crops had suffered much from drought, yet prospects in the Allahabad and Benares divisions were not nearly so gloomy as in the northern commissionerships. It was said that in all parts of the Panjab and the North-West Provinces grain stocks in the hands of dealers, zemindars, and substantial ryots, were unusually large, and that prices had not yet grown so dear as might have been expected.

8. On the 19th August I met at Jubbulpore the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, who was able to give a good account of the agricultural prospect throughout those provinces. He drew my attention to the very large and still increasing stocks of grain and seeds awaiting despatch from Nagpore, Jubbulpore, and other stations on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, most of the grain, he explained, was consigned to the famine districts. He reported also that certain cases of corruption in the matter of allotting waggons had been brought home to station-masters on the two railways near Jubbulpore. The offenders had been or would be punished on conviction by the courts. Both those points—the grain block and the alleged misconduct of station-masters—were discussed with the proper authorities at Poona under circumstances which will be mentioned in a subsequent paragraph.

9. In the Khandesh and Nasik districts the country looked green, though the crops were backward. Much anxiety had been expressed about the condition of these two districts, and the local officials assured me that unless rain fell within ten days most of the crops then looking so well would wither. Happily from three to five inches of rain has since fallen in Khandesh, Nasik has also had good rain; and Sir Richard Temple's last report (30th August) says that "almost all anxiety regarding the Khandesh Collectorate" is removed.

10. I reached Poona on the night of the 19th August, and during five days stay there I had full opportunity of conferring with the Governor of Bombay, and with the chief Government and railway officials of that Presidency. Here I also met the collectors of Poona and Sholapore, as well as the Commissioner of the Southern Division. The prospects of the crops in the Bombay Presidency are now, save only in the Kaladgi District, much better than they were during the time of my stay at Poona; and therefore I need not trouble your Lordship with an account of the impressions I received in this respect. I visited a relief camp containing 3,000 inmates a few miles out of Poona. This camp had been recently opened, and several hundreds of its inmates were in process of transfer to relief works. The camp was well ordered; and the instructions under which it is managed will prevent its growing into an abuse. I have every reason to believe that, notwithstanding the very high prices now ruling in the Deccan and Canarese Districts, famine and distress are being met in the Bombay Presidency as successfully and econo-

mically as the means and circumstances permit. Save in the Kaladgi District, the crops to be reaped during the next five weeks will give a sensible relief to the people, and must reduce prices. It is worthy of note that in the districts of Kaladgi, Dharwar, Belgaum, and Sholapore the price of the commonest food-grain rules dearer than in any district of the Madras Presidency. The latest weekly report received from the Bombay Government forms Enclosure No 2 to this letter. It shows that, as yet, the improved prospects have not caused reduction in the numbers on relief. There was an increase in numbers during the week, and there were at the end of August 278,731 on relief work, and 125,960 on gratuitous relief.

No. 172

11 One very important subject which was much discussed at Poona, both with the Governor and at a conference of all his railway officials, was the carrying power of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, by which food-grain is sent, not only into the Bombay Deccan, but also into the Nizam's Dominions, and into the Ceded Districts of the Madras Presidency. Briefly stated the case stands thus. The sources of grain supply drawn from by the Great Indian Peninsula Railway are the city of Bombay, in which Sir Richard Temple reports the stocks to be very large, the Nagpore and Berar country, the Nerbudda valley districts, and the East Indian Railway, which despatches grain waggons through the Jubbulpore junction. This grain is consigned to Khandesh and Nasik, the districts above the ghats, to Bombay city, to the Bombay Deccan stations for the supply of Poona, Sholapore, Kaladgi, Sattara, and the Southern Mahratta feudatories, to the Hyderabad country, and, lastly, to the Madras Railway for the Ceded Districts. The quantities of grain which the Great Indian Peninsula Railway ought to deliver daily are —

To the Khandesh section	-	-	-	300 tons
To the Bombay Deccan Stations	-	-	-	800 to 1,000 tons.
To the Hyderabad branch line	-	-	-	300 tons
To the Madras Railway at Raichore	-	-	-	900 tons

The Great Indian Peninsula Railway authorities have after much pressure delivered these quantities, on the average, at each section, except at the Raichore end, where they have recently delivered an average of barely 600 tons a day. Now the Madras Government absolutely require the 900 tons a day to be delivered at Raichore, otherwise they cannot arrange for throwing into the interior the quantity of grain actually needed. The Bombay Government and the railway officers agreed that by starving all other

* By the latest Custom House return about 400 tons of seed and grain were leaving Bombay daily by sea.

railway traffic, and by practically stopping the export* trade, it would be possible, with the present rolling stock, to maintain on an average the grain deliveries demanded. Suggestions were made for additional crossing stations,

for longer sidings, and for other traffic facilities, but, in the end, it was quite clear that the carrying power of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway was at present limited by its engine power, and that, adequately to meet the present emergency, additional engines were needed. Sir Richard Temple at the conference represented strongly that without additional engines the railway would be quite unable to serve the export trade, which would certainly demand accommodation in the cold season, and that, if produce could not be carried to the port of Bombay, shipping would go away empty, heavy mercantile losses must occur, the trade of Bombay would be injured, and the rate of exchange might suffer. If the engine power on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway could be largely increased by January next, then the railway could serve both the famine and the export trade. It seems clear that no sufficient relief could be given by borrowing engines from other lines. The Dhond and Munmar Railway, which, by shortening the railway route from Northern to Southern India, will relieve the pressure of famine traffic to the extent of thirty-six engine power, could hardly open soon enough to meet the urgency of the case. And accordingly, I telegraphed to your Lordship for the earliest possible despatch to Bombay of 100 engines to work on the Bombay Peninsula line. The letter, No 117, Railway, dated 25th August, sent by my honourable colleagues from Simla, explains at length the reasons on which we recommend that these engines shall be purchased on account of the State and treated as the State reserve, and that they be hired only to the Great Indian Peninsula Railway. The telegrams from Simla and from Poona ask that these engines may be sent out as they are ready, and that extra payment be made for early deliveries. The alleged corruption among station-masters was discussed at our conference, it appeared that the evil had not been so general as I had been led to suppose. The establishment of a syndicate of traders at every large station to watch and regulate the allotment of waggons is said to be acting as a safeguard against corruption. Such syndicates were recently formed in the Central and North-west Provinces under the orders of the Government of India, and their usefulness will doubtless increase.

12. Since leaving Poona I have learned by telegraph that the deliveries of grain to the Madras Railway at Raichore are still below the stipulated 900 tons. The Bombay Government explain that the higher prices ruling in the Bombay Deccan induce dealers to consign grain thither rather than to Madras. Market quotations undoubtedly show that prices in the Deccan and Hyderabad country are dearer than in the Bellary district, and while this continues there is soundness in Sir Richard Temple's deduction that Bellary food-stocks must be larger than the Deccan stocks. The recent very favourable rain in Khandesh and Guzerat has been followed by a heavy fall in wheat quotations in Bombay; and the improvement in crop prospects caused by showers in parts of the Deccan may partially bring down prices there. But for the present all we can do is to give preference, up to a certain extent, at Nagpore and Jubbulpore stations, to grain consigned for the Madras Railway. This we have requested the Bombay Government to do. But meanwhile, until relief comes, either from fresh harvests or by the arrival of additional engine power, the working of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, and its due delivery of the required quantities of grain in the famine country, cause anxiety, and require careful watching. The Government of India and your Lordship may confidently rely on Sir Richard Temple's efforts to secure a good result, and I may add that the officers of the Great Indian Peninsula Company are actively exerting themselves in co-operation with the Governor.

13. On the 25th August I was met, on my way to Bellary, by the Resident at Hyderabad, who confirmed personally what he had a few days previously reported by telegram and letter regarding the distressed condition of four districts in the south of the Nizam's Dominions. Copies of the Resident's communications, respecting the Hyderabad country and Berar, form Enclosure No 3 to this letter. Those papers show that the autumn food crop has absolutely failed in the districts of Raichore, Lingsagur, Goolburga, and Shorapore with a population of 800,000; that the price of the commonest grain is 7 lbs per rupee, that 70,000 people are now supported by the Nizam on relief works, or gratuitously; that the pressure must last till February, while if the October rains fail it may endure until August 1878, that the Nizam's expenditure on famine relief, and his loss of revenue, already amount to nearly 50 lakhs of rupees; that, if the worst comes, the total cost of the famine may reach three millions sterling, that the Nizam's treasury is empty, and that the Minister will probably apply to the British Government for a loan wherewith to defray his famine expenditure. The proposal for a loan will be considered by the Financial Department when it is actually made. If good rain comes during September and October the situation in Hyderabad will greatly improve, and until fuller information is received we may hesitate to accept the estimate that the famine can under any circumstances cost three millions sterling. But, even if the coming monsoon be more favourable than the past, still the distress in the Nizam's Dominions materially aggravates the difficulties of Kurnool, Bellary, and Sholapore.

14. The Resident had previously reported that distress was impending in the Akola District of Berar. Copy of his report and its enclosure, with the orders passed thereon, forms Enclosure No 3 to this letter. Happily good rain has fallen in Berar since the Resident's report was written; and Sir Richard Meade was able to assure me, at our meeting on the 29th August, that fears of scarcity in Berar were for the present removed. The caution I have given against beginning relief works too early, and against opening scattered petty relief works at the commencement of a scarcity, will, I trust, be observed if threatenings of drought should again appear.

15. I reached Bellary on the 25th August, and the next day visited the large relief camp in that district, which then contained about 4,000 inmates. Among them, especially in the hospital sheds, was a considerable proportion of children and old people, who had been much reduced by want and its attendant diseases. Among the small children were some in a very pitiable condition, they had manifestly suffered from hunger, and it was said that in some cases parents had intentionally abstracted the meal supplied to the children. Nearly half of the inmates were apparently in good condition, and ought to have been at work. The weekly death-rate was very high, over 500 per mille per annum; but then it is to be remembered that into these camps are collected the sickly, the very old, the very young, and in fact the people who in ordinary years furnished the mortality of the whole community. In immediate executive charge of the camp was a Bengali Assistant Surgeon, who seemed to be doing his part of the work admirably.

16. I was impressed by the fact that the Bellary District had in the ground certain amount of early crop, which, if fertilized by rain during the fortnight following our visit, would yield a substantial addition to the food supply of the county. The reports show that the breadth of this early crop in the southern and western taluks of Bellary is large, and its condition more flourishing than in the parts we visited. Telegrams received since we left Bellary report that good rain has fallen there. Fortu-

Nos 178-9.

Nos 180,
198

nately the prospect of Bellary for next year does not depend on the crop now in the ground; the great food (millet) crop of Bellary, and also its cotton crop, are sown in September and October, the millet ripens in January and the cotton is plucked in March. If the rainfall of September and October is good, Bellary (and the rest of the Ceded Districts) will be again prosperous by the end of February.

17 Leaving Bellary on the 28th I reached Madras on the following day. That evening I visited the relief gangs on the short junction canal near Government House. The labourers were in very good physical condition. On this, as on other relief works in the Madras Presidency, task work is practically not exacted, the hutting and conservancy system was good, but the labourers were supplied with food considerably in excess of their customary diet in ordinary years. Before passing from the subject of the relief arrangement at Madras, it may be mentioned that, in company with the Governor, I inspected the Palaveram Relief Camp with its 8,000 inmates, the Monegar Choultry Relief Camp with 3,400, and the Red Hills Camp with 6,000 inmates. At each of these relief camps, and especially at the first two, the arrangements were good, the camps were clean, the people were orderly, the hospitals were well kept, but, at the very least, half the inmates were strong enough and well enough to have been employed on relief works, instead of living in almost enforced idleness on, what is to them, a high diet. In this respect the Madras relief camps appear to me to fall far short of what economically managed relief camps should be. The weekly mortality in the camps is high, as at Bellary, and this mortality is principally among new comers; persons who are found dead or dying outside the camps being reckoned into the death-rate of the camp. These deaths betoken insufficient relief in the tracts from which the people come wandering into Madras. From the South Arcot district wanderers have recently begun to flock into Madras in considerable numbers, and to that district the Madras Government is now despatching Mr. Puckle, a member of the Revenue Board, to inquire into the matter.

18 One subject which engaged my attention while at Madras was that of soliciting private subscriptions in aid of relief funds. A telegram had been sent to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal on 12th August, in which the Government of India in brief terms deprecated any such appeal on the part of Government, and it appeared from some correspondence between the Lord Mayor of London and the Local Relief Committee at Madras that misunderstanding existed as to the real views of the Government on the subject.

19 A copy of the letter, which, in continuation of the telegram of 12th August I caused to be addressed to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal in elucidation of these views, forms Enclosure No 4 of this letter. It is briefly to the effect that while the Madras Government have undertaken to save life by all available means in their power, and while their own organization is strained to the very uttermost in the attempt to carry out this object, it is not desirable that any committee for the distribution of private charity should attempt to carry out the same objects on the same lines and through the same agency as the Government. In other words, it is undesirable that a relief committee should interfere with the ordinary relief organization of Government. Further, it is not proper or expedient that the Government should ask for private subscriptions to supplement its own expenditure on famine, especially as it is clear that such subscriptions can make no appreciable difference in an expenditure which exceeds half a million sterling a month, and because general taxation, falling chiefly on the very classes who might be expected to subscribe, must in the end be required to provide for this expenditure.

20 It must here be observed that, although the meeting held at Madras for the purpose of appealing to private charity in aid of famine relief was presided over by the Governor of that presidency, and attended by all the members of the Local Government, yet this meeting took place without the knowledge of the Government of India, or any intimation by the Governor to the Viceroy of the motives and objects of it. These the Government of India was left to gather from the newspaper reports of the proceedings on that occasion, according to which it had been stated or implied by the majority of those who addressed the meeting that the Government of Madras could no longer hope to feed the increasing number of its famine-stricken population, that, in its efforts to do so, it was inadequately supported by the Government of India, and that, thus, necessity had arisen for appealing to private charity in aid of those efforts. It was impossible to know how far these views and statements were approved by the high authorities of the Madras Government in whose presence they had been forcibly expressed. But the Government of India was bound to repudiate all concurrence in them when called upon by other Local Governments to declare its own opinion on the subject of private charity in connexion with famine relief.

21. This was done by the Government of India in the telegram above referred to, but in that telegram the Government distinctly stated that, if private charity could be applied to other methods of relief, and could be made to reach other classes than those which came within the reach of State agency, and if this could be attained by a volunteer organization apart from that of Government, then there could be no objection to unofficial meetings for the furtherance of such objects. In our opinion, however, the interests of the public, no less than the duties of the State, required that these objects should be strictly defined, and intelligibly announced, in connexion with some previously ascertained and well considered means of securing their attainment before the authority of Government could be legitimately or conveniently associated with the collection of private charity for the relief of national distress. This view has now been reiterated, and it has been again explained that, while it is not desirable in the circumstances above mentioned for the Government itself to take any part in the collection or distribution of subscriptions, every encouragement should be given to the spontaneous flow of private charity. It has also been pointed out that our objection to inviting subscriptions from those who will hereafter have to be taxed for the same object does not apply to subscriptions from England, and finally, as the Madras Committee, of which the Duke of Buckingham is the chairman, has expressed its intention of directing the money subscribed to objects other than those which come within the scope of Government agency, his Grace has (Enclosure No 5) been invited to formulate definitely and in detail what those objects are to be, and the agency through which they are to be attained.

*No. 200.

22 Much discussion has taken place during the past week on the working and the requirements of the Madras Railway. Seventeen additional engines and one hundred waggons have during August been borrowed from other lines and sent to Madras, one hundred more waggons will shortly arrive from the Baroda line. The Madras Railway is receiving from England six to eight new powerful engines per month, 200 metre gauge waggons are on their way (some have actually arrived) from State lines for work on the South Indian Railway. The double line from Madras to Arconum has been opened for traffic. The despatches of grain from the Madras Terminus are reaching 1,800 tons a day, while the despatches inland from Negapatam and Beypore are keeping up to the mark. I anticipate that the several Madras railways will, if grain be consigned in sufficient quantities, despatch inland the full quantity required daily, namely —

	Tons
From Madras Terminus by the Madras Railway - - -	1,800
" Beypore - - - - -	400
" Rachore - - - - -	900
By the South Indian Railway - - - - -	800
" canal and road from Madras - - - - -	600
Total - - - - -	4,500

Under these circumstances the Government of India have for the present refrained from compelling other guaranteed lines, by forced Government requisition, to lend more rolling stock than they can willingly spare to the Madras Railway, and we are the more anxious not to make requisitions, if it can possibly be helped, because the other railways have loyally obeyed our request for loans of rolling stock as far as they possibly could, and because we do not know what urgent need may spring up for grain transport in other parts of the empire which are threatened with scarcity.

23 Though the Madras Railways, by working full power, can thus almost meet the necessities of the case, yet it is by no means certain that they can continue to do so, or that they will be prepared for new demands which may arise if the north-east monsoon fails. Some of their engine and waggon stock is very old, and may become unserviceable before the crisis is over; the northern railways may, if difficulty comes in Upper India, have to reclaim the engines they have lent. In order, therefore, to provide against possible difficulties we have telegraphed to your Lordship supporting the Madras Government in their indent of the 17th August for 20 more engines, 600 waggons and 40 break-vans, and we have asked for 20 more engines in addition to the Madras indent. You have informed us by telegraph that 500 of these waggons will reach India within ten weeks time. We hope that this additional stock, together with 30 new heavy engines now arriving, will enable the Madras Railways to meet all emergencies. We have asked that the 40 new engines should, for reasons explained in my colleague's railway letter, quoted in paragraph 10 of the present letter, form part of the State reserve of engines.

24 It has been mentioned that the railways will carry the required amount of grain, if only it is consigned by the trade. And upon the question whether private trade will

send into the famine country all the grain that is required, the safety of the people depends. It cannot be said that the trade sends all the country can take, for the dear prices ruling in so many districts would show that more grain would be readily bought, if sent. But this much is certain, private trade is still consigning to the famine country much more grain than the railways can carry into the interior. In previous letters we have reported that more than 100,000 tons of grain are awaiting despatch at or near the railway stations in the Central Provinces. The Bengal exportable surplus, if the crop now in the ground turns out well, will not fall short of 350,000 tons. Already 100,000 tons of freight, chiefly steamer freight, has been taken up for despatch of grain from Calcutta to Madras ports during the present month. The actual despatches of rice from Bengal to Madras were 53,225 tons, or an average of 3,800 tons daily, during the fortnight ending on the 29th August. The despatches from Burmah to Madras were only 400 tons during the same period, so that there would seem to be truth in the opinion generally expressed by merchants, that the Burmah rice ports have no more grain to send till next crop comes to market in December. From Saigon it was reported that 150,000 tons were ready for export, but that most of this would go to China, where also there is a large famine demand. But a telegram from the Governor of the Straits Settlements, dated the 1st September, has told us that the Siamese Government has prohibited the export of rice from Bangkok until the 30th September, on account of the threatened dearth in those territories. At the same time the Persian Government has prohibited grain exportation from Bushire. It would seem, therefore, that for the present India cannot expect food supplies from further Asia, but must send the surplus of the north to supply the deficiency of the south. For the present, and so far as we can foresee, any grain imported by Government would occupy railway waggons to the exclusion of private despatches, and would paralyze trade to an indefinite extent.

25 On my way to Madras I received a report from the Lieutenant-Governor on the prospect of the autumn crops in the North-West Provinces and Oudh. His account was, in brief, that the early (July and August) rains had failed over large tracts of the North-west Provinces; that over the Agra, Meerut, and Jhansi Divisions, and over a great part of Rohilkund and Oudh, the unirrigated autumn crops either had not been sown, or had withered, and that the irrigated crops had been much scorched by the hot dry westerly winds. The redeeming features of the situation were, that the autumn crop in the Allahabad and Benares Divisions, though in jeopardy, would still be saved if rain came, that the food stocks in the country were very large, and that there was still ample time for the rain to come and secure good spring crops, which yield the larger food harvests of the year. It was explained that Sir George Couper had given direction to Commissioners to open relief works of certain classes as soon as they deemed such a course necessary. The Lieutenant-Governor's report will be found in Enclosure No. 6, together with the orders passed by the Government of India on the subject. It will be seen that, while commending the North-West Provinces Government for its foresight and the caution given against alarmist views, I have desired a reconsideration of the orders permitting the commencement of petty relief works in many parts of the country, and directed that, if relief employment is to be a charge against the general treasury, such employment should be given on fully supervised large works of permanent usefulness. It was mentioned that the Government of the North-West Provinces possessed ready to its hand complete projects for several such works, on which, if need be, relief employment could at once be given.

26 From the Resident at Baroda I learnt that a serious failure of the autumn food crop was impending, and that prices were already rising to famine rates (twelve pounds per rupee). An interesting and suggestive letter was received from Sir Madhava Rao, the Baroda Minister, on the same subject. The Minister's recommendations were, in effect, that relief works should be opened simultaneously, and a uniform famine policy adopted all over the Baroda country, over British Guzerat, and over the Kattywar Chiefships. It was urged that trade in grain should be everywhere exempted from transit dues, and that nowhere should grain exports be prohibited. The Minister went further, and recommended that Government should purchase and import grain from other parts of the world. In my Secretary's reply the Resident was furnished with a copy of the orders sent by Sir Richard Temple to the officers of British Guzerat, directing that projects for well-considered public works should be at once prepared, but forbidding the opening of relief works so long as the people could support themselves. The Resident was reminded that the ryots of Guzerat were exceptionally prosperous, to wit last season they had excellent harvests and high prices, and he was cautioned against opening petty relief works or beginning gratuitous relief at all for the present. The attention of political officers attached to the neighbouring States was called to the

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desirability of all the Chiefs adopting the British principle of admitting free passage of grain from, as well as to, tracts threatened with scarcity. At the same time the Minister was thanked for his suggestions; he was told of the steps taken by the Government of India to make known the state of prices in Southern India throughout adjoining provinces and countries, and it was explained that the Government would not engage in the business of importing grain. The advice given to Native Chiefs regarding free trade in grain has already borne some fruit; for Major-General Sir Henry Daly telegraphs from Indore that his Highness Maharaja Holka has agreed to withdraw the prohibition against grain exports from his territory, and that at least one other Chief of Central India has followed the Maharaja's example.

27. I propose to start to-night for Bangalore, in order to confer with the Chief Commissioner on the state of affairs in Mysore, the actual condition of which, as well as the future prospects of that State, are subjects of very grave anxiety to me. Since the date of the last weekly telegram the prospects have not improved, and day by day the burden of the telegrams has been that no rain has fallen. Last evening, however, brought better news, good rain being reported to have fallen on the 2nd instant. Prices of food-grains show no material alteration. The last report received from Mysore shows the number on relief works slightly diminished, and the number on gratuitous relief considerably increased. The following are the totals: on relief works 49,000 persons, on gratuitous relief 213,000. These figures, no less than the reports previously received, indicate very clearly that the famine organization in Mysore is unable efficiently to cope with the distress; and the radical error of the system may be gathered from the fact that, out of a total of 264,000 persons receiving relief less than 23,000 are on works professionally supervised. The latest Mysore weekly report forms Enclosure No. 7 to this despatch.

28. As a first step towards introducing improved organization, I have deputed two selected officers from the North-West Provinces—Mr. C. A. Elliott, Commissioner of Meerut, and Major Scott Moncreiff, R.E., to assist the Chief Commissioner, and I have also deputed five military officers to assist in controlling relief operations. A detailed scheme for providing public works, and for reorganizing gratuitous relief, will be framed after discussion with the local administrative officers at Bangalore.

29. The Chief Commissioner of Mysore has made an application to the Government of India for a loan of 50 lakhs to meet the famine expenditure. The expenses of the famine have hitherto been defrayed by the proceeds of the invested funds, amounting to 46,16,000 rupees. This source of supply will be exhausted by the end of the current month, and the budget shows no balance to fall back upon. The Government of India have agreed to grant the loan, as, otherwise, the Mysore State would be compelled to borrow in the open market, a policy which the Government is not prepared to accept in the case of any Native State, and the loan will be granted on terms to be fixed hereafter, in the following instalments:—

In October -	-	-	-	-	20 lakhs.
„ November	-	-	-	-	15 „
„ December	-	-	-	-	10 „
„ January or February	-	-	-	-	5 „

30. Until the beginning of September, the condition of affairs in some of the Central India States, especially Gwalior and the Bundelkund country, was getting worse and worse. Already there was a demand for relief labour in Gwalior, emigration was beginning, and strings of emigrants were passing down the Indore road, some hundreds of whom received a meal at Goona. To relieve this pressure, relief employment has been opened on the further section of the Agra and Gwalior railway. Sir Henry Daly, the Resident at Indore, telegraphed on the 29th August that the commencement of work on the railway had temporarily checked the emigration. Work on the Pahlunpore railway, recently sanctioned by your Lordship, was also arranged, as a relief measure to relieve the pressure in that part of the country; which pressure is, according to latest telegrams, now much enlightened by the favourable rainfall of the past week.

31. The season telegram despatched to-day to your Lordship is as follows.—

Madras.—One to 1½ inches rain. Bellary, Kurnool, Cuddapah, much benefit; good rain Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Kistna; thunderstorm at Madras; one inch rain at Madras on 4th. Only half an inch elsewhere, save where occasional heavy showers, crops improved by rain, except in South Arcot, Coimbatore, Salem, Madura; prices dearer; 901,227 on works, 1,430,885 on gratuitous; grain importations large, railway transport improving.

Bombay.—Showers throughout week everywhere; four inches rain all over Guzerat; continuous heavy rain all Konkan districts; good rain throughout Khandesh, Nasik,

Sattara, Belgaum, and greater part Poona, Sholapore. Partial rain, Dharwar, Kaladgi Prospects much improved Prices not yet cheaper. Numbers on works 278,731, on gratuitous 125,960.

Mysore—Bad week, occasional light showers; good rain Bangalore, night second September gauging $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches; dry crop prospects worse in all districts, gratuitous numbers 213,000, works number 49,000.

Hyderabad—Three days' good rain, over four inches. Much benefit. Good rain Berar

Rajputana—Heavy rain Aboo and South-West States Good rain Jeypore. Heavy showers Ajmere, Meywar, and East States Lyall telegraphs general prospect very materially improved More rain needed Ulwar, Meywar

Central India.—Good rain Rutlam, Indore, and all Malwa Two inches rain Neemuch, Gwalior, Bundelkund, too late to save much autumn crop Gwalior. Still prospects everywhere improved

North-West—Moderate rain Allahabad, Bepares Divisions, four inches Jhansi Division, half inch Agra; good rain one day Meerut and Bareilly, rest slight partial showers. Autumn crop lost many parts

Punjab—Dry hot weather up to second, then heavy universal rain over province, gauging $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches at Loodhiana, too late to save autumn crop in parts. Lieutenant-Governor telegraphs prospects immensely improved, spring crop sowings secured over the important grain-producing districts.

Bengal, Central Provinces, Burmah, Assam—Seasonable weather, good prospects.

It has given me great pleasure to be able to address to your Lordship so satisfactory a telegram But I cannot forget that, although our prospects are almost everywhere so much better than they were when I left Simla, yet everything in the Madras Presidency depends mainly on the October rains (north-east monsoon) The condition of Mysore is still a matter for much anxiety, and our hope for the future can only be fulfilled by a continuance of the present favourable change in the weather.

I have, &c
(Signed) LYTTON.

No 216

No 34 of 1877.

From the GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, to the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA, Madras, September 5, 1877.

In my letter, No 33, of to-day's date, I have laid before your Lordship some account of the journey I have undertaken to Madras accompanied by my colleague, Sir Alexander Arbuthnot, together with a brief summary of the latest changes in agricultural prospects over the several provinces of the Indian Empire In the present letter I shall confine myself to a description of the arrangements concluded, after personal conference with the Governor, for the purpose of systematizing the policy and strengthening the administration of State relief throughout the famine-stricken districts of the Madras Presidency.

2 My Minute dated the 12th August submitted to your Lordship with our letter of the 20th August, contained a review of the situation which the Government of India had been dealing with up to the date at which that Minute was written, and of the famine policy pursued by us in reference thereto, with a general indication of those changes in the relief operations of the Madras Government which appeared to myself and my colleagues urgently needed by the protracted duration and increasing pressure of the famine in this part of Southern India

3 The general rules of famine policy set forth in my above-mentioned Minute are in complete conformity with the views previously expressed in the instructions to Sir Richard Temple of the 16th January last, which were approved by your Lordship Abstinence from interference with private trade and from Government operations in the grain market, employment of the destitute upon useful well-supervised public works; careful supervision of gratuitous relief, and the restriction of it by applying needful tests to recipients, are principles which have been steadily inculcated by the Government of India as opportunity arose since January last. But, although from the facts and figures laid before us by the Madras Government, it appeared to us that its conduct of relief operations was not in complete accordance with the principles thus laid down by the

Government of India, we had nevertheless many reasons for believing that the partial disregard of those principles would be on the whole less mischievous in its ultimate effects than the friction, irritation, and general paralysis of effort likely to arise from authoritative interference with the action of the Local Government. From such interference therefore, in reference to all matters not of paramount importance, we purposely abstained so long as it was possible to do so, that is to say, until the failure of the summer rains of 1877 had made it clear that famine relief and famine expenditure on a large scale must continue in the Madras Presidency till December or January next.

4. The Madras famine then assumed dimensions which placed it altogether outside the category of local calamities. It had become one of the most serious imperial disasters which the Supreme Government had ever been called upon to deal with. Under the existing constitution of the Government of India there must always be a certain amount of divided responsibility in dealing with any great catastrophe of this kind. For while a large executive responsibility is advantageously exercised by the Local Governments, the financial responsibility of the Government of India remains inalienable. In ordinary circumstances this financial responsibility involves the severest and most minute scrutiny of all expenditure. But in exceptional circumstances such as those created by the pressure of a great famine, that scrutiny cannot be enforced without extreme inconvenience. Owing to the delay caused by the requisite investigation of details, and protracted correspondence between the Supreme and Local Governments irremediable disasters might occur before the measures necessary for preventing them could be sanctioned and undertaken. Thus on occasions like the present we find ourselves placed in the anomalous position of a Government which is practically obliged to relax the exercise of its financial control in proportion to the increasing gravity of its financial liabilities. Such relaxation of control, however, is only justifiable so long as the limits of expenditure can be foreseen. When this is no longer the case, when uncontrolled expenditure threatens serious and imminent peril to the finances of the Empire, then the Government of the Empire cannot suspend or transfer to any other authority that financial supervision which constitutes its most essential function without repudiating the paramount duty of an Imperial Government. How to reconcile due guarantees for the discharge of the financial responsibility devolving exclusively upon the Supreme Government with adequate provision for the freedom and celerity of action so greatly needed to ensure the success of the Local Government in coping with the present grievous calamity is a problem which pressed for early solution, and I am hopeful that it may have been adequately solved by the arrangements now concluded with the valuable advice and assistance of the Governor of Madras.

5. The object to be attained was twofold. On the one hand it was necessary to secure for the Government of India that consideration of its views on the part of the Government of Madras, which is strictly demanded by the impossibility of transferring to the latter any portion of the financial responsibilities of the former. On the other hand, it was no less necessary to do this, in some manner involving the minimum of friction and delay, and calculated to strengthen rather than weaken the executive action of the Local Administration.

6. Great rapidity of reference would doubtless have been secured, and much time saved in the conduct of official correspondence between the two Governments, by temporarily transferring the seat of the Supreme Government to this Presidency. But to the Duke of Buckingham and to myself such a measure seemed open to many and grave objections which heavily counterbalanced the advantages of it in that respect. On the other hand, it appeared to me, after much anxious consideration, that if some means could be devised of placing at the command of the Local Government all the higher consultative and executive ability and experience which, owing to its unrestricted field of selection and authority, are in ordinary times commanded only by the Government of India, then the Government of India would be justified in reducing to a minimum all checks upon the action of the Local Government, because its own responsibility in reference to such action would under these conditions be sufficiently represented and practically secured by the selection of subordinate agents.

7. For the adoption of this latter alternative, which commended itself no less to the judgment of the Duke of Buckingham than to my own, I placed myself in personal communication with his Grace. The Duke informed me that he would gladly receive in pursuance of our common object the assistance of Major-General Kennedy, who had accompanied me from Poona, and whose services Sir Richard Temple was kind enough to place temporarily at my disposal. Major-General Kennedy, who is favourably known to your Lordship and to the Government of India as Public Works Secretary to the Bombay Government, has under two successive Governors successfully directed all

famine relief operations in the Bombay Presidency I considered that Major-General Kennedy's advice would be of great use to the Government of India, and that were his services accepted by the Government of Madras he would be most valuable in helping to organise and carry out the difficult but necessary operation of transferring to large and permanently useful works the greatest possible proportion of the 2½ millions who were being supported by the State in the Madras Presidency, and of whom barely one-quarter of a million were doing useful work. The Government of India is under great obligations to Sir Richard Temple for thus sparing the services of his chief famine officer, and a copy of a communication conveying to his Excellency the expression of our thanks for this loyal service forms Enclosure No. 1 to my present letter.

No. 208

8 On the evening of the 25th I met the Governor of Madras by appointment at Bellary. Before meeting his Grace I had sent him a copy of my Minute of the 12th August, and had confidentially communicated to him my views as to the necessity for certain changes in the relief management which could only be effected by improved unity and directness of control. In that opinion his Grace fully concurred, and our interview at Bellary left no essential difference between us as to either principles or measures. On the following day the Duke of Buckingham returned to Madras, where he had to attend a meeting of Council, and where I rejoined him on the 27th.

9 The day after my arrival at Madras I had a long conference with the Governor, at which my colleague Sir Alexander Arbuthnot, Major-General Kennedy, and some of my secretaries were present. We considered, proposal by proposal and clause by clause, a memorandum with which I had furnished the Duke, on the principles and measures commended to his adoption by the Government of India. These measures included only one important change of system which the Governor of Madras was unwilling to accept, viz., that the famine districts should be divided into two or more commissionerships, each under a Commissioner acting as chief executive officer in his division. The Governor of Madras held that it was unwise to take his best Collectors from their districts to be Commissioners; that it was doubtful whether functionaries with such extensive charges as those assigned to the Madras Collectors would work well under Commissioners, and that what was required in the way of inspection and enforcement of Government orders could be done by deputing members of the Board of Revenue from time to time to visit particular districts, without assigning to them any definite territorial charge. On that point my own opinion and that of my colleague Sir Alexander Arbuthnot is unchanged, but we did not deem the point essential, and have not pressed it.

10 With this single exception, complete concurrence of opinion and purpose was happily established between the Government of India and the Government of Madras, whose final conclusions were expressed in their Secretary's letter No. 2,232, dated the 31st August. The letter, together with the orders passed thereon by the Government of India, will be found in the "Gazette of India Extraordinary," published on the 3rd September, which forms Enclosure No. 2 to this letter. The principles of famine policy thereby affirmed are —

Nos. 201-3

- I *Grain Supply* — That the Madras Government should abstain from importing grain on its own account, and from any measure which might interfere with the activity of private trade.
- II *Public Works* — A large scheme of useful public works under professional supervision should be the backbone of the relief system, all other forms of relief being subsidiary to the main scheme, and all relief works of any magnitude being directed and controlled by agency belonging to the Public Works Department. Large works under professional agency should not be limited to works which are deemed directly remunerative, nor even to works which may probably be finished during the continuance of the famine. The Governments of India and Madras will be prepared to accept a proportion of unremunerative and unfinished public works at the end of the famine.
- III. *Gratuitous Relief* — All gratuitous relief should be as far as possible temporary, and subsidiary to the main object of getting the distressed people on to the works or back to their ordinary occupations. It will be necessary to maintain relief camps in order to receive and support the starving, the helpless wanderers, and infirm persons, with a view of getting them into condition to labour. But the ultimate object of these relief camps as receiving places only for people hereafter to be drafted to works should ever be kept in view. Village relief, other than casual relief to famine-stricken travellers, should be confined to resident villagers who are house-ridden, or otherwise unfitted for or incapable of labour.

11. To carry out this policy the hitherto existing system of administration in Madras was indisputably too cumbrous. Under that system the Collectors reported on most famine subjects to the Board of Revenue; the Board, and in some instances the local officers, reported to one or other of four different branches of the Secretariat; the references so received from the Board or the local officers were then minuted upon by the two members of Council; and not till they had thus at last reached the hands of the Governor could they receive the orders of his Excellency in Council. It seemed to the Government of India, and in this view the Government of Madras entirely concurred, that under such a system the administrative chain was too long, that control was weak, and that uniformity and promptitude of action was hopelessly unattainable. In presence therefore of the increased and increasing difficulties which the action of the Madras Government, thus retarded and dispersed, had been unable to counteract, it was deemed absolutely necessary to concentrate the direction and simplify the process of its famine business by placing it within the immediate control of a Famine Dictator, who, acting under the general authority of the Government of India, should be solely responsible for the administration of this department.

12. By none but the head of the Local Government could such a task be properly assumed or adequately discharged. It was therefore decided, that by rules passed under the India Council's Act, the Governor of Madras should take the famine business into his own hands, as was done by Lord Northbrook during the famine of 1874 in Bengal, that Collectors and executive officers should correspond with the Government on famine matters direct, and not through the Revenue Board as heretofore, and that Major-General Kennedy, acting as the accredited agent of the Government of India, should be appointed personal assistant to the Governor in all famine affairs. The object of this arrangement (to which great importance is attached by his Grace the Governor and by myself) is to associate the authority of the Supreme with that of the Local Government without abrogating the responsibility of the former or hindering the action of the latter.

13. These measures, as settled between the Governor and myself, have been loyally accepted by the other members of the Madras Government. I do not expect from them, either now or hereafter, a complete recovery of the whole ground already ravaged by the growth of famine; but I feel assured that they will greatly facilitate remedial operations and restrain the progress of positive pauperism. The Government of India has given to

* On our journey an urgent demand reached me by telegraph for 100 additional medical subordinates for Madras. Bengal had already lent 88 such officials. At the present time of writing over 62 out of the additional 100 have been arranged for, and some 20 have actually arrived in the Madras Presidency.

the Government of Madras the services of one of the very best famine officers in India; and we have arranged for the immediate despatch of all the engineering, executive, and medical* assistance required by the Local Administration. The Supreme Government, relieved from all necessity for detailed supervision or vexatious interference, will spare no effort to assist the free and more vigorous action of the Madras Government, in following out the broad lines of famine policy now accepted. The Governor of Madras becomes virtually a dictator in famine affairs, so far as the constitution permits such an arrangement, and I have every reason to anticipate great amelioration in the social and financial conditions of the Madras famine from his Grace's more direct control of the operations which will now be commented.

14. The letter from the Government of Madras, which will reach your Lordship by the present mail, gives the latest available information on relief affairs. It will be seen from it that there are now in this Presidency two and a quarter millions of persons in receipt of gratuitous relief, and on relief works; most of which works are under no adequate control, nor are they of such a character as to promise any great permanent benefit to the country.

15. It only remains for me to express the hope that the arrangements reported in this letter and its enclosures will meet with your Lordship's approval, and to record my warmest acknowledgments of the cordiality and ability with which I have been assisted by the Duke of Buckingham in bringing these arrangements to a prompt, and I trust a satisfactory, conclusion.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYTTON

No 217

Telegram, dated 6th September 1877

FROM PRESIDENT, Simla to the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA

Viceroy approving, we wish public works engineers on furlough, under rank of superintending, and medically fit, warned to be ready to return to India on further intimation

No. 218

Telegram, dated 6th September 1877

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE to DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM.

Yours 2nd instant. I am very glad to learn the satisfactory arrangements that you have made with Viceroy. We hope much from concentration of famine administration in your hands. I understand Viceroy has urged on you greater stringency in confining gratuitous relief to those unable to work. I have no doubt of the propriety of this recommendation, but, as it implies requirement of task work from all who can do any work at all, the greatest care in executing it will be necessary in the case of those who have been reduced to feebleness by long privation. Mortality may result if sufficiency of nourishment is made to depend on work beyond their strength; moreover, amount of nourishment which was sufficient when they were strong may not be sufficient now.

No 219

Telegram, dated 6th September 1877.

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE to VICEROY.

I have heard with great satisfaction of judicious arrangements concluded between you and the Duke of Buckingham. I believe that concentration of famine management in his hands will be of greatest advantage. The appointment of General Kennedy, in whom you repose well-grounded confidence, will also be very beneficial. I approve generally of your arrangements, reserving any observation I may have to make on matters of detail. Greater stringency in confining relief to those unable to work is no doubt in many places necessary, but every precaution should be taken that consequent requirement of task work is not allowed to press dangerously on those who by privation have become partially incapacitated for labour. I have telegraphed in this sense to Duke of Buckingham.

No. 220.

Telegram, dated 7th September 1877.

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE to VICEROY.

State locomotives ordered for delivery here in October, 10; November, 13; December, 44, January, 27, February, 19, March, 7. These fill up four largest makers, who have in consequence shunted English orders.

Additional 20 locomotives specified in yours 5th, being novel type, cannot be made quickly. It quick delivery desirable, discretion must be left with me in selection of type, for which drawings and patterns are ready to hand, for instance, Great India Peninsular type, new pattern locomotives cannot be delivered under 16 weeks from date of completion of drawings, complete drawings of State type not yet copied.

Additional engines that type cannot be delivered before 2nd of January. On all present orders extra price is given for quickest possible delivery.

No. 221.

Telegram, dated 8th September 1877

FROM VICEROY to SECRETARY OF STATE

Yours 7th. Type locomotive left to your discretion. When could 20 additional for Madras be delivered?

Telegram, dated Bangalore, September 8, 1877

From VICEROY to SECRETARY OF STATE

I have arranged with Arbuthnot to take the management of the famine business of the Government of India into my own hands

No 223

No. 821 (Famine), dated Bangalore, 8th September 1877

From S. C. BAYLEY, Esq., C.S.I., Additional Secretary to the Government of India, to the CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF MYSORE.

I am directed by his Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General, in pursuance of the result arrived at in this day's conference, to issue the following instructions for the guidance of your administration in famine affairs.

2 His Excellency deems it unnecessary to criticise the action of the past; but he finds from recent returns that the numbers now on gratuitous relief are 213,710, that there are on works managed departmentally 22,975, and on works managed by civil agency 25,644. It appears very doubtful if any considerable proportion of the people employed on departmental works can be considered as "relief labourers" in the ordinary sense of the term, and the works under civil agency are petty works, which experience has shown to be but little suitable to famine operations, and to be specially difficult of supervision

3. It is also manifest that, owing to the want of sufficient relief works, the relief camps or kitchens (as they are called) have become crowded to an extent incompatible, under existing organization, with proper discipline or control, that vast numbers are relieved at those places who are quite capable of working, that, in some of them, no nominal register is kept; that different scales of rations are in force in different kitchens, rendering the maintenance of the more economical standard a task of unnecessary difficulty, and that, altogether, there is a serious want of organized and systematic control over them.

4. The principles on which famine relief should be administered are laid down with sufficient distinctness in the Minute of his Excellency the Viceroy dated the 12th August, a copy of which is herewith enclosed, and Lord Lytton gladly acknowledges that the orders issued by you from time to time have been generally in accordance with these principles. It is only necessary that such orders should be more fully developed and acted on.

5. The Viceroy desires that the attention of your administration should be specially directed to the maintenance of a sufficient scheme of large works of public utility for the relief of the destitute population. The works should be managed as relief works, on the task work system, on relief wages, and under stringent tests, such as those in force in the Bombay Presidency, and to these works all persons capable of labour should be drafted both from relief camps and, hereafter, from petty works under civil agency. Petty works under civil agency should also be brought under the general supervision and control of the Public Works Department. The above-mentioned scheme must be the backbone of the relief system, all other forms of relief being subsidiary to it. The entire energy and strength of your Public Works Department, unhampered by the rules and restrictions which ordinarily regulate its employment of labour and expenditure of money, must be devoted to the object thus defined. This must be done at the expense, if necessary, of other works, which may have been sanctioned in the annual budget, but which may not be suitable for relief works. It is not absolutely essential that such works should be remunerative, nor even that they should be such as can be finished during the continuance of the famine; but preference should, of course, be given where possible to works coming under these two categories.

6. The Viceroy is not unaware that, in carrying out this duty, alien as it is to the every-day work of the Department of Public Works, much disturbance of the machinery must take place, involving some deterioration in the discipline of the regular coolies on the establishment, and in the efficiency of the departmental staff, of which Colonel Sankey is now justly proud. But in times of famine, as in war, all ordinary administration must give way to the one main object of the campaign, and the Viceroy cannot permit the convenience or even the efficiency (for ordinary purposes) of any single department to become an obstruction to what he deems the essence of a sound system of relief

7 His Excellency regretted to find at the conference that Colonel Sankey, notwithstanding the previous explanation of the views of the Government of India, which the Viceroy had personally given to him, still failed to grasp this principle. Colonel Sankey was apparently not prepared to close any of his ordinary works or convert them into relief works, nor was he willing to divert any of his ordinary departmental staff from these works to the duty of controlling relief works. The scheme of works, moreover, submitted to the Viceroy, was insufficient in itself to receive the numbers which ought, as shown by your returns, to be drafted on to them, whilst at the same time it was mainly made up of petty works ill adapted to the concentration of control, and consequently to the discipline essential to the due execution of relief works.

8. Lord Lytton, therefore, in order to obviate any failure of the policy hereby entrusted to your execution, desires you to forego your budget scheme of public works during the present crisis. Those of the sanctioned works, which are adapted for relief purposes, should be carried on as relief works, and those that are not so adapted must be closed, the departmental establishment employed thereon being transferred to relief works properly so called. His Excellency looks with confidence to your co-operation in carrying out these instructions, which he has every reason to believe are not out of harmony with your own views.

9 All gratuitous relief should be as far as possible understood to be a temporary concession, subsidiary to the main object of getting people when in condition to labour on to the relief works or back to their ordinary avocations. At relief kitchens, *i e*, unenclosed feeding places, it is certain that neither can proper tests be applied nor can efficient discipline be maintained. It should be an object, therefore, to confine the gratuitous distribution of food to properly enclosed relief camps where the people may be kept under strict discipline and properly registered, and set to such light labour as they may be able to do. The efficient organization of these camps should receive early attention. It will be necessary to maintain them for some time to receive and support the starving helpless wanderers and infirm persons, with a view of getting them into condition to labour. But the ultimate object of these camps, as receiving places only for people hereafter to be drafted to works or to their ordinary occupations, should ever be kept in view.

It is essential that all relief camps, whether in Bangalore or elsewhere, which are kept up by Government money, should be placed under Government organization, so that one system of control and one scale of rations may be applied to all. The responsibility of Government in this matter cannot with propriety be delegated to an irresponsible committee.

The Viceroy learns that the people in relief kitchens have through long idleness become so demoralized that there will be much difficulty in keeping them on works. It will be necessary for your civil subordinates to give the assistance of the police (taking on if necessary extra men) to maintain discipline in the camps attached to the works. It will also be the duty of those in charge to prevent aimless and uncertain wandering, and to see that people do not leave the works without some security for their being able to support themselves in other ways.

10 Village relief is not given in Mysore. Should it become necessary to give village relief at all, it should be confined to resident villagers who are householder or otherwise unfitted for or incapable of labour, and should on no account be given in the shape of cash.

11 In order to assist you in the arduous task of introducing these changes, and of supervising the famine administration of Mysore generally, the Government of India have been pleased to place at your disposal a Famine Commissioner, Mr. C. A. Elliott, C. S., with Mr. Wingate, of the Bombay Civil Service, as your Additional Secretary in the Famine Department.

12. The Famine Commissioner will assist you in directing all famine operations in the provinces of Mysore and Coorg, and, subject to your approval on matters of importance or principle, will issue orders on your behalf through the Commissioners or through the ordinary official channel under the signature of the Famine Secretary. He should have authority when travelling in the interior to give instructions in your name to the local officers, in accordance with the policy of the Government of India and of the Chief Commissioner, such instructions being of course reported to you, and being likewise communicated to the Commissioners of Divisions. The Famine Commissioner should, moreover, have an opportunity of laying his views before you on all correspondence connected with famine matters that may come up to you for orders.

13 The Government of India have already caused to be placed at your disposal the services of five military officers to assist in supervising relief organization, and in addition

to this the Government will endeavour to procure such assistance in the Department of Public Works as may be necessary, and will also obtain the services of as many medical officers as may be necessary to supply the deficiencies of your staff in this respect

Encl. in
No 239.

No. 224.

No 822 (Famine), dated Bangalore, 8th September 1877

FROM S. C BAYLEY, Esq., C.S.I., Additional Secretary to the Government of India, to
the CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF MYSORE

In paragraph 9 of my letter No. 821 of this day's date I conveyed to you the instructions of his Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General that all relief camps, whether in Bangalore or elsewhere which are supported from Government funds, should be placed under the responsible organization of Government officers

I am to take this opportunity of requesting you to convey to the President and Members of the Relief Committee at Bangalore the sincere thanks of his Excellency the Viceroy for the gratuitous supervision they have hitherto bestowed on some of these camps. More especially does Lord Lytton desire to acknowledge publicly his obligations to Mr J. D. Gordon, C.S.I., the President of the Committee, who ever since January last has, with unwearied self-devotion, and not without injury to his health, given up his scanty leisure to the difficult and depressing task of controlling these camps, and has continued the work in the face of overwhelming difficulties, caused by the ever increasing numbers of applicants, and the deepening severity of their destitution.

No. 225.

Telegram, dated Bangalore, 9th September 1877

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE

Yours of 6th. With reference to latter portion I may say that system now established at Madras provides that only those capable of labour are sent to relief works, those who are weakly are kept apart and specially treated, others are tasked at first lightly until perfectly fitted for full work. Bombay people thus treated, experience shows they improve more rapidly than those left idle and demoralized in relief camps. Every attention will be paid to the important consideration enjoined by you.

Encl. in
No 239

No. 226

No. 5,788.—Genl. 154, dated Bangalore, 10th September 1877.

Order.—Ordered that copies of the above letter* be communicated to the Commissioners of Divisions, Deputy Commissioners of Districts, the Deputy Surgeon General, Indian Medical Department, and all executive officers engaged in famine relief operations

2. The Minute of his Excellency the Viceroy, dated the 12th August last, referred to in paragraph 4 of Mr Bayley's Despatch, will be published in the supplement of the Mysore Gazette, and the attention of the executive officers of the Administration is directed to the principles therein laid down.

3. The object which the Government of India have in view in their present instructions is, it will be observed, to withdraw from the Government kitchens as large a number as possible of those who are now in the receipt of charitable relief, and to employ them on large public works of permanent usefulness under professional supervision

4. The duties of Mr. C. A. Elliott, who has been appointed as Famine Commissioner in this province, are stated in paragraph 12 of Mr Bayley's despatch under reference, and it is necessary only on this point for the Chief Commissioner to direct that all written, or in minor matters of detail, verbal instructions which may be given by that officer direct to the Deputy Commissioners should be promptly carried out. The Chief Commissioner relies on the hearty and loyal co-operation of the Division and District Commissioners in affording to the Famine Commissioner that support which will be needed for the successful accomplishment of his duties

5. In future all correspondence immediately connected with the administration of famine measures will be conducted in a Special Famine Department to which Mr A. Wingate, Bombay Civil Service, has been attached as secretary, and reports will be addressed to that officer as "Additional Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Famine Department"

No. 227

Telegram, dated 11th September 1877.

From the GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY to the SECRETARY OF STATE

Since my telegram 3rd, further seasonable improvement in situation in Bombay Presidency. More rain fallen Sind, Kattywar, Guzerat, Deccan, South Maratha Country, Concan. In some parts of Deccan rain extraordinarily favourable; Poona itself alone suffers protracted drought, good rain in neighbouring territory, Rajputana, Malwa, Hyderabad. Public anxiety much mitigated, but prices high, and severe distress continuing among some classes.

No. 228

Telegram, dated September 13, 1877

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE to VICEROY

I am very glad you have taken famine business into your own hands. It is far the most important business before you.

No. 229.

Revenue, No. 64.

From the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA to the GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA
IN COUNCIL.

India Office, London, 13th September 1877.

Para 1 The Despatch of your Excellency in Council, dated 16th July, No. 29 of 1877, relative to the famine in the Presidencies of Madras and Bombay, and the Province of Mysore, has been considered by me in Council

No. 79

2 The general prospect indicated in the Despatch is very gloomy, but recent accounts received by telegraph are more favourable, and I trust that all the affected districts will soon manifest improvement

3 The discussion between Dr. Cornish and Dr. Lyon on the subject of famine wages, which is based to a considerable extent on theoretical grounds, does not demand remark from me. The local governments possess full discretion to adapt the wages given to the actual necessities of the people.

4 I approve of your orders to the Commissioner of Mysore for the abandonment of the practice of paying labourers on relief works once in 15 days; and for the early substitution of bi-weekly, and when distress is extreme of daily, payment

5 Your Excellency has taken the wisest course in leaving the question of the reduction of the numbers in the relief camps to the discretion of the Government of Madras, and I have no doubt that the measures suggested in the resolution of the Government of Bombay, a copy of which has been transmitted to Madras, will receive the careful consideration of the Government of the latter Presidency

6 I fully approve of the instructions issued to the Government of Madras for the publication, in the Government Gazette, of such information as may be procurable as to the details of stocks and of consumption at the various inland markets in the famine districts, and also for the publication of the weekly relief reports. Such information will be of the greatest value in guiding merchants in their conduct of the operations of trade

7 I need hardly assure your Excellency in Council of the deep interest and sympathy with which I regard the exertions of your Government, and of the Governments of Madras and Bombay, to mitigate, as far as human foresight, judgment, and resolution can mitigate, the terrible and, it may be, increasing evils of the calamity before you.

I have, &c
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 230.

Telegram, dated 14th September 1877.

FROM VICEROY to SECRETARY OF STATE

12th September. Chief Commissioner, Mysore, issued Gazette Extraordinary containing Government orders on Mysore famine affairs as settled after conference with Chief Commissioner and inquiry on spot. Out of 260,000 relief recipients it is doubtful

if a single man of the nominal one tenth of the whole number hitherto supposed to be on properly arranged relief works is a *bona fide* relief labourer; about one twelfth are on Civil Agency works. Persons relieved gratuitously are under no sufficient order or control. Public Works Department in Mysore have persisted against orders in confining all the works at its disposal to able-bodied coolies employed under contract system, and in repudiating its duties on behalf of famine relief, orders are that system of large useful works be framed for employment, under ample safeguards, of all relief recipients capable of any work, public works budget programme to yield to pressing need just as in war. Undertakings not suitable for relief work must be suspended, as sufficient irrigation works not available in Bangalore district, earthworks of Mysore railway sanctioned as relief measure. Gratuitous relief to be temporary and subsidiary to works; as people able to labour are drafted to works, relief camps must be brought into order, inmates registered, disciplined, and kept indoors. One system and scale of food for all camps, volunteer committee managing Bangalore relief, 50,000 persons at Government expense, thanked, and business transferred to Government agency. Village relief not now given. If hereafter granted, to be restricted and not to be in cash.

Mr C. A. Eliot appointed Famine Commissioner, to assist the Chief Commissioner and direct famine operations; he will inspect famine districts and give orders on spot. Mr Wingate, a skilled Bombay famine officer, appointed temporary Famine Secretary to Chief Commissioner. Major Moncrieff, in whom I have much confidence, acts as Chief Engineer for Colonel Sankey, temporarily transferred to Government agency. Additional engineering and medical staff being arranged for, also young military officers for relief supervision.

No. 231.

Dated 14th September 1877.

Encl in
No 288.

From DOCTORS T. R. LEWIS and D. D. CUNNINGHAM, Special Assistants to the Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of India, to DR. S. C. TOWNSEND, Officiating Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of India

We have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the "extract" from paragraph 4 of a despatch from the Secretary of State to the Government of India, No 53 (Revenue)

* Report by Dr T R Lewis, dated 26th July 1877, intimating that the further report Calcutta, 16th May 1877. promised in a communication by one of ourselves to your office regarding the fever then prevalent in Bombay* would be awaited

2. The proposal to submit this further report was in great measure made on the supposition that the statements then current regarding the wide distribution of a like fever in Madras were correct. Personal inquiry, however, made it evident that fevers,

† Report by Dr D. D. Cunningham, dated Calcutta, 18th June 1877. so far from being exceptionally severe, were decidedly in abeyance † No opportunity was therefore afforded for instituting the suggested comparisons.

3 We have however availed ourselves of the opportunities which the various hospitals and jails of Calcutta afford of carefully observing the forms of fever which have prevailed during this season, but as yet have not observed any which could be regarded as fairly comparable with those which were prevalent in Bombay during the earlier part of the year—the fevers here being for the most part manifestly "intermittents" and "continued"

4 Since our reports were written Surgeon-General Hunter, of Bombay, has submitted to the Local Government an exhaustive account of the leading features of the fever recently prevalent in that city, accompanied by numerous charts of temperature. This report corroborates the inferences which were made in the communication regarding this fever referred to in the despatch, viz, that—(a) in none of the cases in which the blood-spirillum had been observed "could the origin of the fever have been directly attributed "to want," and that (b) the clinical history of the fever presented "no well-marked feature "which would be sufficient to distinguish it from the class of fevers usually referred to as "remittents" in this country. German authorities also state that the fever in which the blood-spirillum was originally found "manifested a distinctly remittent character" ‡

5 With regard to the first cited of these conclusions we beg to draw special attention to the circumstances that it is in complete accordance with the experience hitherto acquired in connexion with the presence of spirilla in the blood. None of the observers who detected these organisms in Europe have in the remotest manner implied that their

presence in the blood was associated with want, on the contrary, Geisler expressly states that the fever in which they occur (commonly referred to in Germany as recurrent typhus) is not a famine fever. Indeed it so happened that at the time of one of the epidemics the wages of the labouring classes were exceptionally high *

No 232.

Telegram, dated 16th September 1877

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE

Season telegram, 4th to 14th Madras, all districts save Combatore, Madura, Tinnevely, good rain, averaging over 2 inches, much improvement to growing crops, pasture, and general prospects Small harvests reaped, averaging nearly half ordinary yield Prospects worse in Madura, Combatore, Salem, where all depends on October rains Prices stationary and very dear

On works, 773,094; on gratuitous, 1,513,555; grain importations by sea maintained at 3,600 tons daily; railway despatches by Raichore short

Bombay improvement continues, favourable rain everywhere, save part of Poona, Nassik, and Ahmednagar Autumn crops revived, and mostly saved; winter crops progressing; prices very dear; severe distress continues among poor.

On works, 280,727, on gratuitous, 158,733

Mysore, showery weather everywhere, much good to crops; autumn millet lost in parts, distress very severe. On works, 52,000, on gratuitous, 227,000.

Hyderabad—heavy rain in Hyderabad, and worst district gauging seven inches; very great benefit Berar prospects good

Central India, good rain in Bundelkund; Malwa prospects fair

No rain in Gwalior, whence migration southwards General rain of previous week not continued Rajputana, rain much needed in Ajmere and Eastern States, some showers, less cause for anxiety elsewhere. North-west, good rain in Fyzabad, Shah-jehanpore, Humeerpore, elsewhere only partial showers. Prices rising, prospects bad; much autumn crop lost.

Punjab, general but not sufficient rain, except in Multan, where floods Unirrigated autumn crop failed generally, ploughing for spring crop proceeding; prices rising. Bengal, Burmah, Central Provinces, Assam, prospects favourable on whole.

No 233

Telegram, dated Ootacamund, 16th September 1877.

FROM VICEROY TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Yours 7th Altered prospects season render unnecessary 20 additional locomotives proposed for Madras Railway in my message of 5th. Please do not confirm arrangement begun thereon

No 234.

No 846 (FAMINE)

FROM THE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, to the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS, Revenue Department

Governor-General's Camp, Ootacamund,
dated the 16th September 1877.

A deputation of Wynaad planters waited upon the Viceroy yesterday and represented, among other things, that relief works were greatly needed in both Wynaads for the employment of the immigrant poor from Mysore They said that tens of thousands of people, over and above the requirements of the coffee estates, had come and were coming into the Wynaad, and they feared that many of these poor immigrants must

* "Der Recurrens-typhus ist kein Hunger-typhus Gerade die Tagelohnarbeiter waren damals gut beahlt" Geissler, op-cit

die and were dying before they could be deported back to Mysore and relieved there. The planters represented that, if relief road-work was opened, these people could earn wages, they offered to supervise the work and to arrange for the supply of grain.

2. The Viceroy and Governor-General, in his reply, expressed the opinion of the Government of India that relief works for the employment of the immigrant Mysore poor were required in Coorg and the Wynaad; and he intimated the willingness of the Government of India to defray a part of the cost of such relief works, provided the Madras Government could also contribute and the local planters would bear a share of the cost. It appeared that about 80 miles of district roads had been made, and that the object now was to lay gravel on as much as possible of this length. Metal was, it was said, easily obtainable; its collection, breaking, and stacking would form good relief labour.

3. It appears to his Excellency the Viceroy that the settlement of all details as to the manner and kind of relief work is entirely within the discretion of the Local Government. He understands from his Grace the Governor that the Madras Government is ready to sanction relief works in the Wynaad for Mysore immigrants, provided a part of the cost is contributed by the Government of India from the Mysore revenues or from elsewhere. Accordingly the Viceroy is pleased to direct that a grant of Rs. 30,000 be made by the Government of India to the Madras Government towards relief roads in the Wynaad, provided that at least a corresponding sum is contributed from Madras local and provincial resources, provided that the planters contribute a further sum in money or supervision or labour, or in all three, as the Local Government may decide; and provided that the whole sum now to be available for relief roads is expended between this time and the month of May 1878. The Government of Madras will take such steps as may seem fit for opening the relief roads and relieving the pressure on Mysore as soon as possible.

Encl. in
No 239.

No 235.

MEMORANDUM by MR C. A. ELLIOTT ON PROGRESS made from the 10th to the 19th September 1877.

Bangalore, 19th September 1877

It was decided first of all to take in hand the worst and largest of the Bangalore kitchens—those at the Siledar Lanes and the Petta. The former, which is an enclosed place, was first weeded of its able-bodied residents, and their places were filled by drafts of the worst cases relieved at the Petta kitchen—The able-bodied paupers were all put on the railway works close by. At first some difficulties were experienced owing to the great numbers which had to be dealt with and their want of discipline, the unpreparedness of the Public Works Department officers to receive such large additions, and the want of tools and overseers and establishment. By great labour and patience on the part of Mr Wingate and Major Cole, to whom this duty was specially entrusted, these difficulties were successfully overcome, and we now have about 5,000 labourers on this work, all doing fair work, and brought into good order and system, paid in cash and able to house and feed themselves; and our kitchens are relieved to a more than corresponding extent of the crowds which thronged to them. A special officer has also been put in charge of the Binnamangala camp, and the conditions of residence and labour have been enforced there, and 1,000 people have been sent to work, and are paid in cash and struck off the kitchen rolls. One kitchen (that at Shùle) has been abolished. The following table shows how the Bangalore numbers stood on the 10th and the 19th September.—

	10th September	19th September
Petta - - - - -	11,615	5,548
Siledar Lanes - - - - -	2,675	2,747
Shùle - - - - -	1,709	—
Cleyeland Town - - - - -	4,159	2,247
Binnamangala - - - - -	10,575	2,759
Total - - - - -	30,733	13,301

2 The decrease is probably due to three causes—(1) the seasonable rain and the prospect of field employment in weeding, ploughing, &c, this cause had already begun to operate in the week ending September 8th, and the numbers had fallen from their highest point; (2) the employment of about 6,000 people on public works, and the

dread of others, who had accepted food without being really in want, that they would be compelled to work; (3) the enforcement (though as yet only partial) of the rule of residence in the camp. A further cause has perhaps operated here, and will certainly operate when the outlying kitchens are taken in hand, viz, the stoppage of speculation under close supervision.

3 Besides the railway, the chief engineer has notified his readiness to receive about 18,000 people on 15 works in different districts, and his separate note attached to this memo shows that by the 8th October he will have made arrangements for starting three other works, and will be able to employ 24,000 more. The district officers have been informed about the works which are ready to be started, and they are arranging for the transfer of labourers from their relief camps; but no facts are at present known as to what has been done up to date, except in the case of the road from Bangalore to Tûmkûr through Nelamangala.

4 The Famine Commissioner has just visited this road and the Nelamangala relief camp and three others in the neighbourhood. The system of transferring the paupers from gratuitous relief in camps to works under the Public Works Department has been started here with such remarkable success that it deserves to be narrated with some particularity. The Nelamangala relief camp professed to have fed 2,653 persons on the 13th, 2,479 on the 14th, and 2,505 on the 15th. On the morning of the 17th he found about 1,700 people assembled to be fed. Of these he picked out 488 as able-bodied and sent them to the overseer in charge of the road. Of the rest he found only about 20 to be too infirm for work (besides about 200 in the hospital and convalescent ward) and he divided 956 into gangs, and apportioned light work to them. Of these more than half (487) were children whose parents sent them to be fed, but did not come themselves. On the morning of the 19th the overseer had all the 488 drafted from the kitchen on his work, besides a few more drafted on the 18th, and 279 more, volunteers from the neighbourhood, and he had many more applicants, but no tools for them. He had treated them kindly, tasked them with due consideration for their strength, and paid them punctually, and in consequence numbers were flocking to his work. The relief camp on the other hand presented a very changed appearance, and its capacious sheds looked all too wide for its shrunk numbers. Of the 956 people retained as fit for light labour, only about 360 remained; the rest had refused to submit to the conditions of residence and work. Possibly some of them will be unable to find subsistence in their homes, and the system of village inspection will be actively worked, to prevent any undue distress arising from the stubbornness of the more impoverished. But the great majority of those who have gone home have done so because they could afford it, and because they preferred it to living in the relief camp under the altered conditions.

5 Similar inspections of three other large relief camps in the neighbourhood produced and are producing similar results. It is not too much to say that all of these were organized in such a way as to create the impression that the *raison d'être* of the place was to provide for all comers one or two meals a day in the manner most agreeable to the applicants and least laborious to the distributors. No practical effort was made to get the people to work or to retain them in the camp, and when these conditions are enforced the numbers will greatly diminish. Large numbers also of Brahmans and other people of good caste have received rations of raw food without being in distress. To all of these employments suitable to their caste can be offered, to the men as overseers and gangsmen, to the women as rice cleaners and grinders, and their gratuitous rations will be stopped.

6 The Famine Commissioner and the chief engineer are satisfied that those officers were mistaken who believed that the kitchen paupers would refuse to go to public works or would not do a fair day's work on them. On the contrary they believe that the opening of these works will be a real blessing to the famine-stricken population, and that when once they are convinced that the work is lasting and is fairly paid for they will flock to them in large numbers, leaving the relief camps almost empty.

7 During the 10 days since September 10th some important orders have been issued which may be recapitulated here. A circular has been issued prescribing a uniform ration of cooked food for all occupants of relief camps, as well as rates of pay for labourers on public and on civil relief works, accompanied with a sliding scale so as to provide for each labourer's receiving $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs of food, with a small sum for condiments—nine pies per man on works where the heavier task is performed, and three pies where the lighter. Instructions have been issued (after consultation with the district officers) for closing nine relief kitchens in the Bangalore District, two in Kolar, and 19 in the two districts of the Ashtagram Division, those kitchens being chosen which are not at

Taluk headquarters, and which are near enough to other relief camps for the sick and infirm to be transported. A plan has been sketched out for a house-to-house visitation of Bangalore itself, and for the provision of employment for needy artisans by supplying them with materials for their own profession. Orders have been issued to wind up the small civil relief works, finishing off at once those which it would be unwise to leave incomplete and stopping the rest, and to make preparation for starting other and larger civil relief works—the minimum being fixed at 300 people for one month, to supplement where necessary the works undertaken by the Public Works Department, but these are only to be used as safety-valves for labour in cases of emergency. A code is also being prepared for distribution to district and relief officers, laying down the main rules which it is conceived will be found necessary for the establishment of a sound and uniform system

No. 236.

NOTE BY MAJOR C. S. MONCRIEFF, R.E., Chief Engineer.

19th September 1877

It is rather soon to report any very marked results from the change made last week in the Public Works Administration of Mysore, but the following measures have been taken which it is hoped will soon begin to bear fruit

2. The first thing was to issue orders that famine relief was to be the main duty of the Public Works Department, that all budget assignments for works in progress were cancelled, and that whether any particular work was to go on or not was to depend on whether or not it was fitted for famine relief. The limit was fixed that each single work should give employment to at least 1,000 unskilled labourers for at least three months. The system of petty contracts was ordered to cease, so that no labourer should get more than a subsistence however strong, nor less than a subsistence however weak, a task at the same time being required from each. Superintending engineers were directed to send in at once list of works that might be taken up for relief, and to consider where new works could be begun.

3. Earnest efforts have been made to empty the kitchens of Bangalore and to transfer the inmates to the new railway. Contiguous to this work is the site of the proposed Agrahara tank embankment. These have both been laid out, and day after day an increased number of labourers are employed. To-morrow there will be about 5,000 on these works, and a week hence there should be as many more

4. In the Bangalore district arrangements are making for beginning work at once on the Hoskote and Bhadram tanks, where 2,000 might be employed in a week and 4,000 a few days after. Work has begun on the repairs of the road to Tūmkūr, and 800 labourers will find work there for the next three months. In a few days 1,000 labourers will be employed on the repairs of the Mysore road. On the Bangalore-Bellary and Yelhanka-Ballapur roads 2,000 labourers will find employment.

5. In Kolar arrangements are being made to receive at once 4,200 people on four tanks.

6. In the Tūmkūr District work has begun on the Shimoga road, and 1,400 labourers will be employed for three months. On the Bellary road work will be started in a few days for 1,000 labourers.

7. In the Chitaldroog District the Public Works Officers have been ordered to take over a large tank work at Timmanhilla, lately started by the civil officers. No exact details have been received about this yet, but it is believed that about 3,000 can be employed on it.

8. In the Kadur District, an irrigation channel is being laid out at Keresanté, and the Executive Engineer will be prepared to take on 1,000 labourers by 1st October and 2,000 more a few days after. By the same date work will be ready in that neighbourhood for 1,000 labourers on a new road. Later on their numbers will be increased.

9. In a fortnight work can be given on the Mandigere Channels in the Hassan District, and there too the numbers may be increased in a few days, while the Annayanakatte tank works in the same taluk will be put in hand whenever required

10. On the Mysore waterworks about 2,000 labourers have been employed up to now. The Executive Engineer has orders to convert this into a relief work, and to prepare for 3,000. The Ane Irrigation Channel near Maddur will be started at once with 1,000 labourers, and more can be received, if required

11 To sum up, relief works have been begun and will expand, day by day, until by the beginning of October there should be 32,400 employed as below :—

In Bangalore District	-	-	-	-	15,800
„ Kolar	„	„	„	„	4,200
„ Tūmkūr	„	„	„	„	2,400
„ Chitaldroog	„	„	„	„	3,000
„ Kadur	„	„	„	„	2,000
„ Hassan	„	„	„	„	1,000
„ Mysore	„	„	„	„	4,000
					Total
					32,400

Should the demand arise this number can be increased a week later to 42,000 Nor is the list exhausted. The postal service in Mysore is not very rapid, and reports are coming in daily from executive engineers of new works suitable for poor relief

12 In the western districts, Shimoga, Hassan, and Kadur, abundant work can be found on the Malnád roads, but the country is said to be so feverish just now that it would not be judicious to send weakly gangs there until the close of the N.E. monsoon, *z e*, the 1st November Nor is the distress very severe in those tracts

13 The Tūmkūr District is suffering severely, and the Public Works Department can as yet suggest no large work to employ the people Search is being made for suitable tank sites, should that fail it may be necessary to move the population to the banks of the Cauvery in the Mysore District, where most useful irrigation channels can at once be put in hand, extensive enough to employ from 10 to 15,000 people

14 The heavy rain of the last fortnight will now greatly reduce the number of poor in the kitchens But in case further labour should still be required, the Mysore railway can be started for 12 miles beyond Bangalore, giving a large field for labour

No. 237.

Encl in
No. 289

No 856, dated Bangalore, 20th September 1877

From the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA to the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No 2619, dated 31st August, forwarding a statement in which the Revenue Board show approximately the demand, collections, remissions, and balances of land revenue of the year 1876-77 as compared with the three previous years

2 The Viceroy and Governor-General gathers from this statement the following main facts —

	Lakhs
(a) The land revenue current demand for the year 1876-77 was only	355
Compared with an average current demand of the three previous years of -	449
(b) The total collections current and arrears for the year 1876-77 was only	278
Compared with a previous average of -	449
(c) The actual remissions of the year 1876-77 are only	3
on account of the arrear demand, no remissions having yet been granted on the current demand	
(d) The balances of the year 1876-77 are -	130
Compared with a previous average of -	60

3 It thus appears that the deficiency in the year's* land revenue collections amount
* July 1876 to June 1877, inclusive
 ably in excess of previous estimates If more than 45 lakhs out of the outstanding balance of 130 lakhs should be collected hereafter, then the deficiency on the year will be proportionately reduced But if the arrear collections of the present year fall short of 45 lakhs, then the deficiency of the year 1876-77 will practically be increased above the total of 171 lakhs

4. The partial failure of the south-west monsoon of 1877 has made the collection of arrears more difficult, and may in some cases necessitate a reduction of the current year's demand below the average of previous years. His Excellency the Viceroy has confidence that the Government of Madras will not permit sacrifice of revenue, either by reduction of the demand or by remissions, beyond what is absolutely necessary. But he desires to invite the attention of his Grace the Governor in Council to the extreme gravity of the losses which the public treasury has, according to these papers, to bear

No. 238

Revenue No. 65

FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA
IN COUNCIL

India Office, London, 20th September 1877.

No. 103.

Para. 1. The despatch of your Excellency in Council, dated 30th July, No. 31 of 1877, on the subject of the famine in the Presidencies of Madras and Bombay, the territory of His Highness the Nizam, and the province of Mysore, has been considered by me in Council.

2. The Despatch gives a very clear statement of the situation throughout India on the date on which it was written. It also submits some useful information both as to the probable requirements of the famine districts of Madras, Bombay, and Mysore, and as to the stocks of grain in other parts available for exportation.

3. I fully approve of the intimation which your Excellency in Council has made by telegraph to the Governor of the Straits Settlements as to the importance of encouraging importation of rice into India, and, through the Straits Government, to the Governor General of Cochin China, and the King of Siam, on the same subject.

4. I shall await with interest a detailed account of the arrangements which your Excellency in Council has under consideration for securing a more united action between the several railway companies for the facilitation of the transport of grain

I have, &c
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 239

No. 35 of 1877.

FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and
Commerce, Famine, to the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA.

Bangalore, the 20th September 1877

In my last letter, dated 5th September, I informed your Lordship that it was my intention to proceed to Bangalore for the purpose of taking, in communication with the Chief Commissioner, such steps as might then, after adequate inquiry, appear to me necessary to improve the Famine Administration of the Mysore Province.

2. From my minute of 12th August, and from our regular despatches, it will have become known to your Lordship that the state of affairs in this province has long been a source of grave anxiety to the Government of India, and I had, in anticipation of my visit, despatched from Poona two selected officers, Mr. C. A. Elliott and Major Scott Moncrieff, to study the actual condition of the famine administration in Mysore, with a view to the eventual employment of these officers, under the Chief Commissioner, in the introduction of an improved system.

3. I regret to inform your Lordship that from the statement laid before me by these gentlemen, and from the communications I have now held with the chief civil officers of the province, as also from what I myself saw at Bangalore, I was forced to the conclusion that matters were even worse than I had anticipated, that the provision of proper relief works had been entirely neglected; that gratuitous relief, which had increased to an inordinate extent, had been administered in a lax and unsystematic manner, that crime had greatly increased, that people were wandering from Mysore into other districts in vast numbers; and that the mortality both in hospitals and among the wanderers was terrible.

4. The annexed statement will show your Lordship how the numbers relieved, respectively on works and under the system of gratuitous relief, have varied during the

past six months; and how utterly disproportionate is the former to the latter class. But even this statement does not adequately represent the whole evil. I found while at Bangalore that the people employed on works under the organization of the Department of Public Works were not, properly speaking, relief labourers at all. The works were not special relief works, but were those sanctioned in the ordinary way under the annual budget allotment, and the labourers employed on them were the ordinary able-bodied coolies, paid by piece work, and engaged by the ordinary petty contractors of the Department. That these works kept a number of the labourers so employed from the necessity of applying for relief cannot be doubted, but in no other sense can they be called relief works, and the system under which they were employed had been already emphatically condemned by the Government of India in its communications with the Chief Commissioner of Mysore

—				On Works under D P W	On Works under Civil Agency	Gratuitously relieved.	Total
March	-	-	-	31,081	41,735	43,592	1,16,408
April	-	-	-	31,495	29,740	74,669	1,35,804
May	-	-	-	32,499	30,011	1,03,392	1,65,902
June	-	-	-	26,807	28,066	1,14,109	1,68,982
July	-	-	-	20,777	26,325	1,44,861	1,91,963
August	-	-	-	22,644	25,981	1,99,375	2,48,000

5 I was anxious to introduce an improved system of management without any undue interference with the ordinary administration of the country, and I found that the Chief Commissioner was fully prepared to accept and carry out my views. Mr. Saunders had, in fact, previously issued instructions in accordance with the general policy of the Government of India, and these instructions, had they been obeyed, would probably have ensured the timely introduction of a proper system of relief works in Mysore.

6 His chief engineer, however, had objected to the employment of the Public Works establishment otherwise than on the ordinary contract system, and had omitted to provide any special works for relief purposes. Even on the brief extension of the Bangalore Railway, which had already been sanctioned by the Government of India, the Department had declined to employ more than 300 out of the thousands who were ready to labour, and whom the civil officers were anxious to draft from gratuitous relief to works.

7 Colonel Sankey, the chief engineer, is an officer of much experience in Mysore, and has the reputation of being a very able engineer. He has under him an unusually strong departmental staff in proportion to the size of the Province; and I had hoped that he would prove a valuable assistant in carrying out my policy of making large relief works, under departmental supervision, the backbone of the whole relief system. I accordingly explained my views to him at some length, first in a private interview, and afterwards at the conference which I held with the Chief Commissioner and other officers.

8 To my regret Colonel Sankey persisted in objecting to the employment of his departmental organization for the supervision of real relief works, he brought forward a scheme of works which were, he said, ready to be put in hand, but these, when examined, proved insufficient to give employment to more than one half the requisite number, and even for this instalment, Colonel Sankey repeated his unwillingness to employ any of his regular staff, or to divert them from the ordinary sanctioned works. Those works opened for relief purposes he proposed to start with only such additional assistance as the Government of India might be able to afford him from other provinces.

9 It thus became clear to me that to entrust Colonel Sankey with the execution of our famine policy was to ensure the failure of it. It will, in any circumstances, be a matter of great difficulty to withdraw people from the loose, undisciplined, idle life of relief kitchens (where they are fed gratuitously, and having got their meal may employ the rest of their time as they think best) to the strictly enforced tasks and regular discipline of properly supervised public works, and I felt that I could not justly, or with due regard to the interests of the public, rely upon the exertions of Colonel Sankey for the successful prosecution of a policy which he seemed unable to accept in principle and unwilling to adopt in practice. I therefore took advantage of a wish expressed by Sir Andrew Clarke for the temporary assistance of a deputy secretary during the pressure caused by famine work in the Central Office of the Department Public Works, and Colonel Sankey has been appointed to this duty. I have transferred Major Scott Mon-

chief, R.E., to the temporary chief engineership of the Province, and I am quite satisfied to leave in his hands the execution of the Government policy.

No 223

10 The other arrangements which I have made for improving the famine administration of Mysore will be found in the letter (No 821, of 8th September) from my Additional Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, which forms Enclosure No 1 to this letter

11. In addition to the main object of providing sufficient relief works on a proper system for the destitute poor I directed the Chief Commissioner's attention to the necessity of re-organising his relief kitchens, and maintaining them as enclosed camps under proper discipline and control. I ordered that those in Bangalore which are supported from Government funds, and which had quite out-grown the supervision of the volunteer committee by whom they had hitherto been administered, should now be placed under the responsible control of Government officers, and to assist the Chief Commissioner in carrying out these instructions I placed at his disposal the services of Mr C. A Elliott as Famine Commissioner, and of Mr Wingate, of the Bombay Service, as Additional Secretary. Both these officers have been carefully selected on account of their special qualifications. In the lower grades I have strengthened the hands of the Chief Commissioner by appointing five military officers to assist in relief works, and by obtaining for him the services of the additional medical engineering staff entered on the margin.

34 medical subordinates in addition to the 14 previously sent
2 executive engineers
7 assistant engineers.
6 subordinates.

12. I have determined, after consulting Mr. Molesworth, as well as the most experienced local officers, to sanction the commencement of the earthwork of the Bangalore and Mysore Railway as a famine work. It is specially suitable for this purpose from its situation, the line of country through which it passes, and the facilities it affords for supervision. When considering the scheme for Mysore relief works I bore in mind the despatches regarding the Mysore Railway, which conveyed your Lordship's instructions that the Mysore savings should be spent on irrigation works rather than on the railway, and I only sanctioned the railway earthwork, when it had become quite clear to me that sufficient irrigation works were not ready in and near the Bangalore District, where 90,000 people are receiving relief. In estimating the necessity and probable effect of this measure it may be well to remember the character of the irrigation works in Central and Northern Mysore, they are all rain-fed tanks, and their waters fail in a season of drought, so that the Mysore Railway is perhaps a more effective work of famine protection than the ordinary irrigation works of the country. The railway work will be begun in two principal sections, the length which will be put in hand in the first instance being 46 miles, 36 miles at the Bangalore end of the line, and 10 at the Mysore end. The intervening space will be put in hand, if necessary, as soon as some questions concerning its alignment have been re-considered.

13 I explained in my letter No 33 of 5th September to your Lordship (para. 29) the circumstances under which the Government of India had consented to sanction a loan to the Mysore Government of 50 lakhs of rupees. Finding on my arrival at Bangalore that the Chief Commissioner was much pressed for funds, and that the balance of his invested surplus (9 lakhs) could only be sold out, at the present moment, at a sacrifice of from 8 to 10 per cent. discount, I sanctioned his drawing at once on the Madras treasury (which I had ascertained to be amply supplied) for a first instalment of 10 lakhs on account of the loan, postponing the sale of his invested surplus till a more favourable opportunity.

14 I could wish that the Mysore administration had been able to show some useful works for the many lakhs which have already gone in famine relief, but, as it is, I doubt not that but for this expenditure the loss of life, severe though it be, would have been indefinitely multiplied. I trust that the arrangements I have now made will be instrumental not only in saving many lives, but also in giving to the Mysore State some useful return for the vast sums which must still inevitably be expended by it in order to preserve the social and material sources of its future agricultural prosperity.

15. Before leaving Bangalore I determined, in consultation with my colleague, Sir A. Arbuthnot, to take into my own hands the administration of the Famine Department of the Government of India. This arrangement was proposed to me by Sir A. Arbuthnot as the natural corollary of the changes, which the Duke of Buckingham had adopted in the Madras administration; but the proposal commended itself for various reasons to my judgment. The paramount importance of famine administration at the present time has obliged me in practice to give to the details of it the closest and most constant personal supervision; it therefore seemed desirable on public grounds that I should openly and definitely acknowledge the responsibility I have virtually undertaken for the

success or failure of the policy I have laid down, and am endeavouring to enforce, in the conduct of relief operations. The arrangement tends also to a speedier disposal of business, and diminishes the frequency of references.

16 Sir A Arbuthnot on receiving my assent to the above-mentioned proposal, returned, at his own request, to Simla, where his presence was much needed in consequence of the illness of Sir J Strachey, who had during Sir Alexander's absence taken charge of the Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce.

17 I left Bangalore on the evening of Sunday the 9th instant, and halted the following morning for a few hours at Combatore where, in company with the Collector, Mr. Wedderburn, I inspected the relief camps, work, and hospital. The condition of these institutions does not differ materially from those I had inspected at Bellary and Madras. There was a large proportion of people gratuitously maintained who were perfectly competent to labour, but for whom no work was found; the scale of diet was high, and for some classes unnecessarily luxurious. The rainfall of the district is always small (10 to 12 inches), and this year is no exception to the rule. The state of the crops, however, near the town of Combatore was fair, as irrigation was available, but in the interior of the district the early autumn crops have failed.

18 I continued my journey the same day to Coonor, a European settlement on the edge of the Neilgherry hills, and on the 11th I proceeded to Ootacamund. At each of these places I was waited on by deputations who urged the wants of their respective municipalities, and both of them laid special stress on the necessity of a railway, on the Rigi mountain principle, to the Hills; for which a guarantee of 4 per cent, on the outlay was demanded. I informed the above-mentioned deputations that whenever the Madras Government are prepared to forward to the Supreme Government a practical scheme for the construction of such a railroad, it will receive my earnest consideration, but that in the meantime I was unable to give any definite expression to the view which might ultimately be taken of it by the Government of India. I received at Ootacamund a deputation from the coffee planters of the Wynad, whose address dealt with various subjects now under the consideration of the Madras Government, but who also made some special requests, which I may properly bring to your Lordship's notice. The most pressing of these was in regard to wanderers from Mysore seeking employment in the Wynad. The coffee estates in the Wynad habitually give employment to large numbers of labourers from Mysore, but this year in consequence of the famine the numbers thus seeking employment are infinitely in excess of the labour requirements of the estates. Numbers of these wanderers, too, arrive in a weak and emaciated condition which renders them utterly unfit for labour. Many of these, as soon as they are fit to travel, are deported back to Mysore by the Madras Government, but several of them, it is feared, die, and others linger on, fed either by private charity or in relief houses. The Planters' Association urged the expediency of starting relief works for these people in the shape of preparing and collecting metal for 80 miles of road, already made, and they offer to contribute in money and supervision. After personally consulting his Grace the Duke of Buckingham I came to the conclusion that their request was a reasonable one, and I determined to grant a sum of Rs 30,000, to be recovered ultimately from the Mysore State, as a contribution to the estimated expenditure, on condition that the Madras Government and the Planters' Association provided the rest. I have left the details in the hands of the Madras Government, and my Secretary's communication (No 846, dated the 16th instant) to that Government forms Enclosure No. 2 to this letter.

No. 234

19 The other requests submitted to me by the Wynad planters were for the unification of the coffee districts under one administrative head, and for the simplification of extradition between Mysore and British territory. The first question involves the transfer to the Madras Government of the Coorg District which is now administered by the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, and it cannot, therefore, be settled till it has been discussed with both authorities. The latter is a simpler matter, and, as there is no reason whatever why Mysore, while it is under British administration, should not be treated in respect to the service of the processes of our courts precisely as if it were British territory, I propose to communicate my wishes on this subject to the Chief Commissioner without delay.

20 I left Ootacamund early on the morning of the 16th September and reached Mysore late in the evening of the 17th, after inspecting some large cinchona and coffee plantations on my way thither. A considerable portion of the Madras territory through which I then passed is largely auriferous, and I was informed by an experienced expert, who has for two years been investigating its mineral resources, that neither in California nor in Australia, all parts of which he had previously visited, do there exist gold deposits

more capable of being remuneratively worked This statement appears to me an important one, and I may perhaps take an early occasion of addressing to your Lordship a special communication on the subject of it. Meanwhile I may mention that silver is also found, as well as considerable quantities of small diamonds, in the Wynad.

21 The political incidents of my visit to Mysore will be recorded in a separate letter, but in this I desire to report what I learnt of the condition of Coorg in relation to the famine-stricken immigrants from Mysore

22 The coffee planters of Coorg, like those of the Wynad, are mainly dependent on Mysore for their labour supply, and, as in the Wynad, multitudes of immigrants unable to find work, or unfit to work, are to be found in Coorg in a state of extreme destitution, and the mortality among them has been very grievous, indeed. A memorial purporting to come from the Planters' Association at Coorg was submitted to my Private Secretary for presentation to me, but, as it was not presented through the local authorities, and in fact had been refused by them, I declined to accept it formally as a memorial, but expressed my willingness to receive the two gentlemen who had come as a deputation to present it, and to hear all they had to urge

23 These two* gentlemen accordingly waited on me on the 18th, the Chief Commissioner of Mysore and the Superintendent of Coorg being present at the interview

* Rev. A Fennel, Mr. Hunt.

They dwelt specially in the conversation that ensued on the great mortality among the wanderers from Mysore, a mortality which had they asserted been greatly underestimated by the local authorities; they complained that no relief works had been established, and said that the planters were through poverty unable to support the starving wanderers. Many of their assertions were traversed by the local officers, but it was clear that, as a matter of fact, relief works had not been established in Coorg, and that there was urgent necessity for them. I learnt that while roads were numerous in the province a considerable portion of them require to be metalled, and that one or two good roads, the need of which is admitted, still remain to be made. Finally I offered to grant either from Mysore or from imperial revenues a sum of Rs 50,000 if the planters would consent to contribute one third of that amount either in money or supervision. Finding however that the two gentlemen forming the deputation had no authority to accept such an offer, and that they did not actually represent the whole body of planters, I undertook to depute either the Famine Commissioner, Mr. Elliott, or Major Scott Moncrieff to visit Mercara, and to ascertain personally what the actual wishes of the planters are, and what may best be done with their co-operation in the way of starting relief works

24 I am greatly pleased to be able to inform your Lordship that, on returning to Bangalore (which I reached last night), I found most satisfactory evidence of the beneficial results of the system of relief operations, which I had established before leaving this town on the 9th current. These results are recorded in a most interesting memorandum by Mr. Elliott, which forms Enclosure No 3 to the present letter. Your Lordship will perceive from this very suggestive paper that uniform rates of wage on relief works and rates of food ration in relief camps have been laid down, that orders have issued for closing superfluous and unsupervised relief kitchens, the really necessitous recipients of relief being brought into well supervised relief camps, that petty relief works under civil officers are being wound up and closed; that in and around Bangalore town one relief kitchen has been closed, while from the other kitchens persons capable of labour are being drafted to relief works, that already 5,000 have been so drafted and are doing good work on the railway bank instead of being fed in idleness at the kitchens, that the relief recipients who cannot labour are being kept inside the camps and tended until they recover, in-door being thus substituted for out-door gratuitous relief, that relief employment of a kind suitable to destitute artisans and higher caste people is being arranged in Bangalore town, and that partly in consequence of these measures, and partly in consequence of the favourable change in the season the number of inmates in the Bangalore kitchens has fallen from 30,733 to 13,301. Great care is taken by the officers in charge to treat specially persons who come on the works in an enfeebled state of body

25 On the 16th I despatched to your Lordship a telegram reporting on the state and prospects of the season. On the 22nd I shall send from Poona a further telegraphic report. I am glad to say that over the whole of Southern India prospects have continued to improve; rain has fallen everywhere except in parts of the Madras District and a small tract round Poona. The numbers receiving relief in the Madras Districts have begun to decrease by reason of people going away to their fields, but it is not yet certain that the reduction in numbers will be permanent. Prices are somewhat cheaper both in Bombay and Madras; but prices in the interior have fallen but little.

and are still very dear, and the pressure on the poorer classes is still very severe. Even under the most favourable circumstances the pressure cannot greatly abate until the middle of November, by which time the prospects of the great winter food crops will be ascertained. The condition of the North-West Provinces and Oudh is still very critical, no sufficient rain has fallen in the Agra, Rohilkund, or Meerut Division, or over a great part of Oudh. And there is still cause for much anxiety about the States of Gwalior, Meywar, and of North-eastern Rajputana. The chiefships of Kattywar and the Baroda country are happily out of danger for the present.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYTTON.

No 240.

No 2,810, dated Fort St George, the 20th September 1877.

From J H GASTIN, Esq., Additional Secretary to Government of Madras, Revenue Department, to S C BAYLEY, Esq., C S.I., Additional Secretary to the Government of India.

Encl in
No 253

In continuation of my letter of the 3rd September 1877, No 2,630-B, I am directed to forward, for the information of his Excellency the Governor-General in Council, the accompanying copies of a letter from the Secretary to the General Committee of the Madras Famine Relief Fund, and its enclosures, setting forth the objects on which, and the agency through which, it is proposed to expend the funds raised by public subscription in aid of sufferers by the present famine.

No. 210.

2 It will be seen from page 4 of Enclosure A. to Mr Digby's letter that the General Committee propose to expend the money placed at their disposal in the following manner.—

- (1) In aiding by contributions local committees for the relief of the necessitous poor not reached by Government
- (2) In giving contributions towards the taking care of destitute children and the like
- (3) In providing clothes for destitute women and children.
- (4) In making allotments towards any special object which seem to come within the scope and ability of the fund

And as further information is received, the Committee hope the objects on which they propose to spend the money will be more specifically defined.

- (5) The agency on which the Committee largely rely is that of missionaries, but they had apparently hoped that the officers of Government would have greatly assisted them also, and they earnestly beg that they may be allowed to do so
- (6) On this point I am directed to solicit the early orders of his Excellency the Governor-General in Council

No 241

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of the Government of Madras, Revenue Department,
No 2,810, dated 20th September 1877

Encl. in
No 253.

Read the following paper —

From W DIGBY, Esq., Honorary Secretary, General Famine Relief Fund, to J H. GASTIN, Esq., Additional Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort St George

In reply to your letter of 18th instant, in continuation of office docket No 2,630 A, dated 3rd September instant, and the reply of the General Famine Relief Committee thereto, I am instructed by the Committee to submit the accompanying papers, marked A,* which indicates the objects on which the Committee propose the relief funds should be at present expended

As information which the Committee have taken active steps to procure is received, their operations will be more definitely directed and widely extended, and at the same time will be capable of more distinct definition, attention is particularly drawn to the resolution recorded at page 4 of Enclosure A

2 The allotments that have already been made in pursuance of the abovesaid objects are stated at page 7 of Enclosure A. The Committee regret that much more has not

* These were not forwarded from India.

been done, but difficulties over which they had no control have impeded their operations; these will be alluded to farther on

3 The circulars already issued by the Committee, requesting collectors and other influential officers to aid by forming local committees, have elicited little response. The General Committee have accordingly resolved to send deputations in the persons of the Rev Dr Strachan and F. Rowlandson, Esq, to assist present efforts and arrange for further operations. A copy of the instructions given these gentlemen (who are proceeding forthwith to the distressed districts), marked B, herewith enclosed, will explain the Committee's intentions in employing them. It may be observed that missionary agency and co-operation is very largely relied upon.

4. Special difficulties in promptly utilizing the Famine Relief Funds have been alluded to above. These have arisen from the impression produced by what appeared in the public prints with respect to the suspension of public meetings, and by the official correspondence recorded in the "Gazette of India Extraordinary," dated 31st August, and the action that was taken thereon. It is obvious that officials generally have felt themselves debarred from co-operating in the objects of the Committee

5 I am therefore to express the earnest hope of the Committee that Government will be pleased to inform its officers that it is the desire of Government that public servants of all grades should give all the assistance they can render, without detriment to their official duties, to the formation of local committees, and generally to promote the objects which the Famine Relief Committee, and subscribers to the Famine Relief Fund, have in view. The Committee respectfully suggest that a Gazette announcement to this effect be published forthwith.

B

INSTRUCTIONS.

To organise, as far as possible, local committees in different parts of the various distressed districts to be in direct communication with the General Relief Committee at Madras for the distribution of Famine Funds

2. Also to organise special agencies where local committees cannot be formed or sub-agencies are likely to be more efficient.

3. The fund is designed to relieve the necessitous poor whom Government cannot, or do not, reach, and care is necessary to avoid even indirect interference with Government operations.

4. Under the above designation may be included those who are not ordinarily reckoned "poor," but who are rendered dependent by the present distress.

5. While Government operations have for their object the salvation of life, the funds may be legitimately applied to the mitigation of intense suffering

6. Whatever agency may be employed, proceedings to be reported and accounts rendered by that agency to the General Committee.

7. The General Committee will be prepared to make pecuniary provision, if necessary (within reasonable limits), for preparing local accounts

8. It is important to impress upon those who are invited to give their services that the object is not to collect funds, but to secure promptitude, economy, and efficiency in dispensing the funds placed at the General Committee's disposal.

9. The deputations to keep the General Committee informed of the local arrangements made.

10. These points are noticed to indicate generally the Committee's wishes, but they leave the deputations a wide discretion and rely on their making the best arrangements which the circumstances in each locality admit of within the scope of the funds, and the general principles above enunciated.

11. The Committee look to the deputations for practical suggestions for the more efficient and prompt distribution of the funds, and the object to which they, as the local committee, desire to apply them.

No. 242.

Telegram, dated Poonah, 22nd September 1877

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

Referring to Simla financial telegram of 14th, I have now following figures regarding famine expenditure in Madras.—

Actuals to end of August 409 lacs, estimate for September 60 lacs, October to March 150 lacs, total 619 lacs. Short revenue receipts to end of August 200 lacs;

estimate of further loss not received I take additional 80 lacs, total for Madras 900 lacs

Bombay total estimate 200 lacs. Mysore and Hyderabad expenditure and deficient revenue 100 lacs a-piece Grand total 11 crores for British India and two crores for feudatories

Madras estimate will be largely exceeded if north-east monsoon fails, or if further delay occurs in executing orders of 31st August, delay of three weeks allowed by Madras has caused much unnecessary expenditure

No 243

Telegram, dated Poonah, 22nd September 1877

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

Before leaving Madras Presidency I had interview with the Duke, and approved draft instructions which he will issue to give effect to policy agreed on between us Delay, however, has been most detrimental both to population and finances. During past fortnight good rain has everywhere put people in heart and provided work in fields, affording admirable opportunity for weeding relief camps, but three weeks were wasted before issuing instructions. The Duke's orders provide for drafting destitute persons who are capable of labour on to works Every precaution has been taken to prevent loss of life in effecting this, and to prevent overtaking feeble persons on works. Effect has already been given to similar orders, dated one week later, in Mysore, with admirable results

Separate telegram on Mysore affairs despatched to-day. Prospects in both Madras and Mysore much improved.

No. 244.

Telegram, dated 22nd September 1877.

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE TO GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Following for your information

A merchant reports Native merchants have arranged for delivery of rice at Tuticorin, Madras, and Negapatam before 15th October or after 30th November to prevent recurrence of loss from rains, thus leaving port in question without supplies for six weeks He suggests Government should pay compensation at market value for rice destroyed, upon importers proving that warehouse accommodation is insufficient

No 245.

Telegram, dated 22nd September 1877.

FROM VICEROY, POONAH, TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

My letter 20th September gives your Lordship full details of my orders regarding famine administration in Mysore; immediate effect given to those orders, with following results —

Uniform rates of wage on relief works and uniform scales of rations for relief camps have been laid down, relief kitchens are being closed or converted into organised and disciplined camps In Bangalore 5,000 persons drafted from gratuitous relief to work on railways, in Bangalore town, numbers in relief kitchens have fallen from 30,000 to 13,000 Neighbouring district Kolai, in three relief kitchens, numbers fallen from 6,500 to 1,450, of these, 1,600 gone to works, rest to fields, because recent rain renders cultivation possible Great care taken to prevent loss of life in carrying out these steps, feeble persons treated specially, overtaking avoided

No. 246.

No. 36 of 1877.

FROM GOVERNOR-GENERAL, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce,
Famine, to the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA

Governor-General's Camp, Poona,
22nd September 1877.

In paragraph 3 of your Lordship's despatch, No. 62, dated 9th August, is expressed approval of the orders issued by us, enjoining publicity in rare cases, where district officers find it necessary to purchase grain for the supply of any landlocked foodless tract. And the same paragraph counsels vigilance in watching the operation of our orders restricting the purchase of grain.

The words of this paragraph were telegraphed to me by your Lordship on the 10th August and we submitted by telegraph the reply given in the margin. Since the despatch of that telegram my minute, dated the 12th August, has given (paragraph 18) a general statement of the principles which should guide the Government of India when any question arises of importing grain on Government account. That paragraph gives expression to views in which all my colleagues concur; it runs thus:—

Telegram dated 14th August 1877.
Your cypher message of 10th We do not fully understand the object of it.

Our instructions about publication referred only to local purchases from trade. We decided at outset that private trade would import grain more efficiently than Government, and we have lately re-asserted publicly our determination not to interfere.

Do you intend to say that you think it probable that Government ought to make large importations of grain?

We can foresee no circumstances under which such Government interference with private trade would not be a ruinous mistake. Trade towards famine country from Bengal, Central and Northern India is most active, and we see no reason to doubt that the necessary supplies will be furnished. We are convinced that far more food from abroad or elsewhere will reach Madras if we leave private enterprise to itself, and we should paralysise it by Government competition. Free and abundant private trade cannot co-exist with Government importations. Even if we anticipated failure in source of supply, we should still believe that Government interference would only decrease the total amount of food available and aggravate the catastrophe.

If Her Majesty's Government should think differently, we request that we may receive distinct intimation of the fact. We cannot take upon ourselves any responsibility for a course which would in our opinion be fatal. Nor can we usefully give calculations. Local estimates say that from 4 to 5,000 tons of grain must be imported daily. Grain actually ready for export on Great Indian Peninsula Railway reported to be 120,000 tons and stocks in Bengal, Central and Northern India believed to be large.

"18. When harvests fail in an Indian province, considerable old stocks of food are left in the hands of the landholding and mercantile classes; but these stocks are often held back from sale. Markets have, therefore, to be supplied with grain imported from a distance. I consider that, except under most peculiar and exceptional circumstances, the function of supplying the demand for imported grain can be best, and, indeed, alone discharged by private trade, and that private trade should be left

to do its work in this respect with as little interference from Government as practicable. The Government and its officers should, however, give all possible information, and should give, where necessary, additional facilities to private trade. Early and correct information as to prices and means of carriage should be published. The carrying power of railways and canals leading into the famine tracts should be reinforced, tolls and other restraints on free intercommunication should be removed; roads into the interior should be improved and kept in order; rates of railway or other carriage might be reduced, and in cases of extreme necessity temporary railways or tramways might be laid from main railway lines into populous tracts whereto means of communication failed, or were insufficient. These will, indeed, be the most useful of all works if we have to meet another year of famine. Grain required by Government for alms to the helpless poor, or for labourers on relief works, or for any tract where supplies were deficient, should be obtained through the trade, at or near the local markets, and should not be imported from a distance by Government itself. Experience has shown that Government operations in the grain market disorganise and paralysise private trade to an extent out of all proportion to the operations themselves. Moreover, where the carrying power of a country by rail, canal, or cart is limited, and is fully utilised, Government grain importations must necessarily displace a corresponding quantity of privately imported grain. My view, therefore, is that under no circumstances which are likely to occur ought the Government itself to engage in the business of importing grain. Free and abundant private trade cannot co-exist with Government importation. Absolute non-interference with the operations of private commercial enterprise must be the foundation of our present famine policy. Trade towards the famine country from Bengal and Northern and Central India is at present active, and there is every reason to believe that the Indian sources of supply are still considerable. But even if these should fail, the interference of the Government would be a ruinous error. It could only have the effect of decreasing the total amount of food available, and thus aggravating the catastrophe. I am confident that more food, whether from abroad or elsewhere, will

reach Madras if we leave private enterprise to itself, than if we paralyse it by Government competition. These remarks refer to the famine we are now dealing with. I do not, of course, intend to assert that famines cannot occur in which Government interference for the importation of food may not be absolutely necessary. Indeed, the Orissa Famine was one of those cases."

2 In addition to what has been urged in the telegram and extract quoted above I would add a short further explanation of the principles which guide the Government of India, and of the position we take when we decline, under present circumstances, to purchase and import grain for the supply of the famine districts.

3. If prices do not greatly rise after a failure of harvest, and if imports are inactive, then the natural conclusion would be that there must be considerable old stocks in the country. These are of course difficult, if not impossible, to trace. When prices in a province approach famine rates, then we presume that if surplus food exists in other provinces, and if communication by water or railway be fairly good, private traders will carry that food to the famine districts more cheaply, more promptly, and more directly than Government could possibly do. If there is one branch of internal trade which Indian traders fully understand, it is the grain trade; they know what grain is wanted, whence it can be bought most cheaply, and where the need is sorest. Among the many contrasts between the system of Government importations adopted in 1874 and the private trade system of 1877, it may be mentioned that the Government importations in 1874 consisted, with some small exceptions, of rice, mostly of Burmah rice,—while private trade has in 1877 brought under contribution every province and every food staple in India,—wheat, barley, grain, two kinds of millet (jowar and bajra), and pulses have come from scores of railway stations in the Punjab, the North-western Provinces and Behar, from the River Chenab on the north to the Soane on the south; rice, pulses, and marwa millet (the ragi of Madras) have come from Bengal and Orissa, millets and pulses have come from Guzerat, Berar, the Central Provinces, and even from Rajputana. Burmah has sent a small quantity of rice; but Burmah rice generally rules dearer than the common varieties of Bengal rice, and so traders have drawn but little from that source of supply, so long as Bengal stocks were large.

4 Not only could private traders do the work of supplying grain to Southern India better than Government could do it; but it was obvious that the trade, as a whole, could make much larger importations than Government could effect by itself. If once the Government were to begin importing grain, the first rumour of any impending intrusion of Government action into the field of private enterprise would paralyse the confidence of the whole trade, would send up prices at the source of supply, would keep up prices in the famine country below the natural trade level, and would thus, indirectly as well as directly, check imports. The Government having once entered on such an undertaking there would be no half-way stage at which we could arrest our ruinous course. The Government would soon find itself responsible for providing grain enough for every village, not merely in Madras and Mysore, but also in tracts of Northern India to which famine might spread. Any partial substitution of Government agency for private trade was impossible. We had to choose between either leaving private trade alone or taking upon ourselves the whole of its natural work. If we had adopted the latter alternative, it would probably have cost the Government more to lay down one ton of grain than it would have cost the trade to lay down two. We had before us the financial results of the Bengal famine of 1874, where the cost* of buying and

* NOTE.—These figures are taken from the approximate statement of the Bengal famine charges given in Part V of Sir Richard Temple's final Report, submitted at the close of the Bengal famine of 1874.

transporting Government grain came to 6,474,000*l.* out of a gross expenditure of 9,177,000*l.* or to 4,259,000*l.* out of a net cost of 6,402,000*l.* The famine of 1877 has been severer, and has extended over a far larger area than the famine of 1874; if we had taken the grain supply into our own hands, the cost of famine relief in 1876-78, alarmingly great as it is, must have been indefinitely increased. If Government had undertaken to import grain for the supply of Southern India, we should, even if we had succeeded in our undertaking—which is doubtful—have made a stride, of which the magnitude can only be conjectured, on the road to national bankruptcy.

5 The financial argument indeed, in the present condition of the Indian treasury, carried its due weight in deciding us to adopt what, on other grounds, seemed to us the wiser alternative. Still, apart from financial considerations, we were convinced that the safety of the afflicted populations would be best secured by the adoption of the course we took. It must, I fear, be admitted that Government cannot avert all death from famine when the drought is so severe and affects so large an area as in the present season has been the case. And I am convinced that under present circumstances there

would have been more misery, more death, and a less constant supply of food in the districts of Southern India if Government had undertaken to import grain on a large scale than have happened under the policy which the Government of India, after full consideration and with your Lordship's approval, have adopted.

6. These were some of the considerations which influenced our decision when the question of importing grain arose in the autumn of 1876. When the same question came before us in July 1877, such considerations gained renewed force from the experience of the preceding eight months. The proposal to import grain largely by Government agency had been put forward during the autumn of 1876, both at Bombay and Madras. The Governor, Sir Philip Wodehouse, fully and specifically discussed the question with his colleagues, and they decided not to buy grain, but to trust entirely to private trade for the supply of the country. This decision, cordially approved as it was by the Government of India, was at once made public. Grain was forthwith consigned to the Deccan by private traders in enormous quantities; inasmuch that the Great Indian Peninsula Railway was blocked with grain early in November. By strenuous effort the block was gradually cleared, and the supply by rail and seaboard to the famine districts of Bombay has since November sufficed for the needs of the country. Prices have indeed been very dear; but, though some parts of the Bombay famine tract drew their supplies from railway stations or seaports 130 miles off, still there has always been enough grain in the markets.

7. The Madras Government, about the same time as the Bombay Government considered the question, decided to buy 30,000 tons of grain as a beginning. This decision was not known to the Government of India until the transaction was concluded and the bill had to be paid. The purchases were effected with just so much secrecy as served to alarm the trade; and in Calcutta, the chief source of the Madras rice supply, dealers were, until the middle of February, possessed with a fear that further large purchases by Government were imminent. Interference with the grain market was stopped by the Government of India; and, whatever may have been the views of the Madras Government at the time, I believe the Governor of Madras is now, and has for some time been of opinion that further Government purchases of grain were inexpedient. The Madras Government made their purchases in October, and as no further action of the kind was taken the stream of private trade set in during December, and has continued ever since. Private trade has sent by sea to Madras, or has consigned from marts in Northern India, more grain than the railways and other means of transport could carry into the interior. During the last two months (August and September) since the failure of the summer rains and the occurrence of a second famine, private trade has carried into the districts of Madras and Mysore a daily average of 4,000 to 5,000 tons of food. This great result must be largely due to the assurances, published by the Governments of India and Madras in June last, to the effect that Government would not interfere in the grain trade. These were the assurances to which we referred in our telegram quoted in the first paragraph of the present letter.

8. The grain bought by the Madras Government is being kept in reserve, and so its presence does not operate to keep prices low, and thereby to check importations. I am aware that the Members of the Madras Government, though they do not now advocate Government purchases, are strongly of opinion that their purchase of 30,000 tons, and their placing the greater part of that supply in depôts up the country, paved the way for private trade, and encouraged its steady flow. It is true that private trade increased after the Government purchases had been made, but trade did not acquire its full stream till August 1877, and it did not flow freely at all till December 1876, that is to say, some weeks after the Government transactions had been concluded, whereas the Bombay importations set in with full tide early in November. I do not say that the purchase of 30,000 tons permanently affected the flow of private trade in the face of the enormous demands of the Madras and Mysore country; but I fear the transaction must (for the time) have checked private importations, it is certain that the Government grain occupied railway waggons to the exclusion of merchants' consignments, and I can see no practical or theoretical ground for the contention that the Government purchases galvanised private trade into active exertion.

9. Though the considerations stated in the foregoing paragraphs guided our unanimous decision on the occasions when the question of purchasing grain came before us during the present famine, yet we must not be understood to say that occasion never did, and never can arise, when Government purchases of grain might be necessary. The Orissa famine of 1866 may have been such a case. Orissa was a small province, it had then few transactions with other parts of India, its marts were not frequented by merchants from other provinces, there were practically no land communications between

Orissa and other provinces, save for pilgrims, and communication by sea was at that time cut off during the most critical season of the year. The famine of 1866 in Orissa may have been a case in which Government might in some way have effected or promoted grain importations. In the famine of 1874 the Behar famine tract, with its population of 19 millions, was divided by the Ganges into nearly equal parts, one part, south of the Ganges, possessed two railways, metalled and bridged roads, and large trading populations, the other part, north of the Ganges, had no railways, not a single metalled and bridged road, and comparatively few traders. Thus the Government was able to occupy North Behar with its agency and with its grain imported from the east, while the wants of South Behar were sufficiently met by private trade with supplies from the west. The circumstances and characteristics of the two tracts were so different that Government trade in North Behar did not interfere with private trade in South Behar, and furthermore all the Government grain came by railway or river from the east, while the railway from the west was left exclusively for private traders. The famine tracts of Southern India, on the other hand, are not landlocked like Orissa, nor are their seaports closed for months together as were the Orissa roadsteads. There are several railway lines in the south of India, a number of seaports are available on the east and west coasts, Madras possesses a better system of metalled and bridged roads than any part of India, much of the Bombay and Mysore country is also well supplied with roads. There was thus every facility for the free action of private trade. Nor was there any section of the famine country so separate and distinct from the rest that Government agency could have imported grain thither, while private trade supplied the remainder of the country without let or hindrance.

10 I have laid before your Lordship thus at length an expression of my views on the subject of this letter, because I think its importance is very great. If your Lordship were able to concur generally in the views now expressed, the hands of the Government of India would be greatly strengthened when hereafter the problem of supplying food to a famine stricken province again arises.

11 In any case the traders of Southern and Northern India will have learnt an important lesson of self-help. Private trade will be more prompt than heretofore to supply the wants of provinces where scarcity of food may prevail. I anticipate also that, after the brisk and lucrative trade of this year, traffic on the Madras guaranteed railways will never fall again to the low ebb of former years. And I hope that the opening of the Dhond and Munmar Railway will do much to produce free interchange of commodities between the north and the south of India, which now for the first time have traded on a large scale with each other.

I have, &c
(Signed) LYTTON.

No 247

Telegram, dated 22nd September 1877

FROM THE GOVERNOR, MADRAS, TO VICEROY.

Clear line. Charitable relief committees to remove misapprehension on part of officers which is doing harm, propose to issue following notification.—

“It is the desire of Government that public servants of all grades should give all the assistance they can render, without detriment to their official duties, to the formation of local committees, and generally to promote the objects which the famine relief committee and subscribers to the famine relief fund have in view.” Oblige by acknowledgment

No 248.

Telegram, dated Guneshkhind, 23rd September 1877

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE

Season telegram, 15th to 23rd. Madras, good general rain in all districts, except parts of Coimbatore and small part of Salem, Tinnevely, Madura, tanks filling, crops reviving, petty harvests being reaped, moderate outturn, prices slightly cheaper in some districts, elsewhere stationary.

Numbers on works, 698,476, gratuitous, 160,501 Grain supply maintained Bengal despatches to Madras 3,800 tons daily; Peninsula Railway delivers to Madras 960 tons daily; railway working better

Bombay, good rain, prospects improving everywhere, except large parts of Khandesh, Nassik, Ahmednagar, prices slightly falling; autumn crops small in area, but thriving, winter crop sowings progressing Number on works, 242,860; gratuitous, 160,380 Pressure of prices and scarcity still severe

Mysore, good rain over province, 5 to 8 inches during month of September, tanks filled, crop prospects improved greatly

North-west Provinces, little rain anywhere, hot winds. Lieutenant-Governor telegraphed yesterday, unirrigated autumn crop ruined in Meerut, Rohilkund, Agra, Lucknow, Seetapore divisions, condition critical in Rai Bareilly, and part of Benares division, remainder barely half average yield expected, irrigated autumn crop small, fodder scarce, spring crop sowings in northern divisions possible if rain comes in 20 days Price of wheat, 20 pounds per rupee. West of Allahabad relief works opening in Rohilkund and Agra divisions.

Punjab, only partial showers. Lieutenant-Governor telegraphed yesterday, autumn crop almost lost, save on irrigated land which are large, spring crop sowings possible till December, if yield good; distress from loss of autumn crop very large Prices remain high in Indore No rain in Central India States; pressure in Gwalior increasing greatly, and continuous emigration thence. Rajputana, few light showers, much failure of crops and pasture in north and east. In Ajmere prices very dear. Hyderabad, good rain everywhere, prospects much improved. Bengal, Assam, Burmah, Central Provinces, prospects generally favourable.

No. 249.

Telegram, dated 24th September 1877.

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE TO VICEROY.

Yours 22nd.

Do figures given include loss of revenue and famine expenditure in 1876-77 as well as in current year, thus representing total cost of famine?

Encl in
No 271

No. 250.

EXTRACT from the PROCEEDINGS of the GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS, Revenue Department, No. 2,847, dated 24th September 1877.

Revised Instructions for the administration of Famine Relief in the Madras Presidency

His Grace the Governor in Council is pleased to issue the following instructions for the guidance of all officers concerned in the administration of famine relief —

1. Under the successive orders of the Madras Government relief has been sanctioned to famine-stricken people—

(1st) in the form of wages for work done;

(2nd) gratuitously in camps, relief-houses, and villages to those unable to labour or temporarily incapacitated for work.

2. It has been determined that both relief by employment on works for the strong and gratuitous relief to the infirm shall be continued

3 To enable employment on large public works to be more extensively and systematically carried on, the Government of India have agreed to lend a large additional force to the Public Works Department, and to enable collectors to duly watch the distribution of gratuitous relief, the Government of India have placed at the disposal of this Government a large number of European officers to supervise relief operations in the several taluks of the distressed districts

4 In order that the wishes and instructions of his Grace the Governor in Council may be clearly understood, the conditions under which relief has been sanctioned and is to be continued are subjoined

5. Collectors and civil officers are responsible for sending to relief works or for providing gratuitous relief, under the orders now issued, to all who have not adequate means of supporting life The Public Works Department officers are responsible for providing a sufficiency of work in every distressed district for the employment of the persons who may be sent to them by the civil officers, and shall employ thereon all those so sent.

RELIEF WORKS.

6 The intention of his Grace the Governor in Council is that all relief shall be eventually given through relief works, closed camps, and village relief.

7 Relief works affording to indigent persons capable of some labour the opportunity of earning money with which to buy food constitute the backbone of the relief system

8 These works are of two classes—

(a.) Those under the supervision of the Public Works Department or other professional supervision which may for the sake of brevity be called professional agency works;

(b) Those not requiring to any great extent professional supervision, and which may for the sake of brevity be called civil agency works. These works will be under the superintendence of the Public

Works Department or of the Civil Department according to circumstances

9. Every district engineer will prepare a list of works in his district which may be made available as relief works. These lists should show approximately—

(a) the probable cost of each work;

(b) roughly the proportion of the total cost required for earthwork;

(c.) the number of persons who can be employed upon each, and for how long

10 These lists will be submitted to Government through the chief engineer or the chief engineer for irrigation. His Grace the Governor in Council will sanction them provisionally either wholly or in part, and the works thus provisionally sanctioned may be taken up from time to time as need for affording relief arises, except large works, the commencement of which will be decided by his Grace the Governor in Council. The opinion of the collector should decide which of the works in the list so sanctioned shall be first proceeded with. Estimates to cover such works as may be approved by Government in these lists should be prepared and submitted for final sanction as soon as possible, but the commencement of no such work shall be delayed, where its commencement is necessary, for the reason that a plan and estimate have not been sanctioned. Lists of works which have been commenced, specifying the approximate number of persons who can be received thereon, will be furnished by the district engineer from time to time to the collector, who will send copies to every revenue, police, and famine officer

11. The very widest publicity of the locality of relief works must be given, the responsibility with regard to this point rests upon the collectors and their assistants.

12 The distinction between budgeted works and famine relief works is abolished in the following districts —

Nellore	Chingleput	Madura.
Cuddapah	North Arcot	Tinnevely.
Bellary	South Arcot	Coimbatore
Kurnool	Trichinopoly.	Salem

And all works whatever therein (Imperial, provincial, or local, excepting only buildings) shall be considered famine relief works, and shall be carried out under all the rules, tests, and restrictions applicable to famine relief works. Any relief works which may be necessary in any of the remaining districts will be carried out as special works under special arrangements.

13 All establishments at present employed under civil officers in supervision of, or in accounting in respect of, relief works should be transferred, with the charge of the several works, to the Department Public Works as soon as the district engineer is in a position to take them over

14 All persons capable of labour, who are in fair health and condition, must be drafted to professional agency works, and with them must also be drafted such members of their families as are willing to accompany them.

15 Weaker people, who are nevertheless capable of some work, should be employed upon civil agency works, but should, as they recover strength, be drafted to professional agency works, the object being to employ the largest possible number of people to whom it may be necessary to afford relief upon works of this latter description

16 Work is to be exacted and musters taken for six days in every week, payment for the seventh day is, however, included in the following scales of wages

17 The rates of pay to persons who perform their allotted tasks shall be for each working day —

Upon Professional Agency Works.

	Rates of Pay		
	Rs	A	P
For a man the value of 1 lb of grain - - -	Plus	0	1 6
For a woman " " " - - -	"	0	1 0
For a child of 7 and upwards, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of grain - - -	"	0	0 9

Upon Civil Agency Works.

For a man the value of 1 lb. of grain - - -	"	0	1 0
For a woman " " " - - -	"	0	0 9
For a child of 7 and upwards, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of grain - - -	"	0	0 6

18. By grain is meant grain of medium quality and of the description in ordinary use at the time of payment among the labourers on the works. The price to be taken at the retail price of the grain.

ruling at the cusbs of the taluk on the previous week.

19. When work is interrupted by rain to such an extent that the tasks ordered cannot be exacted, professional agency labourers should be paid civil agency rates and civil agency labourers should be paid the civil agency rate, less 2 pies all round.

Interruption from rain.

20. No work is to be taken from children under seven years of age, nor are such children to be allowed to remain among the labourers while they are working. Such children, belonging to

Children under 7

parents or natural guardians employed upon works, must be mustered at a convenient spot at some little distance from where the work is in progress, and placed under the charge of a sufficient number of the women deputed to the works who will be employed as nurses. At large works, and where working camps are established, kitchens must be provided, and these children supplied with rations of cooked food not exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ a lb of grain per diem. The nurses must receive their full ration of cooked food, i.e., 1 lb grain plus the money portion of the wage. On small works officers in charge must make suitable arrangements for effecting the same purpose.

21. To prevent relief works becoming unduly attractive, three tests are necessary,

Tests

viz., 1st, *primâ facie* evidence that the individual really requires employment upon a relief work; 2nd, distance of the work from the home of the labourer; and, 3rd, tasks.

22. The task to be exacted upon professional agency works is 75 per cent. of what the individual would be able to perform if he worked to the full extent of his ability; upon civil agency works 50 per cent. of what the individual would be able to perform if he worked to the full extent of his ability.

Tasks.

23. In settling and exacting these tasks it will be necessary for the officers concerned to use great judgment, discretion, and firmness so as to avoid oppression of the people upon the one hand or encouragement to idleness and laxity on the other.

24. It may probably be expedient in many cases to take, as the unit for tasking, a gang composed of all the members of one family who are on the work, or a portion of the inhabitants of any one village; and it is the wish of his Grace the Governor in Council that, as far as possible, consistently with economy and discipline on the works, members of the same family should not be separated in their employment. But these points of detail, varying as they will with the size and nature of the work and other circumstances, must be left to the discretion of the executive officers acting under the general orders of Government.

25. The employment of contractors directly or indirectly is absolutely prohibited on relief works.

26. Masonry work requiring skilled labour, such as culverts, tunnels, sluices, calingulabs of tanks, and similar works found essential to the completion of relief works, may be performed by contract in the ordinary way. In selecting works to be placed on the list, Public Works officers will bear in mind that the beneficial effect of the work, as a relief measure, is the principal object, therefore works, of which a large proportion of the estimate is for masonry or compensation for land, should generally be at once laid aside as unsuitable.

27. The distance test is necessarily to a great extent enforced by concentrating relief labour upon a comparatively small number of large works, and until further instructions this test may be deemed

Distance

to be complied with when the labourer goes to professional agency works and performs the tasks exacted there.

- 28 The question whether persons are fitting objects for employment upon relief works must be decided by the civil officers, who will refuse employment to all persons except those who are destitute
Persons not destitute
- 29 The civil officers will despatch such applicants for employment as they consider eligible with written duplicate nominal rolls, and the production of such rolls will be the authority to the Public Works Department officers to employ the persons named in them. The rolls shall specify the name and father's name and village of each person, and shall be dated and shall bear the signature of the despatching officer.
Rolls for employment
- 30 Where camps are necessary on works these camps will be under the charge of the Public Works officer directing the work, who will make arrangements and enforce rules for strict conservancy and sanitary measures, and select suitable persons from the relief coolies for the various duties of scavenging, water drawing, &c
Sanitary precautions.
- 31 In transferring people to works at a distance exceeding 10 miles, it will be necessary under some circumstances to pay them *batta*. The amount and nature of this *batta* will vary with local circumstances, but it should never exceed 16 oz of uncooked grain for each day's march
Batta.
- 32 There will probably frequently be exceptional cases arising on works requiring special treatment. It is obvious that what may be sufficient for the vast majority may be unsuitable in quantity or quality in individual cases. Such cases, which will include also those of people arriving on the works worn out and in low condition must, as far as possible, be specially treated under medical advice; and they may be fed in accordance with the scale laid down in G. O No 2372 of July 24th, 1877, for people under such treatment. The extra allowance must cease as soon as the person, in the opinion of the medical officer, regains strength
Special cases
- 33 Persons not permanently incapacitated for labour will probably regain health, as soon as convalescent, more rapidly upon a relief work than amidst the surroundings of a relief camp
- 34 All labourers must be warned that they are liable to fine and dismissal from relief; but these punishments should be enforced with care and judgment
Punishments
- 35 Short work from idleness should in the first place be met with a small fine, and a repetition of the offence should be punished with greater severity. But, until further orders, the effect of the fine in the case of weakly people must never be to reduce the wages of an individual upon professional agency works below civil agency work rate, nor to reduce those of an individual upon civil agency works below the relief house scale.
Fine
- 36 Incorrigible idleness or subordination on the part of persons in fair physical condition should be met by immediate dismissal
Dismissal
37. Payments upon relief works must be made at least twice a week, and oftener if necessary. New arrivals should for the first few days be paid daily.
Frequency of payments

CHARITABLE RELIEF.

- 38 All previous orders relating to gratuitous relief, so far as inconsistent with the following rules, are hereby cancelled
- 39 Relief officers will be appointed to the charge of one or more taluks or parts of taluks according to size and local circumstances.
- 40 Their duties will be to supervise all relief operations within their charges except public works. Their especial duty is to see that the orders of Government are strictly carried out, that relief reaches all who need it; that waste, abuse, and fraud are prevented, and the utmost economy, consistent with due relief, enforced throughout.
- 41 They are expected to be constantly on the move, and to visit the several villages and relief camps as frequently as possible and at uncertain times.
- 42 They will furnish to the collector every Saturday information on the following points —
- (1) The number of cases in which relief has been granted, refused, or stopped.
 - (2) Any case of failure of duty, inattention, or inefficiency on the part of any officer or servant
 - (3) The physical condition of the people generally on relief, whether failing, improving, or stationary
 - (4) They will submit any general remarks

43. Village relief shall be given either in the shape of cooked food or in money according to the discretion of the collectors and local circumstances, and shall, subject to the provisions of paragraph 53, be confined to destitute resident villagers, who are house-ridden, or otherwise unfitted for or incapable of labour. This class will include such persons as are idiots, cripples, blind, or so old or decrepit that they are not able to support themselves; or young children living with and wholly dependent on such persons; women in an advanced state of pregnancy, or who have been recently confined; and further to qualify for this relief these persons must be without well-to-do friends or relatives on the spot on whom their support would ordinarily and rightly devolve.

44. Immediately on the receipt of these orders officers in charge of taluks shall cause each village to be inspected by an officer not below the rank of a village inspector, and, after careful inquiry into the circumstances of each individual case, shall strike off the register any persons who, from condition and circumstances, do not come within the above description. The relief officer in charge of a taluk or part of a taluk shall visit each village as early as practicable and satisfy himself that his instructions have been properly carried out. No fresh admissions to the register shall subsequently be made, except under the orders of the village inspector, who, whenever he may authorise any such admissions, shall, in his next weekly return, report them to the taluk relief officer, who shall transmit an abstract, showing increase or decrease of numbers in each village of his charge, to the collector weekly, for preparation of the weekly tabular statement for Government. The taluk officer shall take the earliest practical opportunity of inspecting the persons who have been newly admitted.

45. Persons, who, under the operation of the above order, are struck off the registers of village relief, shall at the same time, if capable of labour, be sent to work, and if temporarily incapacitated by illness or any other cause shall be sent to the nearest relief camp to be there maintained and treated until able to work or found permanently incapable.

46. All open camps other than works-camps shall be abolished, and in their place such number of closed camps as may be necessary shall be established. On this point collectors should at once take such steps as may be needed.

47. Until further orders are published for the regulation and interior administration of closed relief camps, the arrangements now in force should continue, but it should be distinctly and clearly understood by the officers in charge that no person capable of labour should be received into a camp, and that as soon as any inmate of such camp recovers strength and condition sufficient to enable him to undertake labour on professional agency works, he should at once be drafted off to such works, which should not be situated within 10 miles of the village of which he is an inhabitant.

48. Officers in charge of camps will recollect that the primary object of the camp is that the strength of its residents should be restored therein, and that they may be thus rendered fit for work. Food and shelter, but no money payment will be given therein. Camp diet is prescribed in G. O., 24th July 1877, No. 2372; but all camps must be so divided as to render it impossible for those not actually requiring it to obtain the special diet allowance sanctioned for those under medical treatment. No person shall in any case be admitted to the higher scale of diet except under the written order of the medical officer of the camp.

49. Collectors will take care and watch carefully the effect of relief operations, and if it should appear that any camp has a tendency to draw to it those who should be relieved in their villages, or any undue tendency is observed on the part of those on works to seek camp relief, the diet must be so adjusted, in accordance with the discretion given by the Government order referred to, as to counteract such tendency.

50. No outside relief shall be given at any closed camp.

51. All able to work will at once be sent to a suitable relief work with a list as described in paragraph 29. In carrying out these instructions, however, the officer will exercise a careful discretion in cases where husband or wife, mother or child, may be ill in camp, and should not enforce separation in such cases. Any able-bodied person so retained temporarily in camp will be required to do suitable work in or about the camp.

52. The collector should keep superintendents of camps informed of all works in progress, and to what extent labour can be accommodated on each work, and the order of the superintendent of the camp to the officer in charge of the work shall be sufficient authority to the latter to receive the persons who may be sent from the camp.

53. Wanderers who present themselves at any village in a state of destitution shall be provided by the village head with one meal, i.e., 10 oz. grain, and he will be held

strictly responsible that no person manifestly in need of assistance to prevent starvation shall remain unrelieved; but such persons shall only receive one meal and shall be passed on to the nearest relief camp where they shall receive support, or, if needed, medical treatment, or if in a fit condition to support themselves by labour be at once sent to suitable works. In special cases, where necessary, village heads may incur such charge as may be needed to convey to the nearest relief camp destitute persons who cannot travel. But whenever this is done an immediate report must be made to the village inspector.

54 In laying out relief camps, sanitary requirements, especially position of hospital, water supply, and latrines should be very carefully attended to.

55 With the exception of those in hospital, persons in relief camps are not to be allowed to remain idle, they must be employed in all the necessary duties of the camp, its conservancy, water supply, cookery, hospital attendance, &c, or in spinning, weaving, rope-making, or other similar light work. No extra allowances are to be given for work performed in or about the camp.

56 This order, except as regards scales of diet, does not apply to the Nilgiris district, in which the Commissioner's arrangements to meet the special circumstances will continue in force subject to further instructions.

No 251.

Telegram, dated Allahabad, 25th September 1877

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE

My telegram, 22nd, gives estimated total Madras and Bombay famine, both expenditure and revenue loss, eleven crores from beginning of famine to March 1878. Estimated loss of Madras revenue, 280 lacs may be exceeded. Madras Government has furnished no figures. Feudatory and possible North-west Provinces expenses are outside the eleven millions.

No. 252.

FROM THE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA TO THE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS. No 863

G. G.'s Camp, Amballa, the 25th September 1877

Your letter No 2810 of the 20th instant has been laid before the Viceroy, and by

his Excellency's instruction I have already in the telegram, marginally quoted, conveyed to you the assent of the Government of India to the issue by the Madras Government of a notification, calling on the local officers to assist in the formation of local committees, and generally in facilitating the objects of the fund.

2 The information, however, for which his Excellency asked in my letter No. 773, dated 31st August, as to the specific objects in detail to which the committee propose to devote their funds, is still, I am to point out but incompletely supplied.

3 Your letter directs the attention of the Government of India to the resolution passed by the committee on the 24th August, and from that resolution you recapitulate the objects of the committee in the following terms—

- "(1)—Aiding, by contributions, local committees for the relief of the necessitous poor not reached by Government
- "(2)—Giving contributions towards the taking care of destitute children and the like
- "(3)—Providing clothes for destitute women and children
- "(4)—Making allotments towards any special object which seems to come within the scope and ability of the fund"

4 In regard to this recapitulation I have to point out that object No 1 still needs some further specification and definition, as to the classes of the necessitous poor, which are indicated as not being reached by Government, there may be, as suggested in my previous letter, many such classes, but without further specification of them there is an obvious danger of the operations of the committee overlapping, and, at some points, clashing with, those of Government.

D d 2

Encl in
No 252.

5. In regard to No. 2 it is to be observed, as already remarked, that Government is endeavouring to maintain all destitute children that may come on its hands during the famine, and there is room for further discrimination between the objects of the committee and those of Government in this respect. The question of providing for the maintenance of these destitute orphan children, after the famine has ceased, is one which may perhaps be deemed worthy of the consideration of the committee.

6. To the third class of operation which the committee propose to undertake, the Government of India have no objection to make, and the fourth merely provides for any exceptional cases which may not happen to fall under any of the former categories.

7. There is still therefore much room for more definite specification of the purposes of the committee, and the Viceroy observes that the committee propose, as further information is received, to complete the work of formulating the objects of their expenditure.

8. In addition to the points above noticed the Viceroy learns from the instructions, which the committee have given to their delegates, that in a general way the committee accept, as the field of their operations, the mitigation of suffering, as distinguished from the duty of saving life which the Government has undertaken through its own agency. The committee also inculcate on their local agents to avoid even indirect interference with Government operations. His Excellency is satisfied, therefore, that so far as in their power the committee will act on different lines, and for other objects, than those already covered by the operations of Government, and in this assurance has consented to the services of local officers being enlisted in aid of the committee; but having regard to what has been said as to the want of definiteness in the scheme of operations hitherto laid down, and the promise of the committee to remedy this hereafter, I am to express the hope, on the part of the Government of India, that the Madras Government will communicate with the committee, and will assist them not only in defining and systematising the aims and objects to which their expenditure may be most usefully expended, but also in regulating the assistance to be given by Government officials so as to reduce to a minimum the anticipated dangers of friction, of increased labour, and of having to satisfy conflicting claims on their time and attention.

9. Having disposed of the main subject of your letter his Excellency desires me to advert to one or two subsidiary matters which have arisen in the course of this correspondence

The concluding paragraph of my letter of 31st August was perhaps the subject of some misapprehension by the Government of Madras. It was by no means meant to convey an absolute prohibition against Government officers taking part in the disbursements of the committee's funds. It was simply an expression of the Viceroy's hope that the committee would be persuaded to use their own agency as far as possible, and thus to avoid imposing double burthens on the collectorate establishments. The Madras Government, it was anticipated, would have communicated with the committee, would have assisted them in formulating their scheme of operation, and, if these proved ultimately to be at variance with Lord Lytton's suggestions, would have either sought for some means of reconciling them, or else have again addressed the Government of India.

10. Had this course been followed much valuable time would have been saved, much misapprehension would have been avoided, and the Madras Government would not have been misled into believing* that the committee were not relying on the agency of State establishment for the administration of their private funds.

*No 210.

* See paragraph 2 of your letter, No 2680, dated 3rd September 1877

11. I am also to point out, with reference to the scantiness of the additional information furnished in your letter, that the resolution of 24th August to which you now refer the Government of India, as exhibiting in a definite form the scope and objects of the committee's expenditure, was the identical resolution referred to, and quoted almost in the same terms, in my letter of 31st August in the paragraph reproduced in the margin. The only divergence is that the third head—regarding the provision of clothes for destitute women and children—was omitted in my letter, under the impression that it was finally negatived after discussion in the meeting of 24th August

" His Excellency finds on the proceedings of the committee held on the 24th August, a resolution that the fund should be devoted (1) to contributions in aid of local committees for the relief of necessitous poor not reached by Government, (2) to contributions towards the care of destitute children, (3) to making allotments towards any other special objects which seem to come within the scope and ability of the fund."

12. As these very resolutions were specified in my letter, as failing to convey to his Excellency the specific and detailed information which he desired, the Viceroy cannot forbear expressing some disappointment at being again referred to them, after the lapse

of three weeks, as conveying the requisite definition of the committee's action, but, without dwelling further on the past, his Excellency desires me to express his confident assurance that the Madras Government will accept the responsibility which necessarily attaches to them as administering imperial finances, of ascertaining, and, if need be, of guiding the action of the committee, and that they will, while labouring to further to the utmost the legitimate action of the committee, endeavour, in free and frank communication with them, to regulate its demands upon local officers, and to define and systematise the scope and objects of its expenditure.

No 253.

No 37 of 1877

From the GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, Commerce, and Famine, to the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA

Camp Dhurmpore, 27th September 1877.

In my letter* to your Lordship I reported the action I had taken for the improvement of famine administration in Mysore, and the communications which I had held with the Planters' Associations of Coorg and Wynad

2 I may mention that, in accordance with the arrangement reported in the 2rd paragraph of that letter, I directed before leaving Bangalore that Major Scott Moncrieff, the Chief Engineer of Mysore, should at once visit Coorg, and arrange for a proper system of relief works in communication with the Planters' Association, and I instructed him to take the opportunity of ascertaining and reporting to me the real wishes, not only of the planters, but of the people themselves, on the question of the absorption of Coorg into the Madras Presidency, and its unification with the other coffee-planting districts

3 Referring to the results of the recent measures in the Bangalore district, which were reported in paragraph 24 of that letter, I have subsequently had an opportunity of conferring with the Deputy Commissioner of the neighbouring district of Kolar, and I found that he was able to assure me of similarly favourable results in his district. In three relief camps, out of 6,500 inmates, 1,600 had been drafted to works, and a similar number remained in the camps, the rest, when told to go to the works, had preferred to take advantage of the recent rain and return to their agricultural pursuits. The state of affairs in this district has greatly improved; tanks have been filled, the rice crop secured, prices have fallen a little, and ryots are no longer coming to the markets so generally as heretofore to purchase imported grain, there having been an increase of their home supply

* Millet

by the incoming of the small ragi harvest* of September. These circumstances have greatly facilitated the weeding of the relief kitchens, and the general execution of my recent orders, and I should have thought it a matter of much congratulation if I could have informed your Lordship that advantage had been taken of the equally favourable weather in Madras to carry into effect with similar promptitude the orders regarding that Presidency which were issued on 31st August

4 Leaving Bangalore on the morning of the 21st, I was joined at Jollarepet junction by the Duke of Buckingham and General Kennedy, and it was then I learnt, to my disappointment, that during the three weeks which had elapsed since the Government of Madras had publicly announced their entire adhesion to the principles of my famine policy, no subsidiary orders of any kind had been issued with a view of applying those principles to the problems in hand.

5 Even the correspondence of the district officers on famine subjects continued, I learnt, to go through the Board of Revenue as heretofore; and in the more important matters of drafting people from camps and from village relief, on to works, I could not learn that district officers had received any orders whatever. The delay was attributable to the Duke's visit to Ootacamund, but, none the less, it is to be lamented that such an admirable opportunity, as the recent rain has given, of reducing the number of those gratuitously relieved, and of introducing more economical management, was allowed to pass by. The Madras Government are now spending 60 lakhs a month, the greater part of which goes in maintaining a system of relief, at once wasteful, demoralising, and above all others open to speculation. It is not too much to say that if, when the rain of

the early part of September again made agriculture possible and hopeful, the masses on gratuitous relief had at once been put to work, a great majority of them, as in Mysore, would have preferred devoting their labour to their own fields, and a sum equal to a quarter or a third of the monthly expenditure might at once have been struck off without danger or difficulty.

6. Before the Duke of Buckingham left me to return to Madras I had examined with him and approved the code of instructions which, with General Kennedy's assistance, had been drawn up for the guidance of officers engaged in famine relief, and which the Governor was then about to issue. I have since learnt that these instructions have been published; and as they provide fully for all the principal objects on which the policy of the Government of India lays stress, I have no doubt that the desired reforms will be introduced, and that the main object of my journey will at length be accomplished. Without this security for obtaining some practical result to our deliberations I should have hesitated about returning to Simla, and was prepared to remain some further time in Southern India.

7. Reaching Poona on the evening of the 22nd I was received by Sir R. Temple, and learnt from him that the state of affairs in Bombay was continuing to improve.

8. While at Poona I received from the Madras Government a letter on the plan of operations proposed for adoption by the General Relief Committee of Madras with reference to the questions I had previously asked—(1) as to the main objects to which the funds were to be devoted, (2) as to the agency through which the committee proposed to operate. I had deprecated the employment of these funds for objects already undertaken by the State, and I had expressed a hope that, so far as possible, they would make use of other agency than that of the collectorate establishments, whose whole time and attention are already devoted to the relief operations of Government. That

Nos 199, 200
 " 210
 " 247.
 " 240, 241.
 " 252

Letter of 31st August to Madras
 Their reply of 3rd September
 Duke of Buckingham's telegram of 22nd.
 Madras Government's letter of 20th
 Viceroy's telegraphic reply of 24th
 Official reply of the 25th September.

your Lordship may have the correspondence before you at once, I enclose the letters noted on the margin for your perusal, it will be seen that, though no sufficient endeavour has been made strictly to formulate the objects to which the committee will devote their funds, and though they do rely to a great extent on the assistance of State establishments, I have been unwilling in any way to hamper them in the work of expending to the best

advantage the large sums subscribed, and have therefore sanctioned the issue of a notification directing local officers to give their best assistance to the committee; but at the same time I have requested the Madras Government to assist them in defining, with some attempt at precision, the objects to which their operations can be devoted, without clashing with those of Government; and in regulating the demands to be made on the time and attention of the collectorate establishment.

9. I have now completed my visit to Southern India, and hope to arrive at Simla to-morrow. I have kept your Lordship fully informed from time to time of what I have seen and done; and I trust that my visit may not have been without effect in an improved system of famine administration, in a better economy of our finances, and in the saving of life. Before closing this, the last of the series of letters which I have been addressing to your Lordship during my absence from my colleagues, I wish to place on record my deep sense of the obligations I am under for the ever ready assistance I have received from Sir A. Clarke, who has displayed a loyal anxiety to meet my wishes by placing at my disposal the whole resources of the Public Works Department, on which department I have mainly relied for a trustworthy system of relief works, and who has rendered valuable advice and assistance on all matters in which I have consulted him. I have already informed your Lordship of the admirable readiness with which Sir B. Temple, notwithstanding the difficulties against which he is struggling in the Bombay Presidency, has placed at my disposal some of his ablest officers, and has responded to all my calls for assistance in the way of medical and other establishments. My thanks are also due to his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, and to the several local governments and administrations for their ready response to the indent I found it necessary to make on their resources, in order to supply the deficiencies in the medical, engineering, and supervising staff in the famine-stricken districts of Madras and Mysore.

10. The latest accounts I have received as to the rainfall and state of crops show that over the Madras and Bombay Presidencies and over the Province of Mysore there has been favourable rain throughout September, and prospects continue to improve; in Burmah and Assam, as well as in Bengal Proper, there has been abundant rain, in one district of Burmah the rain has been excessive; in Behar, the Central Provinces, Berar, the Hyderabad country, and Malwa, the crops are so far

in good condition, but rain is again required to render them secure; in the Punjab rain is much wanted to enable the people to sow the spring crops; in the North-west Provinces, north of Allahabad, over a great part of Oudh, in Gwalior, and in Northern Rajputana there is already great and daily increasing scarcity, which, accompanied as it is by a failure of fodder for cattle, cannot but cause severe distress during the coming season, indeed, the Government of the North-Western Provinces has already had to open relief works, and already there is daily a large multitude of emigrants, leaving Gwalior. Unless, moreover, rain should come within a few weeks, so as to permit of sowing the spring crops, scarcity will probably deepen into famine in large parts of the North-west Provinces, of Oudh, of Rajputana, and of Gwalior. My season telegrams will, however, have told you how matters stand before this letter arrives.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYTTON.

No. 254.

Telegram, dated 28th September 1877.

From GOVERNOR OF MADRAS TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

Yours, 20th Fears of insufficient warehouse room groundless. Tuticorin storage considered equal 20,000 tons; Negapatam 35,000; confirmed on present inquiry. Rail removal cannot exceed five hundred each; ample shelter Madras. Rains have much improved prospect of crops generally.

Imports to Madras good, insignificant elsewhere. Tank bursting destroyed half mile main line near Moorapore in Salem, Wednesday, expect restoration to-morrow

No. 255

STATEMENT No 33, regarding FAMINE RELIEF OPERATIONS in the PROVINCE OF MYSORE, for the week ending the 22nd September 1877

Encl in
No 271.

Bangalore, 29th September 1877

The weather during the last week has been all that could be desired; there have been frequent showers of rain with bright sunny weather between. The rainfall has averaged about 2 inches and has been universal, the dry tract mentioned in the previous week's report having received a liberal downfall. Such of the early (dry) ragi as survived the drought has revived beyond all expectation and may yet produce a good crop, but it is not ripe yet. The irrigated ragi and rice are being cut in many parts. The late ragi is looking as well as possible, and the sowing of horse-gram and other rabi crops is proceeding under favourable conditions.

The markets continue to be well supplied. The imports by rail have been 4,200 tons, or 1,027 tons more than in the previous week: such temporary ebbs and flows appear to be due to accidental causes. The imports have been sent from the following quarters.—

	Tons
Madras - - - - -	3,520
Bey pore, Coimbatore, and Malabar - - - - -	267
Trichinopoly, Tanjore, and Negapatam - - - - -	379
Other places - - - - -	34
Total - - - - -	<u>4,200</u>

On the other hand the exports from Bangalore Municipality, as registered by the octroi officials, have been 1,896 tons, or 33 tons more than in the previous week. They were despatched to the following quarters —

	Tons.
Tumkúr - - - - -	346
Bellary and Chitaldroog - - - - -	279
Mysore - - - - -	571
Usur (Salem District) - - - - -	272
Round Bangalore - - - - -	428
Total - - - - -	<u>1,896</u>

3. Prices are again a little easier than in the preceding week. The following statement shows the maximum and minimum prices in the districts of the province.—

	Maximum in lbs per Rupee		Minimum in lbs per Rupee.	
	Rice	Ragi.	Rice	Ragi
Bangalore District	10½	13	8	11
Kolar	11½	16	9	11½
Túmkúr	10	16	9	10
Mysore	9	14	8	10
Hassan	10	14½	8	9
Kadur	9	14	8	10
Shimoga	10½	12	6½	8
Chitaldroog	10	16	8½	10

In rice there is a fall of about ½ lb per rupee, both in the maximum and minimum scales. In ragi the minimum rate is almost unchanged, but in the maximum there is a great fall, in Túmkúr, for instance, the maximum was 12 lbs per rupee and now it is 16 lbs.

4. The number of labourers on civil relief works has increased from 23,803 to 31,280, a rise of 2,477. The increase runs through all districts except those of the Nagar Division, in all three of which there is an unexplained decrease. In the others the increase is as follows :—

Bangalore	-	-	-	-	236
Kolar	-	-	-	-	568
Túmkúr	-	-	-	-	1,946
Mysore	-	-	-	-	128
Hassan	-	-	-	-	920

But the Bangalore Deputy Commissioner in his own return shows an increase of 2,640. The discrepancy will be inquired into.

5. The Public Works Department returns show 25,271 labourers against 24,942 previously, an increase of only 329. There is a decrease everywhere, except in the Bangalore district, where the large number of relief labourers put on the State Railway and the Túmkúr road brings up the total. A good many of the works are on tanks and have been stopped by the water; in many cases it is reported that the labourers have left to work on their fields.

6. The numbers gratuitously fed in relief camps have fallen from 208,683 to 161,892. The decrease is very general and almost universal, but it is largest in the Bangalore District and Municipality in Kolar, Túmkúr and Chitaldroog, in fact, in those districts where the numbers were most overgrown.

	WEEK ENDING—		September 22nd.	Decrease	Increase
	September 15th	September 22nd.			
Bangalore District	61,873	45,795	16,078	—	
Do Municipality	26,467	15,342	11,125	—	
Kolar District	17,865	8,698	9,167	—	
Túmkúr	46,848	41,297	5,551	—	
Mysore	2,381	2,575	—	194	
Do. Municipality	680	707	—	27	
Hassan	12,398	12,147	251	—	
Kadur	3,033	2,828	205	—	
Shimoga	4,204	3,984	220	—	
Chitaldroog	32,934	28,519	4,415	—	
			<u>46,791</u>		

The decrease is partly due to the improvement in the prospects of field employment, and would have occurred in any case. It is partly due also to the enforcing of the conditions of residence and labour, and to the effects made to relegate the paupers to works. Of the numbers in the relief camps of the Bangalore Municipality, which have fallen by 19,000 in the last fortnight, over 5,000 have been put on the State Railway and the adjacent embankment; about 2,000 on the embankment of the Alsur lake, and about one thousand more on different projects, the waterworks, and two lines of road. The improvement in the condition of the labourers is already obvious; they are cheerful, healthy and contented, and those who a fortnight ago were thought hardly able to lift a pickaxe are now doing a fair day's work. Of the rest, some have left for their villages, some prefer to beg about the town, but these will be collected and brought in by the

police To every applicant either labour or food is offered : if labour cannot be provided their food is given till the applicant can be set to work. The want of tools is still one of the greatest difficulties.

7 The cost of gratuitous feeding is returned as follows :—

		Per Head.	
Bangalore District	- -	- 0	13 0
Do. Municipality	- -	Not returned.	
Kolar	- -	- 0	10 6
Tumkūr	- -	- 0	12 3
Mysore	- -	- 0	15 3
Do. Municipality	- -	- 1	14 8
Hassan	- -	- 0	12 9
Kadur	- -	- 0	15 8
Shimoga	- -	- 0	8 4
Chitaldroog	- -	- 0	10 7

An explanation will be called for of the excessive figures received from the Mysore Municipality

PROVINCE OF MYSORE.

(No 33)

CONDITION- STATEMENT FOR THE WEEK ENDING 22ND SEPTEMBER 1877.

DIVISIONS AND DISTRICTS	Area in square miles.	Affected area in square miles.	Population.	Population of this affected area.	No and description of works in progress under Revenue Officers.					Daily average number of persons employed on works of all kinds under Revenue Officers.		Daily average number of persons employed on works carried on by the Professional Department.		Amount sanctioned up to date of report for works under Revenue Officers.	Expenditure from the above amount known up to date.	Amount sanctioned up to date of report for works under Revenue Officers of the Professional Department.	Expenditure up to date from the above amount.	Particulars regarding gratuitous relief				Total Expenditure up to date.	Prices of staple grains in lbs. per rupee.					Average Rainfall for the year in inches, calculated up to the 22nd September.	Total Rainfall from 1st April 1876 up to 12th September 1877.	Rainfall at Head-Quarters during the present week.	Average Rainfall of the District.	REMARKS				
					Roads.	Canals.	Miscellaneous works.	Total present week.	Total last week.	During last week.	During present week.	During last week.	During present week.					During last week.	During present week.	Amount of private subscriptions up to date.	Amount of Government grant.		Total.	Total.	And sort Rice.	And sort Rice.	And sort Rice.						And sort Rice.	And sort Rice.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35		
MYSORE DISTRICT.	Bangalore	2,914	1,914	223,264	284,068	48	123	226	315	0,260	8,826	5,084	7,442	3,52,982	2,51,056			61,873	48,796	1,506	6,61,263	6,22,866	6,95,241	26	80	10	12	10	12	26	36	24	1 40	2 6		
	Kolar	2,977	2,577	616,904	618,954	54	298	88	402	4,738	5,506	3,940	3,028	3,07,986	3,00,000			17,963	8,698	6,108	1,72,266	1,78,474	1,74,830	32	30	10	12	10	12	23	4	50	61	4 06	2 1	
	Timkdr	8,606	8,606	692,289	682,220	59	106	68	229	256	8,444	10,200	1,911	1,280	2,68,058	3,00,893			46,846	41,297	1,709	4,20,126	4,40,805	4,59,922	26	106	9	11	9	12	27	3	36	60	4 16	
ARSA-CHAM.	Mysore	4,127	1,470	948,137	118,063	48	80	9	71	69	777	906	5,166	4,614	1,15,844	79,284			2,581	2,676	7,495	30,927	38,322	30,038	24	70	8	11	8	11	24	8	56	8 30	1 8	
	Hasan	3,801	3,124	668,417	190,873	42	38	20	100	86	661	1,681	3,329	2,126	1,36,961	1,12,444			13,202	12,147	3,769	1,81,801	1,84,070	1,21,776	22	78	9	10	9	11	24	4	31	86	7 04	2
NAGAL.	Shimoga	3,707	583	468,978	47,481	28	78	44	145	1,272	1,184	1,612	1,663	2,24,221	1,46,962			4,204	2,984	8,615	22,171	30,786	29,336	30	76	8	9	9	10	26	4	27	24	3 33	1 7	
	Kadur	3,204	691	338,926	100,444	13	40	90	143	630	219	1,969	1,220	1,00,266	53,140			2,023	2,628	2,572	90,289	32,692	27,728	30	64	8	10	8	12	25	7	20	11	2 27	2	
	Chitaldroog	4,471	4,238	551,260	511,904	46	59	224	222	4,714	4,606	3,906	3,441	2,73,428	1,82,544			52,244	25,519	8,623	8,20,911	5,26,768	5,00,622	24	28	8	11	9	12	25	5	25	17	1 86	2 2	
Bangalore Municipality	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	977	113	-	-	26,262	23,298	-	-	26,467	16,248	26,711	6,64,460	2,90,201	2,97,247	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mysore Municipality	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	50	-	40,727	41,707	-	-	680	707	12,510	51,223	44,468	48,526	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	27,077	17,052	6,065,412	2,694,146	333	724	663	1,709	1,754	28,202	31,290	24,842	22,371	12,07,202	12,72,787	24,61,061	23,94,204	2,08,665	1,61,262	71,848	20,28,517	21,70,265	21,20,274	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

NOTE - 1. The expenditure entered in column 24 includes the amount contributed by private subscriptions as well as the Government grant in aid thereto.

2. The figures entered in columns 17 and 18 are based on the latest accounts received from the Engineer Public Works Accounts.

3. The figures entered in columns 21 to 24 against the Bangalore Municipality represent the grants and expenditure up to 15th September the return for the week ending 22nd September not having been received.

(Signed) A. WRIGHT,
Additional Secretary

REGISTER of Rainfall recorded scientifically at the Government Observatory at Bangalore for each week in the year, as the usual monthly averages do not give sufficiently reliable information in a tropical climate.

Week	Month	Rainfall—Inches and Cents.								Remarks for 1877.	
		Average of 1871, 1872, and 1873	1874	1875.	1876	1877					
1st	Jan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
2nd		—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
3rd		—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
4th		—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	
5th		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
6th	Feb	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
7th		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
8th		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
9th		9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
10th	March	40	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
11th		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
12th		—	—	—	—	86	—	—	—	—	
13th		—	—	—	1	56	—	—	50	—	65
14th		41	—	—	—	31	—	—	47	—	—
15th	April	20	14	—	—	—	—	47	—	—	
16th		40	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	
17th		2	45	—	—	15	—	—	—	—	1
18th		1	66	13	—	—	1	37	—	—	22
19th		19	6	20	—	85	1	98	—	—	—
20th	May	24	1	12	2	39	—	34	1	30	
21st		36	3	68	—	35	—	93	—	—	75
22nd		1	9	4	28	—	48	—	3	1	15
23rd		39	—	20	1	69	—	1	—	—	97
24th		10	—	83	1	43	1	42	1	—	77
25th	June	88	28	—	—	7	—	21	—	—	26
26th		1	15	—	30	—	14	—	67	—	—
27th		—	14	—	11	1	73	—	75	—	35
28th		1	11	—	48	—	3	—	45	—	—
29th		—	71	3	44	—	39	—	2	—	2
30th	July	19	2	42	—	19	—	23	—	—	76
31st		1	8	—	28	—	63	1	66	—	62
32nd		2	42	2	74	1	24	—	20	—	75
33rd		1	98	1	51	—	59	1	60	1	31
34th		1	97	1	96	—	86	—	58	—	54
35th	Aug	54	1	46	1	59	—	50	—	—	3
36th		2	30	4	65	—	—	1	7	—	23
37th		3	24	4	63	—	6	—	3	4	62
38th		1	5	3	8	1	19	—	—	1	—
39th		1	56	2	31	—	54	—	45	—	—
40th	Sept	3	12	2	20	—	—	72	—	—	Week ending 22nd September 1877
41st		1	11	—	59	—	—	—	—	—	
42nd		1	76	1	30	—	45	—	—	—	
43rd		—	48	2	56	1	39	—	—	—	
44th		—	5	1	75	—	—	—	—	—	
45th	Oct	33	—	82	—	26	—	52	—	—	
46th		—	47	—	—	—	34	—	—	—	
47th		—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
48th		—	49	—	35	—	—	—	9	—	
49th		—	42	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	
50th	Dec	8	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	
51st		—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
52nd		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
		34	66	56	54	22	6	17	34		
Mean Meteorological Results from the Bangalore Observatory Register						For the week ending 8th September 1877	For the week ending 15th September 1877	For the week ending 22nd September 1877			
Reduced atmospheric pressure -						26 944	27 054	27 008			
Mean temperature of air -						74 9	76 2	75 8			
Maximum solar heat in vacuo -						143 9	145 7	148 8			
Maximum in shade -						82 6	83 2	82 4			
Minimum in shade -						66 7	66 6	66 3			
Depth of rain in inches -						4 23	1 62	1 40			

Encl. in
No. 271.

No. 256.

EXTRACT from the PROCEEDINGS of the GOVERNMENT of BOMBAY, Public Works Department, No. 590 P., dated the 2nd October 1877

Read—

Memorandum from the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, No. 5,887, dated 28th September 1877.

Submitting, for consideration and orders, a letter from the executive engineer for irrigation, Belgaum and Dharwar, requesting instructions, now that prospects of the season are quite assured, and there is no probability of there being any great demand for relief labour, as to the policy Government intend adopting with regard to the Gokak canal works. If it is intended to complete the canal up to the ninth mile, and to construct the main weir and the head works, there will be sufficient employment for his establishment, which is large, well trained, and capable of the management of 20,000 labourers, but to attract labour the canal must proceed as an ordinary public work, and piece-work and the petty contract system must be introduced. Requesting early orders on the subject, as the 5,000 labourers now employed on the canal have expressed their intention of leaving within a month for their homes.

RESOLUTION —Government at the present time cannot authorise any measures that will tend to keep up the numbers upon this or any other relief work in Belgaum

2. The chief engineer for irrigation should be requested to submit the complete project for the Gokak canal at an early date in order that the Government of India may be invited to classify the work as extraordinary.

No. 256a.

Endorsement by the Commissioner of the Pegu Division,—No. 963-1, dated the 2nd October 1877.

Copy of the following, with copy of enclosure, forwarded to the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, British Burma, with reference to his letter No. 1615-421, dated the 12th instant

RECENT FLOODS IN THE HENZADA DISTRICT.

From the DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, Henzada, to the COMMISSIONER OF THE PEGU DIVISION, No. 40-2, dated the 27th September 1877

With reference to your docket, Revenue Department (Miscellaneous), No 889-1, dated the 17th instant, I have the honour to submit a detailed statement showing the probable extent of the destruction of crops caused by the recent floods, aggregating 59,100 acres, or nearly one-fourth of the entire rice crop of this district

The return is made up roughly, and is founded on information furnished by the Thoo-gyees and others, and upon my own observations in the course of a visit to the inundated lands in Tharrawaddy, from which I have just returned. Although the water of the Irrawaddy was, I believe, little over a foot higher than it was in 1875, the Meit-ma-kah rose some four or five feet higher than upon that memorable occasion, and the destruction has in consequence been very much more widespread; added to this the first replanting in that quarter was entirely destroyed by the rise of the end of August, thereby using up the greater part of the stock of reserve seedlings, and leaving insufficient for a second complete crop.

I regret to have further to state that the prospects of a supplementary crop are much less favourable now than they appeared a fortnight ago. The want of rain and hot weather which has prevailed are against the chance of the seedlings (which are becoming too mature for transplanting) surviving or attaining to vigorous maturity. Of the damage caused by the three breaches in the embankment, that near Zaloon is accountable for about 8,561 acres; that at Kyanghin has permitted the flooding of the whole of the "protected" land, 2,900 acres; the third breach on the Laymyethna embankment, near Dambee, has caused danger to but 160 acres

The river is again full up to the brink, and the flow through the breach near Zaloon is renewed to the utter destruction of the seedlings put in since the flood abated.

Encl. in
No. 288

I believe the figures given in the statement submitted, though as near as can be at present ascertained, represent the outside estimate of the damage; and I think that one fourth may be deducted from it for lands which will be still utilized by planting out or broadcast hand-sowing.

The remaining crops in the district promise remarkably well.

FLOODS IN THE BASSEIN DISTRICT.

From the COMMISSIONER OF THE PEGU DIVISION to the SECRETARY TO THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER, British Burma,—No 953-135, dated the 1st October 1877

I have the honour to forward herewith for the Chief Commissioner's information copy of letter No 36-13, dated 17th September last, together with a memorandum in original by Mr. A. L. Hough, Extra Assistant Commissioner, containing a complete account of the breaches made in the Nga Woon embankment in August last.

2 It will be seen from Mr Hough's memorandum that there is very little, if any, foundation for the report made by a subordinate of the Public Works Department that the first breaches were intentionally or maliciously made.

All the damage would appear to be due to the intrinsic weakness of the bund in places where its foundations are composed of loose friable soil. Although the water in the Nga Woon rose one and a half foot higher than it has ever been known to rise before, the bund did not give way because it was overtopped by the water, but because its foundations were sapped and carried away.

The Deputy Commissioner remarks from personal observation —“ In many places the water percolated through nearly the thickest part of the bund, and it was with the utmost difficulty that the workmen and villagers could prevent the underneath part of the bund sliding away in a liquid mass ”

Mr Hough's experience is the same. The foundations first were eaten away. The superstructure naturally subsided, and then the water rushed in and carried everything away.

The bund, therefore, appears to have been deficient in breadth of base rather than in height.

Out of the 15 breaches in the Bassein district, 13 were made before the water reached its highest level.

3 Notwithstanding the immense volume of water which poured through the breaches, and submerged the villages inside, it is satisfactory to learn that no lives were lost, though many must have had narrow escapes, and amongst a less amphibious population loss of life would probably have occurred

At one place Mr. Hough remarks:—“ Women came and begged for boats to go and bring away their children, whom they had had to place upon trees as the water had driven them from their homes ”

A few cattle are supposed to have been drowned. The loss of household property is not given. The greatest loss of course is in the standing crops.

The Deputy Commissioner roughly estimates the area over which the crops have been destroyed as 47,767 acres; and but a small portion of this is likely to be planted out again, the season being so far advanced, and seedlings not being easily procurable.

It may be reckoned that an area of 40,000 acres at least will be lost this year.

This is out of a total of about 260,000 acres in the whole of the Bassein district.

4 Colonel Davies appears to have been making very zealous but, I fear, somewhat useless endeavours to induce the people to attempt the cultivation of dry weather crops, such as gram, sessamum, &c. in their paddy-fields. To succeed in raising a dry weather crop out of the ordinary paddy kweng of the delta would be very creditable to a scientific agriculturist, and it is hardly to be expected therefore that the inexperienced peasants of the country should succeed on the spur of the moment in performing such a feat

5 All the local officials appeared to have laboured zealously, and done what they could to avert the calamity.

The Deputy Commissioner, Colonel Davies, I regret to say, succumbed to the fatigue and exposure which he underwent, and has since been dangerously ill.

Mr Hough mentions some of the native officials who did good service, but his list is not complete. He has been requested to furnish another and more complete list

MYSORE FAMINE CODE, 1877.

This code is issued, with the sanction of the Chief Commissioner, for the instruction and guidance of all officers engaged in relief operations. That part of it (Chap. I., Sec. I) which relates to the duties of the D. P. W. officer has been drawn up with the approval and under the instructions of the chief engineer.

Undoubtedly experience will bring to light errors, and omissions in this code, which is issued now as a tentative measure, and the undersigned will be glad to receive suggestions and criticisms from all quarters, and especially from all relief officers

C. A. ELLIOTT,
Famine Commissioner.

Bangalore, 2nd October 1877.

FAMINE CODE.

PREFACE.

The backbone of the famine policy is the employment of all suitable applicants for relief on large works of permanent utility superintended by professional officers of the Public Works Department. It is the duty of the civil officer to decide who are suitable applicants, *i.e.*, who are sufficiently able-bodied for labour. In the present state of this province it is not intended, until a crop is harvested, that any applicant should be rejected on the ground of being too well to do, provided he submits to the three tests—

(1) The distance test—which shows that he is willing to labour at a distance from his home, not returning there at night but being hitted on the work

(2) The wage test—*i.e.*, that he receives a wage calculated to provide a bare subsistence for himself, but not enough to support any non-working member of the family

(3) The task-work test—*i.e.*, that he performs a daily task proportioned to his strength.

It is important to remember that, while it is desirable to secure the best return in work for the expenditure incurred, the main object of opening and carrying out a relief work, is not for the sake of the work, but for the sake of the labourers employed on the work

On every large public work there will, if possible, be placed a civil officer to co-operate with and assist the Public Works officer, and a medical officer to take charge of the sick and those requiring special treatment. There will also be three classes of labourers.

Class I.—The moderately able-bodied, who can on an average perform 75 per cent of the task usually accomplished by an ordinary cooly. Some members of this class will be fully able-bodied; some, though strong themselves, may have a sickly wife or child, some may be reduced by privation below their usual strength. But the class, taken as a whole, counting the stronger with the weaker members, should be able to perform the 75 per cent. condition, and should receive the higher or A. scale of wages, *vide* Appendix I.

Class II.—Those who are weakly, but are still able to work, and can on an average perform 50 per cent. of their ordinary task. This class will consist mainly of those who are old, infirm, partially disabled by some natural defect, or who are temporarily enfeebled by famine, but whom regular work and regular pay may be expected to restore. These should receive the lower or B. scale of wages.

Class III.—Those who are too much emaciated to do any but a very light task, but who under special care may be expected to improve, and whose health and self-respect will be best consulted by employing them in easy open-air work. These are called the class under Special Treatment. They will receive the A. scale of wage, in the hope of restoring their strength and fitting them to be drafted among the able-bodied, in addition to any extra nourishment the medical or the relief officer may prescribe. Old and decrepit persons who cannot be expected to improve in strength are not to be included in this class.

The civil officer will classify the applicants as they arrive according to these three classes, and will from time to time, as they improve or retrograde in strength, suggest their transfer from one class to another. The medical officer will see to the special

treatment of all those who require extra food and nourishment, and for whom the ordinary wage is not sufficient. The P. W. D. officer will receive the gangs and individuals made over to him, set them to work, register and number them, measure up the work they do, and see to their payment and their hutting. Accordingly, the code treats in separate sections—(1.) of the duties of the professional officer of the Public Works Department; (2.) of those of the civil officer; (3.) of those of the medical officer.

II Civil relief works are supplementary to large P. W. D. relief works, and may be employed in three ways—(1.) as a safety valve for labour when there are more applicants than the Public Works Department can receive, (2.) as a training school for P. W. D. work, when it is desired to move bodies of men to considerable distances, and they are broken into this by being organised and accustomed to work together in gangs for a short time near their homes, (3.) to give employment to the old and decrepit who do not come up to Class II, *i.e.*, cannot do half an ordinary day's work, and who will not be restored to strength by liberal treatment, and so must not be put in the special treatment class.

The petty relief works, on which small bodies of 10 or 20 labourers have hitherto been employed, being paid by piece-work or by contract, and under no real supervision, are to be discontinued. No work will be undertaken as a civil relief work which will not afford employment for at least 300 people for one month. They will be huttied on the work, and not, except in the second case referred to above, allowed to go to their homes at night, and each work will be supervised by a responsible civil officer. The second chapter of the code expounds the duties of the civil officer with relation to civil relief works.

III The third main division of the scheme of famine policy is the relief camp. These camps are not to be used, as has generally been the case hitherto, as dining places, where people come for a meal or two meals a day and go away. Every person who receives relief at a relief camp must submit to two conditions—(1.) residence in the camp, (2.) work. The camp must therefore be enclosed, and be provided with sufficient shed accommodation for its population. The able-bodied should not be received there but sent at once to a work. The weakly applicant should also be generally sent to a relief work, but may sometimes be detained a few days to be fed up. The ordinary population should consist entirely of the old and infirm who are not likely to improve, and of the sick in hospital. For all these, except the sick, such work as they are capable of should be provided.

IV The fourth main head of the code is Special Treatment. The Chief Commissioner's Proceedings, Famine Department, No. 5, dated 11th, September (*vide* Appendix I.), prescribe the ordinary wages on P. W. D. and civil relief works, and the ordinary ration in relief camps. But there are many cases in which the ordinary rates will not apply. Small and emaciated children, nursing mothers, who either themselves or their babies are suffering from malnutrition, young and middle-aged adults of both sexes who have been temporarily brought down by starvation, women advanced in pregnancy, convalescents out of the hospitals, these form the chief classes of "special cases" who require "special treatment." No part of the relief officer's duty (whether he be P. W. D., civil, or medical) is more important than the selection of cases for special treatment and seeing that the orders he gives are carried out.

V. The fifth chapter in the code treats of village inspection and relief. This is especially the duty of the civil officers of the district, and unless it is zealously and carefully performed it is impossible for them to find out the true condition of the people of their district, or to know if there are many people in the villages who need relief, but are too proud, or too frightened or too resigned to their fate, to apply for it.

It may often happen that an officer may inspect a village once a week for three weeks running, turn out the inhabitants and find them all looking stout and comfortable, and on the fourth week may see that distress and emaciation have suddenly set in. Then he will act by sending the people on to relief works or into relief camps, and seeing that they go, but without this inspection he may be startled by suddenly finding a large influx of famine-stricken people who have come in too late to be saved.

Special relief for artisans who are unfitted for manual labour is provided by supplying them with the raw material of their trade, and for this purpose it is necessary to provide for the careful house-to-house inspection of all large towns.

Finally, every officer employed in connexion with relief operations, of whatever rank, is held personally responsible that measures adequate to the distress are used, that

unusual or impending distress is early brought to notice, that no question of form is allowed to impede relief, and that all orders are carried into execution

Relief must never be allowed to run short so long as relief is necessary, foresight must be exercised, and one work planned as fast as another draws near completion, or as fast as there are indications of an influx of labour. A list of works which are ready to be undertaken should be drawn up for each district, so as to be available whenever there is a fresh demand for work. No officer will be held excused for turning off gangs of labourers on the completion of a work, or for refusing *bond fide* applicants for labour, by the plea that he had not received a sanction.

CHAPTER I.

Section I.—Duties of the D P W. Officer.

- Preparation** I. The executive engineer or other officer placed by the chief engineer in charge of a relief work will, after completing his preparations, give information to the Deputy Commissioner of the district that on a given day or at given dates he will be prepared to receive so many labourers to be made over to him at such a place
- Location of classes.** II He will divide the work out so as to locate in separate parts of it the gangs belonging to the different classes
- (1) Able-bodied
 - (2) Weakly, but fit for labour
 - (3.) Special treatment
- Division of classes into gangs.** III. When the labourers arrive (they will be already classified by the civil officer according to the above three classes) he will distribute them into gangs, allowing those of the same or neighbouring villages as far as possible to work together, and, where the prejudices of the people require it, those of the same caste. Each gang will ordinarily consist of about 50 people under one gangman or head cooly, men, women, and children being associated in due proportion, and about four to six gangs will be under one writer who will keep up the nominal register.
- Nominal Registers.** IV. The first duty will be to frame nominal registers of labourers, showing the name, caste, and village of each, and the date he was taken on the work. The roll will be called daily, and those who are absent for part of the day will receive half a day's pay; if absent during the whole day, no pay for that day.
- Hutting** V. The next point is the hutting. Instructions have already been issued (*vide* App. No II) as to the kind of hut which should be put up to contain one family. The earthen walls and raised floor should be the labourers' task, the mats for the roof are supplied by the D P. W. officer. Huts to accommodate about 10 per cent of the numbers expected may, if necessary, be erected before the arrival of the relief labourers, but this need not be done, if there is any available accommodation on the spot. As to the selection of the site of the camp, and the general rules which should guide its laying out, the instructions of the Bombay Sanitary Commissioner (App No III.) should be followed as far as possible.
- Task work.** VI. The first day or two will be occupied in organizing and hutting the labourers, and for those days full wages (scale A for Classes I and III., scale B for Class II) should be given. When the labourers are thoroughly organised and set to work, task work should be exacted from them, not individually but by the gang, the work of each gang being measured up weekly or twice a week. Task work must not, however, be exacted rigidly during the first few days, especially from those who are at all feeble. The able-bodied who are in Class I are expected to do 75 per cent of the work done at ordinary times by an able-bodied cooly, if they do less they should be cut down to the lower wage (scale B). Those who belong to Class II (weakly but fit for some labour) are expected to perform 50 per cent. of the full task which they could ordinarily perform; but if they do less, their wage (being calculated at the minimum sufficient for supporting life for seven days by six days' labour) should not be cut, unless the D. P. W. officer is quite satisfied that the failure to work is wilful and not due to weakness. He should exercise great discretion and patience here, should warn the people two or three times, and if that fails he may deduct the condiment portion of the wage. But this penalty should not be repeated without consulting the civil officer, lest the labourers should begin to fall off in condition. From the 3rd class, those under special treatment, no task can be demanded. The amount exacted as the task in each kind of labour should be reported by the P. W. D officer to the superintendent engineer, who

will see that the rates are fair and not excessive. No work will be exacted on Sunday and no wages paid, the rate of wages for working days being calculated so as to leave a margin over for Sundays.

VII It will generally be necessary at first to pay the labourers daily, and after a time twice or thrice a week, but weekly payments should be the rule for the able-bodied gangs (Class I), and should be introduced as soon as possible, without inconvenience and loss to the labourers. When the work has been going on for some time, and the grain merchants acquire confidence in the system, and know that a labourer whose name is on the roll is sure to be paid at the end of the week, they will readily give him credit during the week. But facilities must be given for any labourer's departure from the work at any time for his home, provided there is reasonable presumption that he can support himself when he gets there. He must be paid up and let go even in the middle of a week. All payments must be made in cash, no cooked or raw food is to be given except to the people who are under special treatment. Payments will be made on nominal registers or muster rolls, which should be checked as expeditiously as possible in order to avoid any delay in making the week's payment. They must not be made through low-paid underlings but by regular cashiers borne upon the strength of the establishment, from whom good security should be required. Officers in charge will be expected to check payments, and inspecting officers, civil or D P W, must, on visiting a work, endeavour to satisfy themselves that the full Government wage reaches the cooly, less duly authorised cuttings. When required by the civil officer, arrangement should be made for paying new arrivals an interim payment after they have been one or two days on the work.

Payment of wages

VIII Shelter should be erected, in which the infants and children too small to labour, belonging to people in the working gangs, may be collected. About 20 children may be placed together under the care of a woman, who is herself a nursing mother, or otherwise entitled to consideration through age or infirmity. The shelter should be at such a distance that the children of mothers belonging to the gangs should not interfere with the work, but should be within easy access of their mothers. Any of these children who are weakly will be treated and fed as special cases.

Shelter for infants

IX. The D P W officer will weekly send a slip in the following form to the Deputy Commissioner of the district, who will circulate it to such of the relief officers under him as he considers proper.

Information as to room on the work

Name of Work.	Number employed on the of	Additional number to whom employment can be given on or after the of

X When a sanction is approaching expiry, or when a relief work is approaching completion, the D P W officer should make timely report to his immediate superior to enable him to pass such orders as may be necessary, and shall also inform the Deputy Commissioner.

Expiry of sanction or completion of work

XI In cases where a civil officer cannot be spared to be placed on the relief work, the duties which ordinarily belong to him will devolve on the D P W officer, and especially those defined in rules IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, and IX, section II. Every officer in charge of a relief work will be held responsible for the condition of his people, and for the prompt and judicious carrying out of all orders laid down.

General responsibility of the Department Public Works officer

XII The outbreak of any epidemic disease, and especially of cholera, should be immediately reported to the civil officer, or, if there is none present, to the Deputy Commissioner of the district, and also direct to the chief engineer.

Outbreak of epidemic

XIII Every officer in charge of a relief work will make a weekly report in the form appended (Appendix No IV). The condition and health of the labourers should be specially noticed, and the cause of any increase or decrease in numbers should be explained.

Form of weekly report.

CHAPTER I.

Section II.—Duties of the Civil Relief Officer.

N B.—The term Civil Relief Officer is applied to a Deputy or Assistant Commissioner or a Special Relief Officer, not to an Amildar

I The Deputy Commissioner, on receiving information from the executive engineer or other D. P. W. officer of the number of relief labourers who can be entertained at a given place on a given date, will decide from what taluk or taluks the numbers are to be sent, will instruct the relief officers of the taluks accordingly, and will, if possible, appoint a civil officer to cooperate with the D P. W. officer on the new relief works

Drafting of gangs on to relief works

II. The civil relief officer in charge of a taluk, on hearing how many people he is expected to send to a relief work, will first of all select the number from the relief camp or camps in his taluk He will be careful not to draft on to relief work those who are too emaciated to do any work at all, or to benefit in health by the move In the first instance, when the gangs drafted are large, and the people have long been accustomed to gratuitous relief, there will be unwillingness to move, and timidity This must be overcome by tact and exertion The relief officer should himself march the earliest gangs to the relief work, so as to prevent any desertion by the way, or he may send them in the charge of a trusty superior official, such as the amildar. When the system is well established, and the people have confidence in the work and crowd to it instead of shrinking from it, it will be sufficient to place the party under the charge of a gangman or peon or constable, according to his discretion, and to send with him a slip of paper showing so many persons of the 1st class, so many of the 2nd, so many of the 3rd, despatched on such a day, to reach the relief work on such a day The relief officer will in either case distinguish the individuals by giving to those whom he ranks in Class 1 a paper ticket marked A, to those of Class 2 a ticket marked B, and to Class 3 a C ticket These tickets are to be delivered up to the D P W officer on arrival.

Batta or travelling allowance to labourers.

III. Batta will be given to the labourers according to the distance to be travelled If it is not more than one day's march, the best plan is to give them a meal in the morning before starting, and a meal in the evening on arrival If the distance is more than one day they should either be halted for the night at a relief camp, having an order on it for food, or else at some police station, or some village, the patel of which is known to be trustworthy, where the police officer or patel would on production of the relief Officer's order provide the party with food. The allowance should not exceed 16 oz of grain, raw or cooked, for each day. Money should not be given to the labourers themselves till they arrive

Reception of applicants by civil relief officer

IV The civil officer on the relief work should receive these labourers, and make them over to the D P. W officer When the first start has been made applicants for labour on the work should apply direct to the civil officer, who should establish a fixed place at which to receive all applicants every morning, in order to classify them and send them on to that or any other work.

Distance test.

V. In all cases the "distance test" should be enforced, tentatively and cautiously at first, more strictly afterwards People should never be sent to work close to their homes, but a little distance off. The Deputy Commissioner should enforce this test by the direction he gives as to what taluks should supply what work As a rule the labourers from a relief camp in one taluk should not be sent to a relief work in that taluk, but elsewhere; but the rule should be introduced gradually, the people being employed at first a little distance off, then when they are organized and accustomed to work in gangs, and have got to know each other and the gangman, and to have confidence in the system, they can be marched to greater distances Similarly when applicants come to the civil officer on a relief work, if the work is one stretching over some miles, he will send them to that part of it which is farthest from their homes

No applicants to be rejected.

VI The civil officer may refuse to send to the work people who are obviously unfit for relief, who wear gold ornaments, rich clothes, &c But in the present state of the province he is not authorised to refuse employment to any who apply, merely because they are fat and strong and in good condition. It is believed that the enforcement of the three conditions—

- 1 the distance test,
- 2 the wage test,
- 3 the labour test,

are sufficient to prevent the danger of the work becoming too popular.

VII The civil officer should move daily up and down the work and inspect the gangs, if he sees any falling off in condition, or any improvement, he should suggest to the P W D officer to remove them from one class to another, he should see that there is a bazar sufficiently stocked, at which food can be got at reasonable prices, he should supply the P W D officer with a statement of the price of grain at the end of each week in order that the rate of daily wage for the next week may be found from the sliding scale, he should occasionally inspect the payment of the gangs and should see that there is no speculation and no unlicensed deduction made from their wages; he should carefully watch the carrying out of the orders as to special relief to infants, to nursing mothers, and to the sick and emaciated

Constant inspection and supervision.

VIII Every civil officer in charge of a relief work will receive a permanent advance of Rs 100 to enable him to give food or money to applicants the first day they arrive on the works, and to meet any exceptional expenditure. He will send in to the Deputy Commissioner on every Monday an account of his expenditure under this head for the previous week, and also a weekly report on all points of interest and importance.

Permanent advance

X. Relief labourers should be encouraged to bring their whole families with them to the works, and relations of labourers who arrive subsequently should always be taken on, if fit for labour. Attention to this point is particularly necessary when any deterioration of the labourer's physique becomes apparent, and inquiry will probably show that he has been endeavouring to support members of his family on a wage intended only for himself. Inspecting or superintending officers will therefore be expected to watch narrowly the proportion of young children on the works and to take immediate steps when that proportion is improperly small.

Entire families to be brought on works

CHAPTER I.

Section III —Duties of the Medical Officer

I As far as circumstances permit, the Medical Department, should arrange for attaching a hospital assistant to each large work. If no other shelter is available for the medical officer, a tent or other accommodation will be provided on application.

II One or more hospital sheds should be erected as quickly as possible in a convenient locality, and provided with a sufficient number of mats, blankets, and ordinary medical comforts. An adequate supply of common medicines should be furnished by the Medical Department. The cost of the hospitals will be charged to the works, but indentments should first be passed by the Deputy Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department. Care should be taken to keep the hospitals dry and clean, and the requisite nursing and sanitary establishment will be supplied by the officer in charge of the work.

Hospital sheds

III The medical officer will be held responsible for proper arrangements for conservancy, latrines, surface drainage, and water supply at the camps and hospitals, and he should report to the officer in charge his requirements in these respects. Drinking water should be carefully guarded from contamination.

Conservancy arrangements

IV. It will be the duty of the medical officer to inspect the camps every morning. No one should be allowed to live in the camps who is not upon the works.

Inspection of camps

V The gangs of labourers will also be inspected daily, and the medical officer will point out any persons belonging to Classes I and II, who in his opinion require hospital or special treatment, paying particular attention to nursing mothers, young children, and weakly adults who are not old, decrepit, or constitutionally infirm. The inspection of Class III, those under special treatment, must be done more carefully, and separate instructions regarding this will be found in Chapter IV of this Code.

Selection of special cases

VI The sanitary Inspector of the district will regularly visit D P W and civil relief works, and submit a special report to the Additional Secretary, Famine Department, on each work visited.

APPENDIX I

No 5, dated Bangalore, 11th September 1877.

The Chief Commissioner, after consultation with the Famine Commissioner and the Chief Engineer, is pleased, in supersession to all former orders, to lay down the following scale of rates of wages on relief works, and of rates of food in relief camps, for the guidance of all officers in the Mysore Province

A.—Rates of wages on P. W. D. Relief Works.

Adult male	-	-	value of 1½ lb. of grain, plus 9 pie for condiments
„ female	-	-	„ 1 lb. „ 9 „ „
Child above 7	-	-	„ ¾ lb. „ 6 „ „
Child under 7	-	-	„ ½ lb. „ „ „

B.—Rates of Wages on Civil Relief Works.

Adult male	-	-	value of 1½ lb. of grain, plus 3 pie for condiments.
„ female	-	-	„ 1 lb. „ 3 „ „
Child above 7	-	-	„ ¾ lb. „ 2 „ „
Child under 7	-	-	„ ½ lb. „ „ „

By grain is meant grain of medium quality and of the description in ordinary use at the time of payment among the labourers on the works. The price to be taken at the retail price of the grain ruling at the head-quarters of the taluk on the previous week.

C.—Rates of cooked food in relief camps for all persons, except those who are in hospital or treated as special cases as being too infirm to labour or as being children under 7 years of age—

Adult male or female	-	1 lb. of grain, plus 3 pie worth of condiments.
Child over 7 years old	-	½ lb. of grain, plus 2 „ „

N.B.—Ordinarily ragi is to be taken as the staple grain. When ragi is not procurable, rice may be given. The same quantity is to be given in either case, whether of rice or ragi flour. The ration described for food in relief camps is the quantity of raw ragi flour or rice which each person is to get; and the officer in charge of every camp will be held responsible for seeing that the ration distributed is the quantity which the one pound or the half pound will produce after baking, or boiling, as the case may be.

The sliding scale of prices attached to this Resolution shows the amount of money wage to be given, according to the varying prices of grain, on Public Works Department or civil relief works. No wages will be given and no work exacted on any relief work on Sundays. The rate of wages laid down is intended to make provision for the Sunday's food.

A. Or Higher Sliding Wage-scale for Relief Works.

Rate of Grain per Rupee.	Adult Male			Adult Female	Child over 7	Child under
	P W D Relief Work					
	Cost of 1½ lbs.	Condiment.	Daily Wage.	P W D Wage.	P W D Wage	
14 lbs.	0 1 5	0 0 9	0 2 3	0 1 11	0 1 3	0 0 4
13½ lbs.	0 1 7	0 0 9	0 2 4	0 1 11	0 1 3	0 0 4
13 lbs.	0 1 8	0 0 9	0 2 5	0 2 0	0 1 4	0 0 4
12½ lbs.	0 1 8	0 0 9	0 2 5	0 2 0	0 1 4	0 0 4
12 lbs.	0 1 9	0 0 9	0 2 6	0 2 1	0 1 4	0 0 4
11½ lbs.	0 1 10	0 0 9	0 2 7	0 2 1	0 1 5	0 0 4
11 lbs.	0 1 11	0 0 9	0 2 8	0 2 2	0 1 5	0 0 4
10½ lbs.	0 2 0	0 0 9	0 2 9	0 2 3	0 1 6	0 0 4
10 lbs.	0 2 1	0 0 9	0 2 10	0 2 4	0 1 6	0 0 5
9½ lbs.	0 2 2	0 0 9	0 2 11	0 2 5	0 1 7	0 0 5
9 lbs.	0 2 4	0 0 9	0 3 1	0 2 6	0 1 8	0 0 5
8½ lbs.	0 2 6	0 0 9	0 3 3	0 2 8	0 1 9	0 0 6
8 lbs.	0 2 8	0 0 9	0 3 5	0 2 9	0 1 10	0 0 6
7½ lbs.	0 2 11	0 0 9	0 3 8	0 2 10	0 1 11	0 0 6
7 lbs.	0 3 1	0 0 9	0 3 10	0 3 0	0 2 0	0 0 7
6½ lbs.	0 3 3	0 0 9	0 4 0	0 3 2	0 2 1	0 0 7
6 lbs.	0 3 7	0 0 9	0 4 4	0 3 5	0 2 3	0 0 8

B. Or Lower Shding Wage-scale for Relief Works.

Rate of grain per Rupee	Adult Male			Adult Female.	Child over 7	Child under 7
	Civil Relief Work.			Civil wage	Civil wage	
	Cost of 1½ lb	Condements	Daily wage			
14 lbs	0 1 6	0 0 3	0 1 9	0 1 5	0 0 11	0 0 4
13½ lbs	0 1 7	0 0 3	0 1 10	0 1 5	0 0 11	0 0 4
13 lbs.	0 1 8	0 0 3	0 1 11	0 1 6	0 1 0	0 0 4
12½ lbs	0 1 8	0 0 3	0 1 11	0 1 6	0 1 0	0 0 4
12 lbs	0 1 9	0 0 3	0 2 0	0 1 7	0 1 0	0 0 4
11½ lbs	0 1 10	0 0 3	0 2 1	0 1 7	0 1 1	0 0 4
11 lbs.	0 1 11	0 0 3	0 2 2	0 1 8	0 1 1	0 0 4
10½ lbs.	0 2 0	0 0 3	0 2 3	0 1 9	0 1 2	0 0 4
10 lbs	0 2 1	0 0 3	0 2 4	0 1 10	0 1 2	0 0 5
9½ lbs	0 2 2	0 0 3	0 2 5	0 1 11	0 1 3	0 0 5
9 lbs	0 2 4	0 0 3	0 2 7	0 2 0	0 1 4	0 0 5
8½ lbs	0 2 6	0 0 3	0 2 9	0 2 2	0 1 5	0 0 6
8 lbs	0 2 8	0 0 3	0 2 11	0 2 3	0 1 6	0 0 6
7½ lbs	0 2 11	0 0 3	0 3 2	0 2 4	0 1 7	0 0 6
7 lbs	0 3 1	0 0 3	0 3 4	0 2 6	0 1 8	0 0 7
6½ lbs	0 3 3	0 0 3	0 3 6	0 2 8	0 1 9	0 0 7
6 lbs	0 3 7	0 0 3	0 3 10	0 2 11	0 1 11	0 0 8

APPENDIX II.

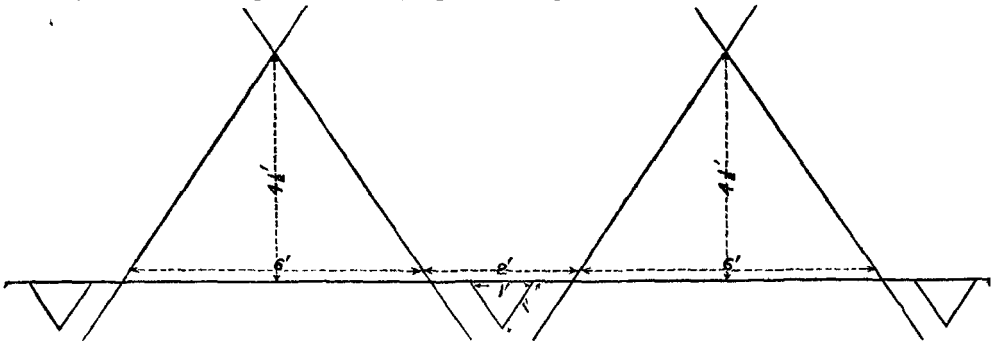
CIRCULAR 19—For the Guidance of Officers in Charge of Poor Relief Works

Mysore Public Works Department, Central Office,
Bangalore, 17th September 1877.

The first day's work for the poor-relief party must be hutting themselves. We do not want palatial residences such as the inhabitants never had in their own villages, nor any contractors to build huts and send in large bills. The workpeople must hut themselves; all that should be supplied being the materials that they could not readily procure.

2. The designs of these huts may vary largely. Executive engineers will probably have their own ideas about them, and within certain limits of economy, convenience, and sanitation, there is no reason why they should not follow these ideas. The following is suggested, not ordered, as a form of hut which after experience has been found to answer well.

The hut is 9' x 6' ground area; 4½' high at the ridge.



Its framework consists of two pairs of light bamboos stuck into the ground 6' apart and tied together where they cross, and a fifth bamboo used as ridge pole. The sides consist each of a bamboo matting 6' x 5½'. A third matting of the same size is bent over the top. The upper portion then is double, the lower single matting. The latter may be tarred, or covered wattle and dab fashion with a mixture of earth and cowdung.

3. If the site of the camp is soft or cultivated soil, the flooring of the hut should be raised one foot, but if it is hard untilled land this will not be necessary; only precautions

must be taken to keep the camp drained, and the huts dry. Each hut of this description should hold a family (say man, woman, and three children); or, if the labourers are not in families, three adults. They should be placed two feet apart, and arranged in regular streets 50 feet wide, with cross streets at intervals. Between two parallel streets there would always be two rows of huts back to back, with about 15' to 20' between them. Each hut should cost about Rs. 3. The camp should be of course near the work, and with people so weakened, we must give them every chance by selecting a good site for it.

4. The Executive engineer is begged to remember that our object is twofold to get some return for the money Government does not grudge to lay out on saving human life, and also to raise a people demoralised by long pauperism and idleness, and to rally them back into the ranks of working men and women. He must not, therefore, hesitate to enter into little particulars, and to bestow accurate attention on matters that in an ordinary way would never come before him.

5. The water supply must be carefully seen to. Wherever possible it should be from above not below the camp, and wells must be sunk in convenient situations should there be no tanks or streams available for drinking purposes. Conservancy must be closely attended to. The best form for latrine is merely a long trench for each sex, dug daily one foot deep, and daily filled in, at a distance of not less than 500 feet to leeward of the camp, and well removed from the water supply. It will be very difficult to make the people use these trenches, but every effort should be made, and if necessary police stationed to enforce it.

6. Colonel Sankey's design for hospitals should be adhered to, and one or more built at every camp of above 500 people. Executive engineers must use their best judgment in selecting good sites for these. Where it is possible a medical subordinate will be attached to each large camp. Further instructions will be issued as to the special treatment of the more weakly ones who are sent to the works.

7. In anticipation of large works beginning, Executive engineers should look out for suitable head coolies fit to take charge of gangs of say 50 labourers. Over four such gangs there should be a mustering officer able to keep a nominal roll in vernacular, which is a necessary part of this system. Over every four or five of these mustering headmen there should be a sub-overseer. In beginning any new work the payments must be made daily, although, perhaps, only for the first few days. Executive engineers must see that suitable cashiers are present.

C. S. MONCRIEFF, Major R.E.,
Officiating Chief Engineer of Mysore.

APPENDIX

RULES for the Information and Guidance of those entrusted with the Sanitary Arrangements in the Famine Districts

1. As soon as it is decided to concentrate a large body of labourers at any one place, a site for their encampment should be immediately selected. The points to be remembered in selecting a site are the following —

Proximity to drinking water-supply,

Do. to the works where the men will be engaged,

Facilities for procuring fuel and provisions;

Do. for making field latrines;

Do. for surface drainage and provision, that the site, if epidemic disease breaks out, will not be a source of danger to villages in the neighbourhood.

2. The site must be in every case below, and not above, the source of drinking water-supply, to which it should not approach nearer than 300 yards. Elevated ground at a distance from nullahs should, if possible, be chosen. If there is a grove of trees in the neighbourhood, the encampment may be made under them. If there is only an open plain, arrangements, according to the material available, must be made to hut the people. Grass for tattles may not be procurable, but it may be possible to make open sheds with branches of trees. If no other means are at hand, cumbly tents must be rigged up, supported (if there is no wood to make uprights) by stones. One man should give his cumbly for this purpose, and his comrade should reserve his for covering both at night. These temporary habitations should be erected in straight lines, and the

greatest care must be taken to prevent aggregation of too great numbers together in one spot, or in huts. There should not be more than 20 individuals in one block, and no encampment should be allowed to contain more than 500 individuals all told. If a second or a greater number of encampments are necessary they should be in the same line as each other, but separated by at least a quarter of a mile from one another.

3 The accompanying diagram shows how an encampment for 5,000 persons should be laid out. In the front line there are five blocks, in each of which 20 individuals are to be located, this number of blocks should not be exceeded. Each block is separated from the next block in the same line by 50 feet, and by 100 feet from the next line, which, however, is not located exactly behind it, but the first hut in the second line is placed opposite the open space, intervening between the two huts in the front line, and so on. The huts should face north and south. There should be also two huts erected on the flanks of the lines, one for the storage of grain, the other for storage of fuel. Of course, these should be under a guard.

4 If it is possible, a raised platform about 1 foot high and consisting of stones below and well-rammed earth above, should be provided for the huts, or cumbly tents to be pitched upon. A surface-trench should be cut along the front and rear of each row. Fireplaces should not be allowed within the lines for fear of the huts catching fire, but should be placed at the head of each line to leeward, and at a distance of 100 feet, and to economise fuel the food for the occupants of each line should be cooked at one time.

5 A site at a distance from any well or water-supply, and not nearer than 300 yards, should be chosen to leeward of the lines for the latrines. Whenever the soil will admit of it, a trench more than 6 inches deep should be dug every day in a straight line. For 500 men there should be two trenches of 100 feet each. The men should be ordered after defaecation to throw some of the earth excavated from the trench into it, but a baidar must be constantly in attendance to cover the ordure with earth. Nullahs must on no account be used for latrines. If the soil is rocky and will not permit the excavation of a trench, or if there is not sufficient earth for the purpose, the people must be allowed to ease themselves in a selected spot to leeward of, and not nearer than, 400 yards to the lines. The ordure must be collected and thrown into a pit dug as deep as may be possible, and covered every day with ashes procured from the *chulas*, or from the burning of *cutchra* collected in the lines.

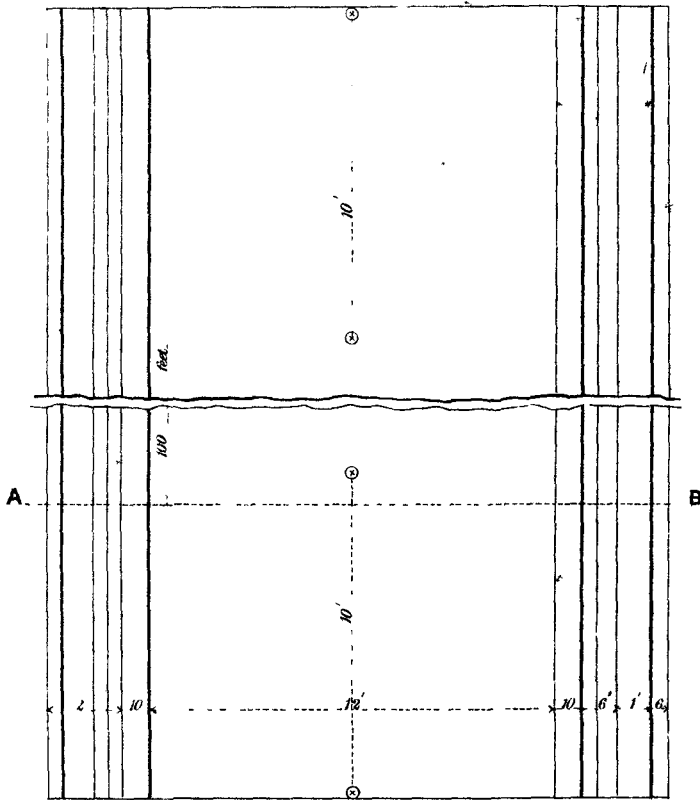
6 The medical subordinate's first care should be to place a guard over the drinking water-supply, to allow no person to go down into it, to allow no washing of vessels, persons, or animals near it, to see that there is an efficient drain to carry away the wastage water, which should be preserved for the use of animals, which, however, should not be allowed to approach nearer than 200 feet of well. Every effort must be made to economise the supply of water. If it runs very short, the people must be put on an allowance. "In health, an adult requires about 70 to 100 ozs ($3\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 pints) of water for nutrition, but about 20 or 30 ozs of these are contained in the bread, meat, &c of the food, and the remainder is taken in some form of liquid"—(Park's Hygiene). Oxen usually drink about 5 gallons of water, but they should not be allowed to drink from the same source as the men. Great care must be taken to see that the ground all round the well is kept scrupulously clean. If there is no pavement, it can be roughly paved with loose stones if such are found in the neighbourhood. If the encampment is likely to be permanent for some months, drawing wheels with iron buckets and iron chains might with advantage be fixed round well, instead of allowing the people to use ropes.

7 The medical subordinate should get the men from one village huddled together in the lines, each of which should be named according to the village. He must make arrangements for serving out water, fuel, provisions, and, if necessary, clothing, to the occupants of each hut. It is feared that there will be a great scarcity of fuel, but gangs of labourers must be told off to collect what is obtainable, and to bring it to the hut for storage, and the medical subordinate must arrange for serving it out in allotted quantities. The greatest care must be taken to economise it. Another gang of men should be organised for the purpose of keeping every individual hut, its surroundings, and the lines clean. All surface filth must be swept up not later than by 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. every day. This work should be superintended by a peon. The latrines should be placed in the charge of the Mukadam, with a peon under him. All ordure must be covered in as soon as passed. The trenches should be made for one day in advance of what is required, but each day's ordure must be covered in before nightfall. Any person easing himself in any other than the allotted place should be summarily dealt with and punished.

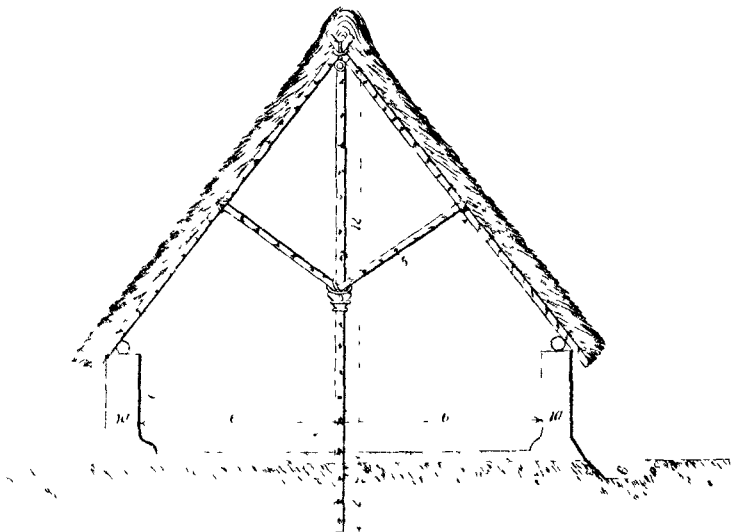
RELIEF CAMP SHED

SUITABLE FOR A HOSPITAL.

Scale 4 feet to an Inch



Section on A B



Чудас
Yo 1 Line

100

30 men

80

20 men

80

20 men

80

20 men

80

20 men

80

Чудас
Yo 2 Line

10

20 men

80

20 men

100

20 men

80

20 men

80

Чудас
Yo 3 Line

100

30 men

80

20 men

80

20 men

80

20 men

80

20 men

80

Чудас
Yo 4 Line

100

30 men

80

20 men

80

20 men

80

20 men

80

20 men

80

Чудас
Yo 5 Line

100

30 men

80

20 men

80

20 men

80

20 men

80

20 men

80

100 yards

20 men
Bayar

100

20 men
Bayar

100

20 men
Bayar

100

CHAPTER II

Civil Relief Works

I Civil relief works are intended to be used under three circumstances—

(1) When the applicants for labour are numerous, and there is no relief works under the public works department available for sending them to

When civil relief works are to be used

(2) When the relief work is a long way off and the applicants are unaccustomed to labour, it may be advisable then to employ them for a time on a civil relief work not too far from home, and when they are organized into gangs and accustomed to the system of work, then to march them off to the larger relief work

(3) As a means of giving light out-of-door work to the old and decrepit and those who are too infirm to be included in Class 2 and sent to the Public Works Department

II No work is suitable to be used as a civil relief work unless it will employ 300 people for at least a month, each project of this class must receive separate sanction, a brief report of its character and estimate of its cost being sent up by the Deputy Commissioner, and special sanction must be given before work is begun upon it. But on any emergency or sudden rush of labour, Deputy Commissioners have authority to open works of this kind which have been previously sanctioned, reporting the same at once to the Additional Secretary, Famine Department

Standard for civil relief works

III Each work of this class must be placed under a responsible and well paid civil officer holding a permanent appointment, and not lower in rank than an inspector of police or peshkar, who will reside permanently on the spot and will be personally responsible for seeing that the labourers are properly treated and paid and tasked as far as their strength goes

Supervision

IV The rules laid down for the organization of a P W D relief work apply generally to the organization of a civil relief work. There should be one register-keeper or mutsaddi over the work, who should keep a nominal roll of the labourers and take the daily attendance. They should be divided into gangs of about 40 or 50 under one head cooly (an office which may with advantage be given to a Brahman or Lungayat or other high-caste man in distress). They should be huttod on the work, and the huts and camps be of the pattern directed by the chief engineer. Their rate of pay will be the lower or B scale, and will be paid them as a rule twice a week, unless it is found necessary to pay three times a week or even daily. The civil officer will see that there is a sufficient bazar for them to procure supplies at, and will be responsible generally for their condition as in Chapter I. No medical officer will ordinarily be attached to a civil relief work. But the sanitary inspector will visit the work, and any who fall sick will be sent in to the nearest hospital, which will generally be the one attached to the Taluk relief camp. Task work to the amount of at least 50 per cent of an ordinary task will be exacted from all able-bodied labourers who may be sent to the relief work under the circumstances described in para I clauses (1) and (2), and the condiment portion of their wage may if, necessary, be cut as a punishment, but this must be done with great caution and after much patience, and should at once be reported by the officer in charge to his superior relief officer. From the old and decrepit labourers described in para I, clause (3), no task can be exacted

Organization.

V The amildar of the taluk will visit the relief work at least once a week, and the superior relief officer in charge of the sub-division should visit it as often as possible and at unexpected times, should count the men on the works and compare them with the nominal register, should see them paid, and inquire if they have any complaints; and both these officials should record the results of inspection in their diaries

Inspection by superior officers

VI The rules for special treatment are applicable in their entirety to civil relief works

Special treatment.

VII The officer in charge of the relief work will draw up every Sunday a statement (Appendix No V) for the week ending the preceding Saturday, showing the number of persons and the expenditure on the work, and will forward it in duplicate to the amildar, who will send one copy to the Additional Secretary, Famine Department, direct, and one copy to his district or sub-division officer

Weekly returns

APPENDIX V

Report on Civil Relief Works for the Taluk of
of Saturday the

for the Week ending
1877.

Name of work	Total Amount sanctioned for Work.	Amount expended to date of this report	Total Number of Labourers employed during week.			Rate of Daily Payment.	Price of Grain, on which Pigs are consumed.	Total Expenditure on 1 st hour	Establishment on work.			Materials bought and employed.		Number of children under 7	Number of women taking care of them	Expenditure on children	Total amount in columns 15 and 16	Total expenditure during the week	Name of officer in direct charge.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.	Children above 7				Nature of Office.	Rate of Pay.	Cost.	Description of Materials.	Cost							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
						Men Women Children	A P			Writers Accountants, &c.										

Note.—In columns 4, 5, 6, 15, 16, the gross total numbers for the 6 days are to be given, the averages will be struck in the Secretariat Office

CHAPTER III

Relief Camps.

I. The relief camp is intended to provide temporarily for those who are able to work, and permanently (that is as long as they require it) for those who are sick and unable to do any considerable amount of work through old age and infirmity

Temporary population

II. The temporary cases are those where applicants come for labour, and the relief officer is not able at the time to provide them with labour, he must not turn them away, but must relieve them in the camp and work them there till he can draft them on to a relief work. The relief camp may also be used as a rest-house for gang^{men} on their way to a relief work, who come with an order from the relief officer entitling them to food and shelter for the night. There is further the case of the emigrants' rest-houses which will be treated separately.

Resident population.

III The permanent cases are those who are not so decrepit and bedridden as to require village relief; but who are not fit to be sent on to a relief work, or to look after themselves and cook for themselves. They are the least efficient portion of those who are not fit to be put into Class II. They include those who are in bad health, but not ill enough to be put into hospital, and those who are convalescents, and have just left hospital.

The ration of food.

IV Nothing but cooked food is given at relief camps, the ration being 1 lb of rice or of ragi flour plus 3 pie worth of condiments for an adult, and half the quantity for a child over 7 plus 2 pies. The chapter on Special Treatment applies equally to special cases in relief camps. No raw rations are permitted. The daily food is given in two meals, morning and evening, at about 7 a.m. and 5 p.m.

V The two conditions on which food is given at a relief camp are residence and work For this reason the camp must be enclosed, and admission or exit only be possible by a gate at which a guard is constantly posted Sufficient accommodation must be provided inside for the usual population of the camp, with a margin over for any exceptional influx. Every person in the camp must be put to some work however slight, except those who are actually sick The feeblest old woman can spin a little thread, and others can carry a light basket of sand to throw on the floor, or card cotton, or pick wool, and those who are a little stronger can collect and break stones For the sake of their own health and spirits and self respect, it is better they should do this than that they should sit idle all day Conditions of relief

VI The establishment should consist of paupers as far as possible The only paid officials should be the superintendent, the accountant, and the hospital assistant, but 1 rupee per month may be paid to the overseers and to the head cook in addition to food. Carpenters and blacksmiths if required may be called in and paid in cash, but all other servants of the camp should be paid in food; or in raw grain if their caste requires it, and should, as far as possible, be appointed from among the paupers themselves, not from outside Established.

VII The duty of the superintendent is general supervision He is responsible for examining the supply of grain received from the contractor, testing its quantity and quality, and entering it in the stock register; also for seeing that it is securely kept in a safe chamber under a good lock or sufficient guard He is bound to be always present at feeding time, to see that the food is well cooked and the amount of it correct; to see that the paupers are properly organized into gangs and parties, are set to work at labour suitable to their capacities and do a sufficient quantity of the work; and that all members of the establishment do their duty punctually and thoroughly He will muster the establishment every day and record their attendance in a register, the form of which will be found at the end of this Chapter He will also receive daily from the taluk relief officer all new admissions, will assort them into gangs, and see that their names are entered by the overseer on his muster roll The superintendent.

VIII The accountant must always be a member of the amildar's permanent establishment, and must be selected for this work because of his special qualifications, a temporary officiating man filling his place. He has to keep up the returns and registers, the forms of which are given in the Appendix at the end of this Chapter. They consist of— The accountant.

- (1) The stock register of rice, &c. detailed.
- (2) The daily register of paupers fed in the relief camp.
- (3) The daily abstract statement of paupers fed in the relief camp.
- (4) The pay register of establishment
- (5) The cash book and register of contingent expenditure.

The manner in which each of these statements is prepared is explained in a note at the foot of the statement.

IX The overseer will keep the nominal register (the form of which is given at the end of this Chapter) of the paupers in the camp. If there are more than four hundred a second overseer may be appointed. He should ordinarily be a respectable literate inhabitant of the taluk, Muhammadan or Brahman or of other good caste, who is in distressed circumstance and is glad to do the work for a payment of one rupee, plus half as much again as the daily ration, which may be given raw. He will marshal the people in the morning to the early meal, and will take the roll call while it is being eaten When it is taken he will write out a slip in the following form and make it over to the accountant. The Overseer

Attendance		morning of the		of	
Name of gangman.	Men	Women	Children	Total.	Total No. of lbs of grain.

During the day he will supervise the work of the gangs, either generally or any particular set of gangs, as the superintendent may direct In the evening he will again marshal the people to the evening meal, and take the roll call and give a slip to the accountant in the same form as in the morning

Organisation of gangs

X. The gangs are to be organised according to their capacity for work, and also, where necessary, according to their caste, provided they are not thereby split up into too small numbers. If the numbers are small, persons of good caste can be allowed to sit a little apart in working and eating from the other members of the gang, and can have a portion of the shed walled off for them, while still continuing to be numbered in the gang. The number of a gang should usually be about 40 or 50, when the work is sedentary, like spinning or stonebreaking, it may be more, when the labourers are scattered over a large space, as on stone collecting, it should be less. The gangsmen or head cooly should ordinarily be a respectable illiterate resident of the taluk in distressed circumstances, who is glad to accept the post for the wages of a ration half as large again as the ordinary one, *i.e.*, $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs of grain, which may be given raw. The organization of the gangs should be kept as uniform as possible, so that people may know their work and their place and each other, they should sleep in the same shed, eat meals in the same place, and after meals go together to the same work in the same place, as nearly as possible.

Mensal establishment

XI This establishment, which consists of cooks, water-carriers, rice-cleaners or grinders, guards, and sweepers, should be kept down to a moderate strength, and should, as far as possible, be recruited from the paupers of the kitchen, or from respectable people of the taluk who are in distressed circumstances. As a rule they should be paid in grain, which may be given raw if desired, at the rate of $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs., or for the most onerous task 2 lbs. a day, but where the numbers are large the head cook may in addition receive Re. 1 per mensem. The number of each class of servants should be arranged on a sliding scale in proportion to the number of paupers to be attended to. The number of cooks should probably be about 1 per cent, but more may be required where rice is cooked than where ragi, and where the resident population is very feeble more persons must be entertained to carry and distribute the cooked food than where there are able-bodied paupers who can be so employed. The number of water-women and of sweepers should be about the same as the cooks. But for the sick in hospital probably one sweeper will be required for 25 patients. The occupation of rice-cleaning or ragi-grinding is one that can be suitably given to women of respectable castes, two women in good health should easily grind 30 seers of ragi a day, or enough for 60 adults; but if they are enfeebled, then two relays of two women each should be allowed for each mill. It is not intended in these rules to tie officers down to a too rigid uniformity, but every superintendent and taluk relief officer is expected to do all in his power to combine efficiency with economy.

Orphans

XII The orphans and children deserted by their parents should be formed into a separate gang (or, if necessary, two gangs of boys and girls separately) and clothed in a distinct uniform. As soon as preparations can be made to receive them they should all be sent in to the relief camp at the district head-quarters and not kept in outlying camps. The disposal of these orphans is in the hands of government, and no officer is entitled to make any of them over to any society or private person without the special sanction of the Famine Commissioner.

Reception of applicants for relief

XIII In front of and near the door of each relief camp an enclosure shall be railed off in which all fresh applicants for relief shall be received, whether they present themselves voluntarily, or are sent in by the circle inspectors or other relief officers. In this place some superior relief officer shall attend at a fixed hour every day, either the special relief officer of the taluk, or the village relief officer, or the amildar, or in the absence of all of these the peshkar, to receive the applicants and either forward them to a relief work or admit them into the relief camp.

The medical officer

XIV There shall be a medical officer attached to each relief camp. He will be responsible for seeing that all the requirements of a hospital are provided, and that the sheds are dry and ventilated. He will send in to the superintendent a daily return showing the number of sick in hospital, the daily admissions, discharges, and deaths. He will constantly go round and inspect the residents in the camp, and carry out in regard to these all the instructions contained in the chapter on special treatment.

Travellers' rest-houses.

XV On certain roads along which emigrants travel to and from the coffee districts it is considered necessary still to keep up places at which they can be fed. At these places the conditions of residence and work will not be insisted on. Two meals will be cooked a day, morning and evening, those who arrive in the evening will receive a meal, and shelter in a shed for the night, and will be sent on next day after receiving a second meal in the morning. The superintendent is responsible for seeing that they eat the meal in his presence and do not carry it away, and that this indulgence

is granted only to *bona fide* travellers who are in want. The taluk relief officer will pay a special attention to the dining-places, will endeavour to dissuade feeble and emaciated persons from emigrating, and offer them employment on a relief work, and if the number becomes at all considerable, he will report the facts to the Deputy Commissioner of the district. The superintendent will add to his daily abstract register a note showing number of people going to the coffee districts and number of people returning from the coffee districts.

XVI An inspection book will be kept up at each relief camp, in which inspecting officers will record remarks and orders.

Inspection book.

Superintendent's Statement —I Attendance Roll of Establishment

No	Name of Official.	Office.	Attendance.																																	
			1st.	2nd.	3rd.	4th.	5th.	6th.	7th.	8th.	9th.	10th.	11th.	12th.	13th.	14th.	15th.	16th.	17th.	18th.	19th.	20th.	21st.	22nd.	23rd.	24th.	25th.	26th.	27th.	28th.	29th.	30th.	31st.			

Accountant's Statement I

Stock Register

Relief Camp

Date													Signature of Superintendent																						
	Ragi	Rice	Dal	Salt	Tamarind	Onions	Coriander	Turneric	Garlic	Pepper	Cumin seed	Mustard		Ghee	Onions.	Vegetables	Wood																		
	Balance in hand	-	-																																Enter here to whom issued
	Issued	-	-	-																															Enter here from whom received.
	Balance in Store	-	-	-																															
	Received from Contractor																																		
	Total in Store	-	-	-																															

The Accountant will each day in the evening enter the quantity in lbs. of each article issued and received, and the balance in store at the end of the day. The issues and receipts will be attested by the signature of the Superintendent.

Accountant's Statement II —Detailed Daily Return of Paupers fed in Relief Camp

Date	Name of Gangman	Nature and Employment of Gang	Adults		Children	Total.	Total Number of lbs. of food.
			M				

(One page to be given to each day. This statement gives the details by gangs, and at the bottom the total should be struck

Overseer's Nominal Roll

Name of Gangeman	Name of Labourer, with father's or husband's name	Residence.	Caste,	Attendance														
				16th	17th	18th	19th	20th	21st.	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	26th	27th	28th	29th	30th

CHAPTER IV

I The selecting from the ordinary labourers, and the setting apart of those who are reduced by prolonged innutrition, is a most important part of the relief system. The duty of making the selection belongs (Chap I, sec II) to the civil relief officer, or, in his default, to the P. W. D. officer. But either officer in performing the task should act in concert with and under the advice of the medical officer, whose part it is to indicate what treatment he considers necessary.

Special treatment ordinary the duty of the civil relief officer.

II The following are the principal classes into which the cases under special treatment may be divided:—

(a) Nursing mothers who are themselves weak, or who have weakly or very young babies, may get the higher rate of pay (scale A) and light work

Classification of cases

(b) Thin babies may, in addition to their usual nourishment, be supplied with milk once or twice a day

(c) Young children, *i.e.*, those under 12 years of age, who are emaciated may—

(1) be fed instead of being paid. They will, in this case, become out-patients of the hospital.

(2) get a morning meal of rice and milk, or conjee, in addition to the lower wage (scale B)

(3) for a few days be treated in any manner the officer in charge, in the exercise of a wise and cautious discretion, deems proper

The practical difficulty in dealing with young children is that their parents sometimes neglect them, or deprive them of the food given them; hence the rule is necessary that all food given to children should be eaten in the presence of the relief officer.

The women placed in charge of the young children belonging to the special treatment class must be very carefully chosen, and the relief officer must see that they wash the children in warm or cold water, as may be most suitable, and attend closely to their feeding, comfort, and cleanliness

(d) Young and middle-aged adults, reduced or emaciated by want, may get the higher wage (scale A), and be put to nominal work for a week or so till they gain strength. As a rule, further treatment is unnecessary, if it is necessary, then the patient is probably a fit subject for the hospital

(e) Any further treatment required is provided for by the discretionary grant allowed the officer in charge of the work. All wages paid to the special treatment class should be paid daily, or three times a week

III The amount of special treatment and its results should be reported upon fortnightly, in the form shown in the margin, by the officer who is responsible for the special treatment to his immediate superior, who will submit the report with his opinion to the Famine Commissioner or the Chief Engineer, as the case may be. As a rule, the Government rates of pay with light work will meet all ordinary cases of distress. But it is impossible to lay down rules for every case, and much of the success of the treatment will depend upon constant and careful selection, and upon the humane exertions of the officer in charge. On the one hand, no effort is to be wanting to relieve distress and check mortality, on the other, unnecessary indulgence should be avoided, and a due economy observed.

General remarks.

Fortnightly Report on Special Treatment

Name of work.	Fortnight ending Saturday the	No under Special Treatment		Children	
		Men	Women.	Over 7	Under 7
1	2	3	4	5	6

Cost of Special Treatment

Paid in wages (Cash)	Cost of food	Total.	Remarks.
7	8	9	10

In this Register (A) no one must be entered who is capable of doing any kind of labour on a relief work or in a relief camp, only the bedridden, the cripples, the very infirm, blind, and such cases should be on this register, which entitles these to receive relief at their home, and then only provided that they have no other means of support and no able-bodied relatives in a position to assist them. To such, 1 lb of raw grain may be given daily to an adult, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb to a child above 12, and $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. to a young child. The food should usually be given in the presence of the circle inspector, the village officers, and two respectable inhabitants, and the quantity given on each occasion should therefore be sufficient to last the recipients till the next visit of the inspector. A separate Register (B) for such persons should be kept by the Shanbhog in the form given in the margin (*below*), and each entry in this should be signed by the parties witnessing the distribution. To meet this small expenditure a petty advance of money, not exceeding a month's salary, may be allowed the circle inspector. The superior relief officers on visiting a village will invariably examine the people registered and sign the Registers A and B.

Village Register B.

Name of Recipient	No in Register A	Amount of Daily Ration to which entitled.	Amount given by Circle Inspector	Date	Witnesses

V The village Patel, with the help of the Shanbhog, should also complete a list of those very poor persons who are able to leave the village, but who have not done so. To people on this list food will not be allowed in the village, but the circle inspector will give them a ticket to present to the place fixed for applicants at the Taluk Head-quarter Relief Camp, whence they will be sent either to a relief work or to a relief camp. The circle inspector must not allow them to remain in the village. If it is a day's journey to the taluk head-quarters, the circle inspector will give them either grain or money to buy one day's food, entering the disbursement in column 6 of Register C, and procuring the signatures of two witnesses to the transaction. Ordinary able-bodied labourers will not be entered in this list, which is intended to show that the village officer is aware of any cases of special poverty in his village. At every succeeding inspection the circle inspector will inquire whether any of the people entered on this list who were sent away have returned, and whether there are any others in the village who ought to be entered on it and sent to a relief work or relief camp accordingly.

Treatment of persons in distress able to leave the village

Village Register C.

Date	Number	Name	Age	Sex	Remarks showing date on which they are sent to the Taluk Relief Officer, and whether absent or present in the Village on subsequent inspections
1	2	3	4	5	

Columns 1 to 5 will be filled up by the shanbhog

Column 6 by the circle inspector on his visits.

VI The death of any person on Register (A) must be reported by the circle inspector to the special relief officer, who will enter the total number in his weekly report.

Deaths

Deaths
Duties of circle
inspectors

VII. The first duty of the circle inspector or of an inspecting officer visiting a village is to go carefully through the village house by house, the inspection being made more searching in the poorer quarters and among the lower and Pariah castes. Cases of people of good position in ascertained distress, such as of pardah or high caste women, and any suffering among particular classes, should be specially reported upon to the special relief officer of the taluk. The able-bodied asking for assistance, or who appear in need of relief, should be directed to the public works, and sent with a letter to the head-quarters of the taluk for an order admitting to the works. The results of the inspection should be compared with the Registers (A), (B), (C), and if necessary the registers should be corrected by striking off names improperly entered or adding those omitted. The inspector lastly should satisfy himself that all on Register (A) really in need of relief get relief, and that none on Register (C) are allowed to return and starve quietly in the village.

Professional
beggars, &c

VIII. Professional beggars well able to earn their living, religious mendicants, and the like are not to be relieved; nor are people able to help themselves to be needlessly interfered with.

Wanderers and
pauper tra-
vellers

IX. If, when travelling, a pauper or distressed wanderer is met, the circle inspector will take him to the nearest village or have him carried there. Wanderers so brought or arriving in any other way will be fed once by the village officer in the presence of two respectable villagers, and then forwarded to the nearest relief camp under proper escort, with a report, signed also by the two villagers, giving the circumstances of the case.

Registers to be
kept by circle
inspectors.

X. The circle inspector must keep up two statements of expenditure, the one corresponding to Register A, and showing the number relieved in grain in each village, and in accordance with this statement he will be enabled to draw weekly on the amildar's treasury for the weekly value of grain to be distributed; the other, showing particulars of the casual expenditure, advances to paupers on Register C, to wanderers, &c

Circle Inspector's Register I.

Village.	Number of People on Village Register A.	Quantity of duty grain to which they are entitled.	Quantity distributed by Inspector during week.	Value of grain.

Circle Inspector's Register II.

Date.	Particulars of Expenditure.	Total.

Advance to
village officers.

XI. To provide for wanderers Deputy Commissioners are authorised to deposit a sum, not exceeding Rs 5, with the village officers of any village where circumstances call for the grant. As the money is spent bills should be drawn on the Amildar, after two respectable inhabitants have countersigned the vouchers.

APPENDIX.

Famine. No. 66.

To the PRESIDENT, Municipal Commission, Bangalore

Mysore, Chief Commissioner's Office,

Bangalore, 26th September 1877.

I am desired by the Chief Commissioner to say that, after consultation with the Famine Commissioner, he has decided that the following arrangements should be made for the relief of distress in the town of Bangalore

2 Under the orders of the Government of India, all open kitchens, at which paupers receive food which they can take away uneaten, or which they can eat and depart, must be abolished. The pettah kitchen has therefore to be closed as soon as possible, and it remains to make proper arrangements for the people who have hitherto been fed at this place

3 Those people consist of four classes. First, paupers who have crowded in from the village and from other districts, of these the able-bodied will be removed to relief works, and the infirm and sick alone retained in the hospitals and in the Siledar lines. Secondly the townspeople, these are (1) sick, (2) able-bodied and accustomed to labour, (3) able-bodied, but unaccustomed to manual labour and earthwork, only to some trade such as weaving, tailoring, working in leather, &c., (4) infirm and unable through old age or bodily weakness to earn their bread. The two former classes will be provided for at the hospitals and on the relief works, the two latter should be cared for by the Municipal Committee in the manner I am now to describe

4 The town and cantonment should be divided by you into portions, the size of which must be regulated by the number of houses inhabited by members of the two classes referred to, as a rule, there should not be more than 100 of such houses in each beat or portion. These beats should then be put under the charge of some one gentleman who will undertake to perform the duty required of him, and who will be called the inspector of the beat. His duty is to make a house-to-house visitation of his beat to ascertain what persons in the beat are either infirm (Class 4) or fit for other than manual labour (Class 3), and to prepare a register of them. He will give to each person who is too infirm to labour in any way, and yet not sick so as to be a fit case for hospital, a ticket with a number on it (corresponding to the number in his register), which shall entitle that person to receive 1 lb of rice a day from a grain-merchant in the neighbourhood, who is to be fixed on by the inspector of the beat with your concurrence. He should make out a separate register of such grain recipients in the form annexed, and will revise it every week, and every Monday he should give an order on the grain merchant showing how many lbs of rice he is entitled to supply every day. The distribution of rice to ticket-holders should take place at a fixed time every morning. Either the inspector or some municipal officer should, if possible, be present at the distribution to see that there is no fraud, and that the infirm persons receive their dole in an orderly and seemly way

5 The inspectors of beats will be expected to visit their beats weekly, and the tickets for grain must be renewed every week by them; or the grain-merchant will not be authorised to serve out the grain to the ticket-holders

6 To those persons who belong to some trade and are unable through poverty to carry on their trade, the means of doing so should be given, cotton should be supplied for women to spin, yarn or wool for weavers to weave, leather for shoemakers, and so on, exacting from each of them the return of a due quantity of the manufactured article at the end of the week, which Government will buy from them at a fixed remunerative price. It seems best that this, which is a technical and difficult task, should be performed by a special official, to be called the distributor of work, one such official will probably be sufficient for the pettah and one for the cantonment. The inspectors of beats will send to the distributor of work every Monday all persons belonging to the classes above described, who are not accustomed to manual labour, giving to each a slip showing number of beat, number of house on inspector's register, and name of ticket-holder, but care must be taken to discriminate, the weavers, for instance, who have been working on the Sampangi tank have now become good labourers and should not be set to loom work again, which is much more difficult to supervise. If a volunteer can be procured for this office so much the better, if not, a paid official may be appointed. It is impossible to specify beforehand what the details of the transaction which the distributor of work will have to supervise should be, what quantity should be exacted of any kind of work, at what price it should be paid for, or how Government should dispose of it. Experience will soon provide a set of rules on these points; and,

in all probability, the Charitable Committee will be able to take the cloth woven or the shoes made, &c. off your hands, and to distribute them to orphans and to other fit objects of charity

7. The Chief Commissioner confidently hopes that every member of the Municipal Committee will be willing to take a beat and to carry out this house-to-house inspection. In case there should be more beats than committee members you should enlist the services of volunteers, applying first to the members of the Charitable Relief Committee to see if any of them are ready to assist you, and afterwards to native gentlemen of good repute in the city. When your arrangements are complete, you are requested to report the number of beats and the names of the inspectors of each. Your own duties should be confined to testing a percentage (not less than 5 per cent) of the houses in each beat, to see that the work of visiting is thoroughly done, and the aid given is given with judgment and discrimination.

8. When the registers are prepared and the system is ready to be introduced, a day should be fixed after which no more relief in the shape of cooked food will be given to any one who does not enter the relief camp and abide by its discipline. That day should not be more than a fortnight hence, and the Chief Commissioner relies on your energy and experience to secure the due and rapid carrying out of these orders.

9. The form suggested for the registers required for the working of this system are appended, and printed copies will be immediately supplied to you by the press.

General Register of Houses requiring relief in Beat No. _____

Inspector of Beat _____

No of House.	Name of Recipient of relief in grain	Name of Recipient of relief in materials for work	

Grain Register.

No of House.	No of Ticket.	Name of Recipient.	Daily Amount of Grain.			
			Week 1st Oct. 1 to 7	Week 2nd, Oct. 8 to 14	Week 3rd, Oct. 15 to 21	Week 4th, Oct. 22 to 29
		Total Amount payable by Bunnah				

Weekly Order on _____, Grain-dealer, from Inspector of Beat No. _____

Pay to _____ to _____ ticket-holder No. _____, lbs of rice from 1877.

Signed _____

Register of Relief to Professional Artizans.

(A) Cotton yarn for weaving.

Week, October 1st to 7th						
No of Beat	No of House	Name of Recipient.	Quantity of yarn given out.	Quantity of cloth given out.	Value paid for cloth	

Register of Relief to Professional Artizans.

(B) Cotton, raw, for spinning

Week from 11 to 187						
No of Beat	No of House	Name of Recipient	Quantity of Raw Cotton given out.	Quantity of Thread given in.	Value paid for Thread	

Register of Relief to Professional Artizans

(C) Leather for shoemaking, &c

Week from to 187						
No of Beat.	No of House	Name of Recipient.	Quantity of Leather given out.	Quantity of Work given in.	Value paid for Work.	

No 2329 A, dated Naini Tal, the 4th October 1877

From C ROBERTSON, Esq., Offg. Secretary to Government, N.W Provinces and Oudh,
to the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

In continuation of my letter No. 1754 A, dated 22nd August, and with reference to your No 749, dated 27th idem, I am now desired by his Honour the Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Commissioner to submit a further report on the condition and agricultural prospects of the North-western Provinces and Oudh

2. The hot west wind, which sprang upon on 6th August, continued to blow until near the end of the month. On the 25th the east wind returned, and on the 27th there was a general but not heavy fall of rain in several districts of the Rohilkhand Division, and showers fell elsewhere

3. On the 31st of August and 1st September, a severe storm, originating in the Gházipur District of the Benares Division, passed over the Benares, Jaunpur, Mirzapur, Allahabad, and Fatehpur Districts, and the south-east of Oudh. It then crossed the Jumna and went through Banda, Hamírpur, and the Jhánsi Division. The fall of rain which accompanied did great good to the districts visited by the storm, but unfortunately it did not extend to the Duab, Rohilkhand, and western part of Oudh, where it was urgently needed.

4. The wind changed again to the west on the 8th September, and has continued since to blow with great violence and with damaging results to the crops throughout the provinces

5. The meeting of the western and eastern currents led, however, to a heavy fall of rain, which was general over the greater part of the eastern districts on the 10th and 11th September; but since the latter date there has been almost no rain anywhere, and the whole of the Provinces have been devastated by a hot dry wind

6. The following statement, which gives the average rainfall for each district from 1st June to this date, as compared with the average rainfall in the same period for the five years 1870-75, will show how scanty the fall everywhere has been, and that literally in many districts there has been no rainy season. The total fall is much less than in the worst years 1860 and 1868, of which we have records, and the failure has been more general throughout the Provinces —

DISTRICTS	Average Rainfall of Five Years, 1871-75, June to September	Average Rainfall from 1st June to 14th September, 1877	REMARKS
			Varying at different Tahsils, from—
Dehra Dún - - -	80 2	23 4	18 5 to 29 1
Saháranpur - - -	34 7	7 4	5 0 to 10 3
Muzaffarnagar - - -	32 3	6 7	3 7 to 9 9
Meerut - - -	28 4	4 4	2 3 to 7 8
Bulandshahr - - -	30 5	3 4	2 0 to 6 2
Algarh - - -	27 5	3 0	1 7 to 5 3
Kumaun - - -	53 2	23 2	18 2 to 33 9
Garhwál - - -	33 1	14 5	12 5 to 16 5
Tará - - -	51 4	16 4	12 9 to 22 3
Bynór - - -	45 9	7 6	5 1 to 9 3
Moradabad - - -	45 1	8 9	3 3 to 14 9
Budaun - - -	38 8	6 7	3 7 to 11 5
Bareilly - - -	52 6	11 0	6 5 to 19 7
Sháhjahanpur - - -	41 7	8 2	6 1 to 12 7
Muttra - - -	26 4	4 3	8 to 11 9
Agra - - -	30 6	2 8	6 to 4 7 5
Farukhabad - - -	34 3	3 5	1 6 to 6 2
Mainpuri - - -	36 1	2 9	1 25 to 6 6
Etáwah - - -	38 9	4 1	1 1 to 8 4
Etah - - -	31 1	4 3	2 8 to 5 4
Jalaun - - -	34 9	7 0	5 0 to 9 7
Jhánsi - - -	38 2	10 7	9 8 to 13 0
Lahitpur - - -	40 0	12 2	9 8 to 13 5
Cawnpore - - -	33 6	4 8	2 9 to 8 3
Fatehpur - - -	39 3	11 2	8 6 to 14 3

DISTRICTS	Average Rainfall of Five Years, 1871-75, June to September	Average Rainfall from 1st June to 14th September, 1877	REMARKS
Bánda - - -	43 0	14 8	Varying at different Tahsils, from—
Allahabad - - -	41 5	11 4	9 9 to 19 9
Hamurpur - - -	36 6	10 6	9 4 to 15 7
Jaunpur - - -	42 3	16 9	6 9 to 13 9
Gorakhpur - - -	46 1	12 9	12 0 to 23 1
Basti - - -	51 9	11 3	7 3 to 16 8
Azangarh - - -	39 4	11 9	7 2 to 15 1
Mirzapur - - -	43 9	18 1	8 7 to 14 3
Benares - - -	41 1	21 2	13 5 to 23 7
Gházipur - - -	37 7	11 0	15 3 to 26 35
Sultanpur - - -	43 7	9 0	8 7 to 14 1
Partabgarh - - -	35 3	9 1	7 1 to 11 4
Fyzabad - - -	40 6	11 9	7 6 to 11 3
Kheri - - -	43 0	15 6	8 5 to 16 0
Lucknow - - -	38 7	4 6	13 0 to 18 1
Bara Banki - - -	39 1	4 9	4 0 to 5 0
Babraich - - -	43 6	17 0	2 0 to 7 2
Rae Bareli - - -	36 5	6 9	11 6 to 22 4
Sitapur - - -	35 0	8 15	4 5 to 11 1
Gonda - - -	42 8	10 9	5 8 to 11 3
Unao - - -	31 4	6 9	7 4 to 16 8
Hardoi - - -	31 4	6 8	5 0 to 9 1
			5 4 to 8 4

7 The consequences of this disastrous failure of the usual rains are most deplorable for man and beast. The full effect cannot yet be determined, but it is now certain that in the Meerut, Agra, Rohilkhand, Sitapur, and Lucknow Divisions, and in parts of the Allahabad, Jhánsi, Rae Bareli, and Fyzabad Divisions, the unirrigated kharif crops are entirely destroyed. In Benares and greater part of Allahabad and Fyzabad it was hoped after the rain of the 10th and 11th, that from five to eight annas would be saved but these hopes it is now known cannot be realised. The hot wind that has raged since the 11th has irretrievably damaged much that survived, and threatens to destroy all. A speedy fall of rain would yet save some, and in part of the Jhánsi Division there is also a little which is not yet utterly ruined.

8 Detailed statements were called for from every district of the condition of the crops when an extensive failure of the rains was seen to be inevitable. These were prepared in the end of August or the beginning of September, but give a more

* From Commissioner, Agra, No A, dated 21st September 1877
 Ditto ditto Rohilkhand, No 64, dated the 5th September 1877
 Ditto ditto Fyzabad, No 2295, dated the 7th ditto 1877
 Ditto ditto Benares, No 171, dated the 15th ditto 1877,
 and enclosures

From Commissioner, Benares, No 173 A, dated the 22nd ditto 1877,
 and enclosures.

From Commissioner, Lucknow, No 2958, dated the 25th ditto 1877

Fyzabad, and Benares, which are herewith forwarded for fuller information on the condition of their respective Divisions.

9 The general result is, as stated above, that except in parts of Benares, Fyzabad, and Allahabad, the outturn of the unirrigated kharif will be nil. Unfortunately the area of irrigated kharif is very small. Canal irrigation exists chiefly in the Meerut and Agra Divisions, and there the crops on irrigated lands are principally sugarcane, indigo, and cotton. Food-grains and fodder are generally grown on lands that depend on the periodical rainfall, and at the sowing season the cultivators could not foresee the terrible drought that was to prevail, and did not avail themselves of canal water for this class of crop.

10 At present the prospects of the rabi crop are as gloomy as the condition of the now ruined kharif. As far as appearances go the monsoon is over, and there is no indication of coming rain. Unless within 15 or 20 days there be a general heavy fall, the cold season crops can be sown only where irrigation is practicable. To the east of Allahabad the rain which fell on the 10th and the 11th would, it was expected, permit the rabi to be sown but the effect of the hot winds since that date has been such as to render it very doubtful if even there unirrigated lands will be sown. The fate of the

rabi crop will in a great measure be decided by the 15th of October, and on that date district officers have been directed to submit a return in the annexed form

11 One of the most deplorable consequences of the failure of the kharif is the inevitable great mortality among cattle for want of fodder, and that too at a time when the need of cattle for well-irrigation is most pressing. Already in the Agra Division the cattle are being fed on the leaves of trees. Loss of cattle from starvation has been reported, and there is no means of providing sustenance for them.

12 Endeavours have been made to ascertain what supply of food-grain is stored in these Provinces, and how far it must be supplemented by importation, but great difficulty has been experienced in getting trustworthy information. It has been with some certainty ascertained that what grain there is in the Provinces is chiefly in the hands of dealers, and that the stocks held by cultivators and others are low. Generally the crops in these Provinces during the last two years have been good, but there were large tracts which each year did not share in the general abundance. The last rabi harvest in Rohilkhand and the northern part of the Provinces generally was deficient owing to heavy rain at the time the crop was ripening. Throughout great part of the Provinces also the grain was so wetted when lying on the threshing-floors that it was not fit to be stored, and was sold off for exportation. The demand for exportation to Madras and Bombay has also been great, and has drained the stocks in the Provinces considerably. The result of the detailed inquiries will be reported hereafter, but at present it may be said that the result, as far as can be ascertained up to date from data which must from the nature of the case be more or less imperfect, is that in Rohilkhand the grain locally available will suffice for about three months' consumption, while in the rest of the Provinces it may last for six months or more. But it is right to add that the crisis has already caused large importations from both the Panjab and Bengal, which have had the effect of arresting the rise in prices, and if these sources can continue to be relied on, we shall not be in want of food, although we shall have to find works to enable the poor to obtain money to buy it. But, notwithstanding this aid, the following statement will show the great advance which has taken place in prices since the 1st of July —

	WHEAT					BARLEY					RICE (COMMON)				RAJRA (MILLET)					
	30th June	31st July	15th August	31st August	15th September, or later date	30th June	31st July	15th August	31st August	15th September, or later date	30th June	31st July	15th August	31st August	15th September, or later date	30th June	31st July	15th August	31st August	15th Sept. inst. or later date
Meerut	25	31	17	16	11	38	31	26	21	15	14	18	12	12	9	20	20	18	17	15
Bareilly	18	17	14	14	9	28	27	20	20	18	13	13	12	10	8	16	16	14	5	9
Baháhpúr	22	19	16	15	10	40	34	29	22	19	16	14	12	11	7	—	—	—	—	—
Agra	30	18	16	14	10	27	25	21	17	11	13	12	11	9	7	19	19	17	16	11
Allahabad	17	16	16	14	14	29	27	22	22	19	16	14	13	12	10	24	20	18	18	17
Lucknow	20	18	17	15	10	39	27	26	20	15	13	12	11	9	18	16	15	16	—	—
Fyzabad	19	17	17	14	12	38	24	24	20	17	14	12	12	9	8	16	16	—	—	11
Benares	17	15	16	12	19	38	24	22	19	17	16	13	12	11	—	19	19	—	—	14
Basti	21	19	17	15	9	33	30	30	20	12	15	14	13	11	9	—	—	—	—	—
Jhansi	31	30	19	15	13	39	38	27	19	16	16	15	14	12	—	—	—	—	—	—

Prices are now in the worst places more than double what they were three months ago, and are higher than they were at a corresponding period in 1863. They verge on famine rates.

13 Under the combined influence of high prices and stoppage of field work great distress has appeared among the labouring classes, which has compelled this Government to sanction the opening of relief works. The measures taken in this way

have already been reported in my letter No 2074 A, dated 14th instant. As then

stated Colonel Fraser, Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, and Mr C

Anderson, Chief Engineer, Irrigation Branch, were deputed to the head-quarters of divisions to decide, in consultation with commissioners and district officers, on what works labourers should be employed.

A copy of the reports of their proceedings,* and of the orders issued thereon,

* Minutes of a meeting held at Agra on the 14th, 15th, and 17th September 1877.

To Commissioner of Agra, No 2233 A, dated 29th September.

Minutes of a meeting held at Meerut on the 18th, 19th, and 20th September 1877.

To Commissioner of Meerut, No. 2288 A, dated 29th September.

From Colonel Fraser, on special duty, No 13 B R T, dated the 9th September 1877, and enclosure (minutes of meeting at Bareilly).

To Commissioner of Rohilkhand, No. 2030 A., dated the 15th September 1877.

Minutes of meeting held at Lucknow on the 10th and 11th of September 1877.

is herewith submitted for the information of the Government of India It will be observed that the expenditure from provincial funds already sanctioned amounts to—

Rohilkhand - - - - -	Rs	1,64,196
Sitapur - - - - -	}	Small amounts not yet reported
Lucknow - - - - -		
Rae Bareli - - - - -		
Fyzabad - - - - -		
Benares - - - - -		
Allahabad - - - - -		
Agra - - - - -		3,63,257
Meerut - - - - -		1,53,704
Jhānsi - - - - -		28,000

Distress has increased so much since the middle of September that in every division works must be opened almost immediately

14 There have been numerous grain riots or dacoities in most of the distressed districts, to repress which vigorous measures have been taken, and which should cease now that relief works are or will be provided There has also been some emigration from parts of the Agra, Rohilkhand, and Jhānsi Divisions, which the measures taken to provide relief are expected to check It is trifling compared with the enormous exodus reported to have taken place from Gwalior, Dholpur, and other native states, partly into the Duab, but chiefly through Jhānsi to the south and west Had the emigrants been able to find their way to a land of plenty, their going from one district to another might have been regarded with indifference, but when the whole of the provinces are almost equally unfortunate, the influx of homeless wanderers is only embarrassing

15 Many of these wanderers were so emaciated, and many of those who live on charity were so reduced by want of food, that it has been imperatively necessary to authorise the opening of poor houses in the districts of the Rohilkhand and Agra Divisions and elsewhere His Honour has directed that they shall be conducted on the system followed so successfully at Moradabad in 1860-61 and enjoined in the famine of 1874 His Honour has also directed that where they are opened an appeal be made for their support to the liberality of the wealthier sections of the community, undertaking to give on the part of Government a grant for initial expenses, and the equivalent of all sums raised by subscription His Honour has also sanctioned the grant of takāvi for the digging of wells in places where they can advantageously be made and good security be given, and for the purchase of seed grain should rain fall and otherwise the lands remain unsown The amounts yet sanctioned have been as follows—

Meerut Division - - - - -	Rs	50,000 for wells
Agra ditto - - - - -		90,000 for wells and seed grain
Bānda District - - - - -		10,000 for seed grain
Jhānsi ditto - - - - -		3,000.

The amount required for other divisions cannot yet be stated.

His Honour trusts that his orders will be confirmed by the Government of India.

No 259

Telegram, dated 5th October 1877

From VICEROY to SECRETARY OF STATE

Season telegram, 25th September to 3rd October Madras—Continuous good rain everywhere, except part of Combatore and Madura Good freshes in rivers, crops thriving, north-east monsoon not yet appeared on coast Works, 628,259, decrease 70,000, gratuitous 1,603,721, decrease 2,000 Madras revised orders for administration relief issued 24th September General but slight fall in prices, imports fully maintained Bengal and Burmah daily grain despatches to Madras ports 5,454 tons, besides from Peninsula Railway 900 tons Railway working from Madras meagre

Bombay—No appreciable rain in Gujerat, where needed, rest of Presidency good general rain Temple telegraphs General situation markedly better Works 219,910, decrease 23,000, gratuitous 163,008, increase 3,000

Mysore—Good rain continues, crop prospects good, prices slightly cheaper, supply of sufficient railway imports, reduced people returned to field pursuits Works 54,000, gratuitous 162,000 Deaths in Bangalore temporarily increased from rain Famine Commissioner telegraphs that effect of putting paupers on works is marked improvement in health and spirits. they crowd to works

North-West Provinces—No rain save showers in Ghazipore, drought and heat continue; distress felt in Agra and Rohilkund Divisions.

Condition in Oudh less serious; prices stationary but high, grain being imported from Nerbudda Valley, October rain would save spring crop, cloudy weather reported on 4th from several districts, suitable relief work arrangements in forward state

Punjab—No rain save in Rawul Pindi and frontier, no improvement except Multan Divisions; dear prices; distress not yet reported

Rajputana—Partial showers in Ajmere and Marwar, no rain elsewhere, drought increasing in Eastern States; prices not yet excessive, relief works arranged on three sections of railway

Indore.—No rain, except at Neemuch Malwa crops beginning to wither, Gwahor condition bad. Great emigration from Northern and Eastern States southwards Relief work open on three railway sections near Gwahor, Neemuch, and Rutlam

Hyderabad.—Moderate showers, crop prospects favourable

Bengal—Prospects good in Bengal proper Anxiety about South Behar, where rain holds off.

Burmah—Prospects favourable, floods subsided, rice being replanted

Assam—Prospects good

Central Provinces.—Protracted break in rains causes some loss of crop, and anxiety in rice-growing tracts, rabi (?) crops good Large number of immigrants from Central India States, for whom relief works provided.

Encl in
No. 271.

No 260.

Telegram, dated 6th October 1877.

FROM GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY, Ahmednagar, to VICEROY, Simla

Bombay Chamber of Commerce have telegraphed urgently to me Message begins — “Markets in famine districts being amply supplied, and prices daily declining and lower than Bombay; all reason for preference to famine traffic ceased Holders of grain in Nagpur, other stations, will continue to book it in order to clear stocks owing to preference given, and despatch to Bombay will continue closed, thereby inflicting continued great loss on Bombay trade and merchants”

Message ends Your Lordship best judge of necessity for preference to twelve hundred tons daily for places beyond Bombay Presidency, namely Hyderabad and Madras I apprehend that you consider this is still necessary, but I shall be obliged by instructions to make sure Please reply to Ahmednagar

No. 261

Telegram, dated 7th October 1877

FROM GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY TO SECRETARY OF STATE

Within past fortnight good rain fallen all over Bombay Presidency, excepting Khandesh and Sind Autumn crop considerably though not entirely saved Guzerat cotton crop improved, but short yield feared Sowing for next spring crop everywhere good Quantity of grass and fodder for cattle, prices falling Numbers of people on relief works largely decreasing; numbers on gratuitous relief slightly increasing, as usual towards end of scarcity

Encl in
No. 271.

No 262

No. 914, dated Simla, 8th October 1877

FROM C BERNARD, Esq, Additional Secretary to the Government of India to the SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your endorsement enclosing printed copies of the instructions published by the Madras Government and their proceedings No 2847 of 24th September, and in reply I am to express the satisfaction with which his Excellency in Council regards the steps now taken to carry out in detail the line of policy determined on by the Madras Government during the Viceroy's visit to that Presidency

2 As these instructions have the concurrence and approval of the Government of India, it is unnecessary to comment on them in detail, but I am to say that his Excellency in Council observes with special satisfaction the beneficent arrangements contained in the paragraphs noted in the margin, which provide that in effecting the necessary transfer from gratuitous relief to public works, every possible precaution shall be taken so as to guard not only against loss of life, but against overtaking, against injury to health, and against the separation of families

3 His Excellency in Council confidently anticipates that with the loyal co-operation of the district officers, and under their zealous supervision, the measures now taken will have the best results in enforcing economy, in checking speculation, in improving the health and condition of the people, in providing the Presidency with useful communications and increased protection against drought, and in reducing to a minimum the dangers of demoralisation

No 263.

Telegram, dated 8th October 1877

From VICEROY, Simla, to GENERAL KENNEDY, Madras

Encl in
No 271

Temple has represented urgent demand of Bombay Chamber of Commerce for cessation of preference now given to grain consignments for Madras districts on all Peninsula stations Chamber urges that famine districts are fully stocked and that their prices are below Bombay prices, also that consignors send to famine stations only because preference enables them thus to work off stocks Temple asks if preference rule can be withdrawn Duke recently telegraphed prices easier and supplies sufficient in Ceded Districts But Madras Railway working short from Madras end. I much want to relieve Bombay export trade from pressure at earliest possible moment Still famine needs are paramount, and I fear difficulties might arise on Madras line and in Ceded Districts by sudden cessation of supply Does Madras Government consider it safe to reduce the preference waggons now allotted to famine consignment by one half from the 15th October, and to hold out hopes of withdrawing preference order entirely by 1st November, provided improved prospects continue? If so, then Madras Railway could arrange its engines accordingly Early reply requested

No. 264

Telegram, dated 8th October 1877

From VICEROY, Simla, to RESIDENT, Hyderabad, Deccan

Encl in
No. 271.

Obligation on Peninsula Railway to deliver daily 300 tons grain at Hyderabad causes inconvenience Governor Madras telegraphs that new grain from Hyderabad is coming into Khurmoal, and your prospects seem favourable Can Hyderabad afford to reduce her obligatory famine demand on railway by one half from 15th October, and to withdraw it altogether by 25th October Of course ordinary trade consignments would take their turn as in ordinary times

No 265

Telegram, dated 8th October 1877

FROM VICEROY, Simla, to GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY, Ahmednagar

Encl in
No 271

Your message regarding cessation of preference to famine consignments I am anxious to meet wishes of Bombay trade at earliest possible moment I have telegraphed to Kennedy to ascertain views of Madras Government I hope an early reduction of number of preference waggons may be possible

Encl in
No 271

No. 266.

Telegram, dated 9th October 1877

From MAJOR-GENERAL KENNEDY, Madras, to VICEROY, Simla

Duke thinks that at this period, with present still excessive range of prices, no change should be made likely to lessen quantity of grain sent to Madras district. The character of coming season north-east monsoon will be known in a few days, and may affect the question either way

Encl in
No 271.

No 267.

Telegram, dated 9th October 1877 .

From RESIDENT, Hyderabad, Deccan, to VICEROY, Simla

Nizam's Government assents to reduction of obligatory famine demand on railway for Hyderabad to 150 tons from 15th October, but solicits two or three days for consideration as to its entire relinquishment from 25th October, the Government tenders its best thanks to your Excellency for your personal interest in this matter on its behalf, and for great facilities so afforded to grain importations for Hyderabad

Encl in
No 271

No. 268.

Telegram, dated 10th October 1877.

From VICEROY, Simla, to SIR R TEMPLE, Bombay

Have consulted Madras Government, who consider that during continuance of excessive prices of food no change should be made to lessen quantity of grain sent to Madras districts. Character of coming season and of north-east monsoon will be known, and matter can be re-opened. Resident, Hyderabad, agrees to reducing the obligatory deliveries and preference wagons for Nizam's line by one-half from 15th October, and he will telegraph in three days whether preference can be wholly withdrawn. I have asked Madras Government to watch supplies and prices, and to inform me directly preference can be reduced or foregone

Encl in
No 271.

No 269.

Telegram, dated 10th October 1877

From VICEROY, Simla, to GENERAL KENNEDY, Bombay

Please inform the Duke that I have telegraphed to Temple, we cannot at present agree to withdraw preference order. Hyderabad has agreed to reduce its obligatory deliveries by one half from 15th October. I am aware Madras Government watches prices and supply closely, and I trust early intimation will be sent when preference order can safely be reduced or withdrawn. Private source in Madras telegraphs that stocks there are rapidly accumulating, prices are falling, and demand from interior is weak. I am anxious to relieve the Bombay trade as soon as famine requirements permit from the temporary inconvenience under which it suffers. So, pray, keep the matter before Madras Government

Encl in
No 289.

No. 270.

No. 2401a, dated Naini Tal, 10th October 1877.

From the SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES AND OUDH to the SECRETARY TO THE BOARD OF REVENUE, North-western Provinces

The Lieutenant-Governor having had under consideration the question of the suspension of the land revenue demand for the kharif kists, in consequence of the failure of the crops, desires me to communicate the following remarks, and to request that the Board will issue instructions in accordance with them, unless good cause can be shown for any modification.

2. It is almost unnecessary to observe that the principle on which settlements have been made in the North-western Provinces is to fix a moderate average demand for a long course of years, the Government agreeing to relinquish the excess in a good year, and expecting that the deficiency of a bad year shall be made good from the accumulated surplus of past or anticipated surplus of coming years. Notwithstanding, therefore, the great deficiency of assets in the present year, his Honour considers that with reference to the character of the settlement, and the urgency of the demands on Government, remission of revenue ought not to be sanctioned except in very special cases. On this subject I am to forward for the information of the Board a copy of a letter No 886, dated 4th instant, from the Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, with its Enclosure.

3. It may, however, in many quarters be necessary to suspend the demand, and it is with reference chiefly to the extent to which suspension should be granted that it is desirable that instructions be communicated to collectors. The demands on Government for funds are at this moment so pressing that it is impossible to authorise a general suspension, nor, great as the failure of crops in some districts has been, is a measure of this sort imperatively called for. In most districts a portion of the crops will be saved, and owing to the rise in prices, the deficiency of produce will be compensated for by the increase in the value of the crops saved.

4. His Honour must therefore direct that zemindars who are well off capitalists, who have other sources of income, and those whose tenants have saved a portion of their crops, and generally all who can pay up, should be required to do so. In particular the revenue ought to be realised without hesitation from those zemindars who have failed to help their tenants in the hard times they have come through, though they had the means of doing so. Such landlords deserve no indulgence.

5. On the other hand, suspension must be granted to those who could not be made to pay up without reducing them to such straits as would render them unable to incur the necessary expenditure on the cultivation of their lands in the cold season. It is to be borne in mind that owing to the large area now lying fallow in consequence of the kharif crop not having been sown, landowners will have the means of meeting any suspensions which may now be granted them by bringing this area under cultivation for the rabi. Some indulgence might also be shown to those who in the past have already helped their tenants, and who are prepared to continue this help during the cold season until the next harvest ripens, if not compelled to pay up the revenue.

6. In regard to these, a large discretion must be allowed to collectors. His Honour is confident that it may safely be given, and that while every effort is made to realise what is urgently required by the necessities of the State, undue pressure will not be put on those who ought to be treated with indulgence.

No 271

No. 38 of 1877

From the GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, Public Works Department, to the MOST HONOURABLE
THE MARQUIS OF SALISBURY, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India.

FAMINE

Simla, the 11th October 1877.

In the Viceroy's letter of 26th September your Lordship was informed of Lord Lytton's return from the famine-stricken districts in the south of India. In his previous letter dated Bangalore, 20th September, the transfer of the Famine Department to the personal management of his Excellency the Viceroy had been notified, but the office remained a branch of the Department of the Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce. On Lord Lytton's arrival at Simla it was decided that the administration of famine relief should be a branch of the business of the Public Works Department, and Mr Bernard, who had accompanied the Viceroy on his tour as Additional Secretary for Famine Business, was accordingly transferred from the Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce Department to be additional Secretary in the Public Works Department.

2. The transfer was a necessary corollary to the principle already laid down by the Government of India, that the employment and payment of the destitute on useful public works, supervised by departmental agency, was to be the backbone of the relief system, and as this principle has been acted on in Bombay from the beginning, and more recently in Madras, conformity to it required that under the Government of India also the Famine Department should be deemed to be a sub-division of the Public

Works Department And all questions relating to relief works and their administration will now be considered and determined in that Department

3 The initiative in all general matters concerning the Famine Department remains, however, in the Viceroy's hands, and to assist him in the work of the Department his Excellency has been pleased as a temporary measure to appoint Mr S C Bayley to be his personal assistant

4 The Viceroy desires to take the opportunity afforded him by the notification of these changes to your Lordship of placing on record the deep obligation he is under to his colleague Sir A Arbuthnot, both for his general management of the Famine Department during the last 10 months, and especially for the loyal assistance which he rendered during the recent journey to the south of India It was a matter of regret to his Excellency that for that journey the services of Mr Hope, who, as additional Secretary in the Famine Department, had conducted the anxious duties of the Department in complete accordance with his Excellency's views, and entirely to his satisfaction, were not available; Mr. Hope, who represents the Bombay Presidency in the Legislative Council, having previously at his own request resigned the office of Additional Secretary The Viceroy thinks it due to Mr. Hope to acknowledge in this place his careful and efficient performance, from the beginning of the famine down to August last, of the additional and burthensome duties undertaken by him in the Famine Department

5 Taking the several provinces affected or threatened with famine in the usual order we have the honour to report the facts and transactions of the week, as follows:—

6 The Madras Government has issued revised rules for the administration of relief, with a view of giving effect to the decisions taken by the

Madras

Viceroy and the Governor in Council at the end of

August There was some, apparently needless, delay in issuing these orders But now that they are issued, and that the prospects of the season are favourable, we have every hope that the due execution of them will secure the systematization of relief, the prevention of fraud, the stoppage of much needless expenditure, and the employment of relief labour on properly supervised works of permanent usefulness The revised rules, together with a letter conveying our approval of their scope, will be found in Enclosure No 1 of the present letter Full care has been taken to provide against over-taking persons who may be in a reduced condition of body, and the special treatment of weak persons is enjoined until such time as they shall be fit for full work We anticipate that the operation of these rules, acting concurrently with the very favourable change in the season, will cause a very great reduction in the number of relief recipients throughout the Madras Presidency A table showing the useful public works opened for relief labourers in each district has been prepared and sanctioned by the Government of Madras But as the papers on the subject have not yet reached us, we reserve our remarks on that subject for a future letter.

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7 We cannot conceal from ourselves that many native subordinate officials are personally interested in the continuance of unnecessarily lavish relief expenditure in Madras, and that it is by no means easy to close the doors kept open by them to speculation and illicit gains Such persons will no doubt contrive to throw discredit on the recent reforms; and they will, it may be feared, take care that some really necessitous people shall remain unrelieved, in order that their complaints may gain hearing A paper received to-day from the Madras Government (Enclosure No 2) shows in a melancholy way how subordinate officials sacrifice the interests and the lives of the poor, in order to procure the continuance of a system whereby they can make illegitimate profit We have taken great pains, and so also has the Madras Government in the present revised rules, to guard against the occurrence of such disasters But we are convinced that it is right, even though such cases should unhappily happen, to persevere in the only course which will prevent the pauperisation and demoralization of the people, and check the needless expenditure of hundreds of thousands of pounds

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8 The latest intelligence from each province will be found in the last paragraph of this letter On the 5th current the Governor of Madras telegraphed that prospects were everywhere improved by the rain, that prices were falling in the Ceded Districts into which supplies of new grain were coming, and that the Madras Railway was carrying smaller quantities of grain into the interior At the same time the despatches of grain from Bengal and Burma to Madras ports fell to 2,124 tons daily during the week ending on the 3rd, as compared with 5,454 tons daily during the previous week We at the same time learnt from Calcutta that grain despatches were likely to become even smaller, because dealers were uncertain whether further importations would be required after the large stocks now in Madras had been worked into the interior We have informed the Madras Government how matters stand, at the same time we are not

apprehensive of any shortness in the food supply. The Chief Commissioner, Mysore, telegraphs that the railway supply to Bangalore, though much short of the demand previously estimated, suffices for all requirements. Small crops are daily being harvested. And, if the favourable weather continues, no one will store grain so long as prices remain high. A telegram has to-day reached us from a private source in Madras stating that "business has been overdone, prices are daily falling, demand for the interior is very weak, and stocks in Madras are rapidly accumulating." This intelligence has not yet been confirmed officially, but its purport is borne out by the general course of the trade, and agrees with our anticipations that old stocks would come out, and that the demand for importations would slacken as soon as the prospects of next harvest were assured.

The Governor of Madras has himself gone southwards to visit Salem, Coimbatore, and Madura, regarding which districts only is there ground for present anxiety.

9 Until the 5th current there was anxiety about the crops in Guzerat, where rain was much needed. But heavy rain has now fallen all over Guzerat, and the crops there are quite safe. Sir Richard Temple telegraphs that crop prospects throughout the Presidency are favourable, that prices are falling steadily, and that the situation is decidedly better, although more rain is still wanted in parts of the Khandesh and Nasik districts. The numbers on relief works have fallen to 183,613, showing a decrease of 36,121, the numbers on gratuitous relief are 162,348 or nearly the same as in the preceding week.

10. The supply of food grain in the Bombay districts is sufficient, it is expected that consignments from Central and Northern India by the Great Indian Peninsula Railway will decrease, partly in consequence of the cheaper prices in the Deccan and partly in consequence of the demand arising in the North-west Provinces, where dearth was already felt and famine was threatening. Since the 25th September grain consignments, from railway stations as far east as Bhoosawul Junction, have been going northwards towards Cawnpore and Agra. In view of the lessening demands of the famine districts and of the inconvenience caused to Bombay trade by the partial stoppage of consignments to Bombay for export, the Chamber of Commerce earnestly requested that the preference shown to famine traffic at stations on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway might cease. The Government of Madras has been consulted, and it has been decided to reduce the number of preference waggons for the Nizam's country by one half from the 15th October, but to await the burst of the north-east monsoon before withdrawing the preference order in favour of grain consigned to Madras districts.

The telegrams which have passed upon the matter will be found in Enclosure No 3. The Government of India is anxious to meet the wishes of the Chamber of Commerce as soon as the paramount requirements of the famine districts permit a material reduction of grain importations. Before leaving this subject, we desire to record our sense of the loyalty and care with which the Government of Bombay has, notwithstanding much pressure from local interests, carried out the instructions of the Government of India, and secured a regular delivery of grain from the north to the Madras Railway.

Nos 261,
263 to 265

11 Great improvement in the season prospects have continued throughout the province of Mysore. During the last 10 days an average of three inches has fallen, even the central dry tract west of Bangalore, where rain has hitherto been withheld, has shared the recent rain. The irrigation tanks are filled; such of the early millet crops as had not withered have revived beyond expectation, irrigated millet and rice are being cut; the late millet crop looks as well as possible, and the sowing of spring crops is proceeding under favourable conditions. Markets are well supplied with grain, and prices continue to fall slowly but steadily. The latest returns (dated 29th September) from Bangalore show 57,274 persons on relief works, which is an increase of about 12,000, and 161,892 on gratuitous relief, as against 208,683 persons in the previous week. The latest weekly report from Mysore forms Enclosure No 3a to this letter. That report says —

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The decrease is partly due to the improvement in the prospects of field employment, and would have occurred in any case. It is partly due also to the changing of the conditions of residence and labour and to the efforts made to relegate the paupers to work. Of the numbers in the relief camps of the Bangalore Municipality which have fallen by 19,000 in the last fortnight over 5,000 have been put on the State Railway and the Mysore embankment, about 2,000 on the embankment of the Alsur lake, and about 1,000 more on different projects, the waterworks and two lines of road. The improvement in the condition of the labourers is already obvious, they are cheerful, healthy,

and contented, and those who a fortnight ago were thought hardly able to lift a pickaxe are now doing a fair day's work. Of the rest, some have left for their villages, some prefer to beg about the town, but these will be collected and brought in by the police. To every applicant either labour or food is offered, if labour cannot be provided, then food is given till the applicant can be set to work."

12. In the beginning of the month of September there was some increase in the number of deaths reported from Bangalore town as due directly or indirectly to famine. On inquiry it appeared that, during the month of August, the daily average of such deaths was 30, from the 1st to the 10th of September the average was 41, from the 11th, the day on which Mr Elliott, Famine Commissioner, took charge of his duties, until the 19th the number was 25, from the 30th to the 30th the average was 35. The Famine Commissioner attributes the increase of deaths to the cold rain which fell on several successive nights, he reports that deaths in the relief hospitals have diminished, and he anticipates improvement in the outside death-rate. These deaths occurred among the poor wanderers who came into Bangalore from outside, additional precautions are now being taken to find such persons and bring them under treatment, before they succumb to want or to diseases engendered by want.

13. Revised rules for the management of relief works have been issued, under the Chief Commissioner's orders, thus giving effect to the instructions of the Government of India. In these rules the wage scale provided for a rest on Sundays, and for the Sunday wage being distributed over the six days of the week. We have directed that, while the Sunday remains a non-working day, the wage scale be arranged so as to give full seven days' subsistence wage for the week.

14. These are now the crop prospects in the Nizam's country.—Rain has fallen in sufficient quantity, prices are cheaper, and the demand for imported grain is slackening. In Berar, where rain has fallen during the last few days, prospects are good.

15. The break in the rains had continued so long in the Central Provinces, that the position of the rice crop was critical, in some places part of the rice crop had actually withered. The millet and pulse crops were still in good condition, but rain was wanted for the spring crop sowings. Rain has now fallen in sufficient quantity at Nagpore, Hingunghat, and Saugor, and the Chief Commissioner reports that, if this rain is general, the prospects of the autumn crop will be everywhere improved. As Chutteesgubh and other districts of the Central Provinces are off the telegraph line, we are unable to write with certainty about those tracts. Into the northern districts of the Central Provinces there came daily, during the last 10 days of September, thousands of immigrants from the drought-stricken Native States and British districts lying in the basin of the river Chumbul. The number of these immigrants is now about 40,000, and for them the Chief Commissioner has provided relief employment on the road leading from the Jhansi border through Saugor and Damoh to Jubbulpore. We have agreed that the Government of India shall meet one half the expenditure on this relief work up to the 30th March, as most of the labourers will be immigrants, the remainder of the cost will be met from the ordinary provincial resources.

16. Up to the 5th October the drought and consequent distress had gone on increasing in Northern and Eastern Rajputana, and in most of the Eastern States under the Indore Agency. The price of wheat was 14 lbs per rupee at Gwalior, and 17 lbs at Ajmere, pasture for cattle had everywhere failed, tens of thousands of people were pouring through Neemuch, through Goona, through Jhansi, down into Malwa where the condition of the crops was becoming critical. Most of these emigrants were from Native States, but some came from British districts on the right bank of the Jumna. Among some of these poor people, on the great road between Seepree and Goona, cholera broke out. Relief houses were opened at Goona and other places on this road. But from all sides it was reported that severe famine would be felt all over the basin of the Chumbul river, if rain did not come. There was then (end of September) little hope of rain, and by way of providing relief employment for the immigrant poor, we sanctioned the immediate commencement of earthwork and ballast collection on the railway lines from Ajmere through Beawur to Dasori on the north and on the line from Neemuch to Rutlam in the centre, of the threatened tract. In the east, work on the Gwalior and Agra Railway had previously been opened. Tel-grams of the last three days have informed us of seasonable rain all over Central India and Rajputana, from Gwalior on the east to Mullanee and Palce on the west, and from Indore on the south up to Jeypore on the north. We have not yet had tidings from

the Bikaner and Jeysulmeer deserts But it appears certain that the rain which has fallen, and which was continuing up to the 8th current, will provide pasture everywhere, and in many places will suffice for the spring crop sowings If this favourable change continues, the danger of actual famine will have passed away, though scarcity and high prices must continue until the spring crop is secure We shall not be able to counter-order the commencement of the railway relief works in these countries, until prospects are more assured

17 In previous letters and telegrams we have informed your Lordship that the unirrigated autumn crop had been lost over the greater part of the North-west Provinces and Oudh, and that the failure of crop had been most marked in the Rohilkund and Agra divisions Until the 5th October rain held off, fodder for cattle was not to be had, there seemed no hope of more rain, and it was certain that unless plentiful rain fell within the month of October, the spring crop would be lost, and severe widespread famine would be inevitable Happily there were a number of large useful public works, new canals, extensions, and rectifications of old canals, drainage channels, railway extensions, and railway projects, most of which were ready for commencement, and on which very large numbers of people could be usefully employed The Lieutenant-Governor of the North-west Provinces had sent his chief engineer round all the threatened districts with a view to settling with the local officers a scheme for relief works Some such works had already been begun, and we had ordered a contingent of engineer officers from other provinces to aid in completing the preparations for a system of provincial light railways which the Lieutenant-Governor, in concert with our colleague Sir John Strachey, who had visited Nam Tal, proposed as relief works in parts of the North-west where canal schemes were wanting At Enclosure No 4 will be found a letter from the North-west Provinces, dated the 4th October, describing the situation as it then stood. It will be observed that the rainfall had been less, that prices were higher, that crime, due mainly to want, was more rife, that panic among the people and the grain dealers was greater, and that emigration was more general than had been the case at the same season in the famine years of 1860 and 1868

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18 Happily this has all changed Rain has fallen from the 5th to the 8th all over the provinces, we have not yet learnt full particulars from all parts of the country Up to the morning of the 8th three inches had fallen at Agra, where the need was worst, and that the Native States to the west have received bountiful rain. We shall have the honour of informing your Lordship by telegraph of the exact condition of affairs But at any rate the outlook is entirely changed, Sir George Couper has telegraphed that he does not require any more engineers, and that the project for light railways will not be necessary

19 The condition of the Punjab was less critical than that of the North-west by reason of the heavy downpour of rain in August Still there too most of the unirrigated autumn crop was lost, and the spring crops could not be sown unless rain came The large stocks of grain in the province had kept prices below famine rates, no actual distress had been reported, and no relief operations had been undertaken, nevertheless the position was extremely anxious and critical The rainfall of the past three days has happily extended to parts of the Punjab, six inches have fallen at Delhi, from one half an inch to two inches have fallen at Amballa, Jullunder, Lahore and Rawul Pindi; there has been half an inch at Amritsar The Lieutenant-Governor writes that "this rain has been a great relief to our anxiety, that there will now be great sowing of spring crop all over the country where rain has fallen, but that prices will keep dear until the fate of the spring crop is assured"

20 The only part of Bengal, regarding which there was anxiety, namely Behar, has shared the general rain Three inches of rain were gauged at Patna on the 6th October We have not yet received particulars, but the rain which fell both at Patna and Benares must have been general over Behar, and cause for anxiety there is past

21 If the rainfall of the past week should have fully wrought the favourable change which we hope no time will be lost in stopping, as soon as matters are clear, the "extraordinary" undertakings which we have sanctioned for relief purposes When the need for relief has passed, all such works will be considered and dealt with on their own merits and with reference to the financial needs of the Government We invite attention to a paper (Enclosure No 5) in which the Bombay Government has declined to authorise any measures that will tend to keep up the numbers on any relief work The Bombay Government has directed that every unfinished relief work shall, when famine

needs are ever, be considered and treated under the ordinary rules of the Public Works Department. We consider that in so deciding the Bombay Government has acted loyally to the Imperial Government and for the benefit of the Imperial treasury

22. We cannot conclude this letter without expressing our deep thankfulness for the rain which has thus come just in time to save the whole of Northern India from a famine which threatened to be both widespread and severe

23 Up to the time of this letter going to press, namely, the evening of the 10th October, we have received intelligence of rainfall in Northern and Central India since the 4th October as follows —

	Peshawar	-	-	None
	Rawalpindi	-	-	1 inch
Punjab	Lahore	-	-	$\frac{1}{2}$ an inch
	Jullunder	-	-	1 inch
	Amballa	-	-	$1\frac{1}{2}$ of an inch.
	Delhi	-	-	6 inches
North-western Provinces and Oudh	Agra	-	-	$4\frac{1}{2}$ "
	Bareilly	-	-	7 "
	Lucknow	-	-	$2\frac{1}{2}$ "
	Meerut	-	-	6 "
	Allahabad	-	-	4 "
	Benares	-	-	$2\frac{1}{2}$ "
Rajputana and Central India.	Jeypore	-	-	$1\frac{1}{2}$ "
	Ajmere	-	-	2 "
	Neemuch	-	-	7 "
	Bhurtpore	-	-	$7\frac{1}{2}$ "
	Gwalior	-	-	2 "
	Indore	-	-	3 "
Central Provinces	Rutlam	-	-	$1\frac{1}{4}$ "
	Saugor	-	-	$1\frac{1}{2}$ "
	Jubbulpore	-	-	1 "
	Nagpore	-	-	$4\frac{1}{2}$ "
Bengal	Patna	-	-	$5\frac{1}{2}$ "
	Durbanga	-	-	7 "

We have, &c
(Signed) LYTTON
F P. HAINES
E C BAYLEY
A. J. ARBUTHNOT.
A CLARKE,
E B JOHNSON
W STOKES

Encl in
No. 289.

No. 272

No. 792A, dated Naini Tal, the 11th October 1877

From the SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES AND OUDH
to the SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT

I am directed to state, for the information of his Excellency the Governor-General in Council, that his Honour has learnt from the Accountant-General that the cash balances in the North-western Provinces and Oudh have fallen from 270 lakhs on the 1st of September 1877 to 162 lakhs on the 1st of October 1877, and that, unless the treasuries are replenished, there will not from the middle of November 1877 be funds to meet the liabilities of this Government

2 His Honour deems it necessary to state for the information of the Government of India that, owing to the general and nearly complete failure of the kharif crops throughout the provinces, there is on the one hand very little prospect of the early realisation of any thing but a very small part of the land revenue demand for the kharif, while on the other the Lieutenant-Governor has been compelled to sanction a large expenditure for the relief of the distressed, and the grant of takavi for wells and seed-grain. Since the Accountant-General's letter was received, there has been a general fall of rain, which will permit the rabi to be sown, and has made the prospects

of the provinces brighter, but nothing can restore the ruined kharif, or prevent a large suspension of the revenue demand.

3 The Lieutenant Governor is well aware of the straits to which the Government of India is put at the present time for money, and it is with the utmost reluctance that he makes a report which must necessarily temporarily add to their burdens. But he sees no other course to adopt. If the village communities who form the great mass of our revenue payers be pressed now, they simply will be ruined, whereas, if we allow temporary suspensions there is every reason to believe that by the end of the agricultural year we shall recover all that we forego now from the proceeds of the additional area which the people will be able to bring under cultivation in consequence of the kharif not having been sown and the land being therefore available for the spring sowings. But if we press for immediate payment the people will not have the means of doing this, and they will be reduced to such a state that it is highly probable that the rabi instalments themselves will only be realised with great difficulty.

4 His Honour knows that our revenue theory is that the people should meet the losses of a bad year from the gains of a good one. But as a matter of fact these prudential considerations are unknown to them. They never save. When they have a good harvest they spend the proceeds on marriages or in other ways, and they have moreover been very seriously affected by the present scarcity. Cattle are reported to be dying or sold to the butchers in hundreds in consequence of the want of fodder, and this will add very materially to the agricultural distress and difficulties if they are called on at once to meet their State obligations.

5 Well-to-do zemindars and the owners of tracts in which there has not been a total failure of the autumn harvest will, of course, be made to pay up, but, as has already been stated, well-to-do landlords are the exception in these provinces, and it is quite certain that the tracts which have escaped the calamity are few and far between.

No 273

Telegram, dated 13th October 1877

FROM VICEROY TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Season telegram 4th to 11th October — Madras, moderate rain general everywhere; prospects of standing crops favourable; yield of crops just harvested moderate; agriculture briskly prosecuted, prices falling. Importation from outside much reduced, north-east monsoon not yet due. On works 587,228, decrease 41,031; gratuitous 1,531,255, decrease 72,466.

Bombay, excellent rain in Guzerat, good rain and generally good crop prospects in rest of Presidency, except Sind, where rainfall is deficient and prospects poor, prices falling, sowing of spring crops progressing, on works 182,158, decrease 37,752; gratuitous 162,318, decrease 660.

Mysore, moderate rain everywhere, crops flourishing, prices falling, on works, 69,693, increase 15,693, gratuitous 126,204, decrease 36,706, decrease due to work in fields.

North-West provinces, good rain everywhere, two to ten inches, heaviest in Rohilkund and Oudh, and very good in Agra, preparations for spring crop everywhere progressing, apprehensions of famine removed, prices falling everywhere though still high.

Punjab, general rain as far north as Jhelum, heavy in Delhi, and Umballa; spring crop sowings secured, now no fear of famine.

Rajputana, general rain over all States, heavy in Neemuch and some other parts; pasturage and spring crops secured, some pressure still in Marwar.

Indore, good general rain over all States, prospects much brighter, emigrants beginning to return.

Hyderabad, prospects continue good; prices falling.

Bengal, good rain over Behar, where it was much wanted, rest good.

Central Provinces, seasonable rain over whole country, small breadth of rice withered, all else good.

Assam and Burmah, condition good.

No. 274

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS Revenue Department (Famine Relief), dated 15th October 1877, F. R. No. 2,331

The Governor in Council has by a telegraphic order of the 13th instant, called the attention of collectors to the importance of utilising to the utmost the present favourable

change in the season. The recent rainfall has materially restored the condition of growing crops; many crops are being now harvested, land is nearly everywhere in a fit state for cultivation; and the rains of the north-east monsoon may be shortly expected. Prices have been gradually declining. In this state of the country it is of the utmost importance to its future prosperity that every exertion should be at once made to induce, encourage, and facilitate the return of people to their own homes and ordinary occupations. There may not unnaturally exist some feeling of hesitation amongst many, especially amongst those who have wandered from their own districts, to leave their present shelter, but the interests of the country demand that every available hand shall be turned to agriculture, and every exertion used to increase and expedite the growth of the newly-sown crops, on which the people must rely to restore the prices of food-grains to a normal state.

2. That this necessity is appreciated by the people is evinced by the fact that large numbers have already, of their own accord, left works and camps for agricultural employ, and that in many districts the area cultivated is larger than usual at this period. Yet in these districts more, and in others much, can be done, and no divisional officer should feel satisfied while any available land in his division remains uncultivated.

3. The Governor in Council desires also to impress on collectors the urgent necessity for reducing, as rapidly as may be, the numbers who are receiving State charity on relief works, in relief camps, &c., and consequently of diminishing the heavy drain on current expenditure.

4. The general principles on which relief is to be administered are already laid down in G O of 24th September, No. 2,847. The Government have spared no pains to relieve and sustain and also to provide employ for the people, now, however, agricultural or other usual employment is obtainable, and district officers must take care that the measures which were necessary for relief of the famine-stricken are not converted into a prolonged demoralising and pauperising charity.

5. A judicious but firm application of the tests and limitations laid down in the Government Order referred to will prevent the danger while meeting any necessity, but laxity or indecision in any district may not improbably result in the continued dependence of a large pauperised population on State aid through another year.

6. Where the numbers on relief works are materially diminished, proportionate diminution should be made in the establishments, and labour should be consolidated so as to economise supervision. When the numbers in camps are materially diminished, subordinate establishments should be also diminished, or otherwise utilised, permanent officers of the districts being allowed to resume their ordinary work. The general relief organisation of a district, however, is not to be reduced or broken up until further instructions from the Government, the nature of which will be regulated by the advent and extent of the monsoon rains.

7. The Governor in Council has had before him applications for sanction for many new works of a petty and local character, the possible benefit to arise from which can only be of a purely temporary character. He considers such works undesirable, but does not, however, desire to fetter the discretion of collectors, and therefore will not generally refuse to sanction works recommended by them, but the sanction will only be accorded upon the distinct understanding that collectors, before recommending any works for sanction, satisfy themselves that such works are essential to the proper extent of relief, and are not urged from motives of purely local interest, or instigated by subordinates who hope for an opportunity to make an illicit gain from the relief expenditure.

English newspapers received by mail show misapprehension about mortality in Madras Presidency. Actual returns for nine distressed districts including Madras town during six months, November to April, give results, total population 13,765,165 or 13½ millions, deaths 373,993, of which 182,114 were reported due to cholera, which raged terribly during January, February, and March. During 1866 when famine visited

northern districts of Madras, 200,000 cholera deaths were reported, monthly total deaths of past seasons were —

November -	-	-	-	-	-	28,385
December -	-	-	-	-	-	56,725
January -	-	-	-	-	-	82,672
February -	-	-	-	-	-	76,745
March -	-	-	-	-	-	70,328
April -	-	-	-	-	-	59,136

By April cholera had greatly abated. Figures for subsequent months will be furnished hereafter. Death rate was thus 27 per thousand for the half year, $12\frac{1}{2}$ per thousand being due to cholera. Madras Presidency reported death rate of 1875 was 21 per thousand; yearly death rate in India believed to be ordinarily not below 23 per thousand. The reported deaths of the half year thus exceed the reported death rate of 1875 by $16\frac{1}{2}$ per thousand, or 227,123 cases, and they exceed the supposed normal death rate by 13 per thousand or 188,945 cases. This latter number somewhat exceeds total of cholera deaths. Impossible to say how much additional mortality due to famine. Rural registration of deaths not fully trusted. We propose to take census of selected areas in Mysore at end of famine and thereby ascertain actual losses of population. This was done in Bengal in November 1874. We shall recommend same course to Governments of Bombay and Madras.

No 276

Telegram, dated 17th October 1877.

FROM GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY TO SECRETARY OF STATE

Rain generally sufficient, Bombay Presidency, prospects, autumn and winter crops good, fine weather now wanted in Deccan. Numbers on relief works decreasing. Gratuitous relief still maintained for short time longer. Trade, both internal and external, continues active.

No. 277.

Nos. 944, 945, and 946, dated Simla, the 17th October 1877.

FROM THE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA TO THE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS, THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, AND THE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

As there must be some doubt about the accuracy of the returns of deaths, furnished from the distressed districts during the past season, I am directed to suggest that at the end of the famine, steps should be taken to take a census of selected taluks in different parts of the famine country. This course was taken in Bengal during November 1874, and it was found that with the help of the extra famine establishments and of the village officials, the business could be done without any heavy expenditure, beyond the cost of lithographing a sufficient number of forms.

2 It is very desirable to ascertain how far the numbers of the rural population may have been affected by the famine, and it would be necessary, for this purpose, to count the people in some of the most distressed and also in some of less distressed taluks. If possible the counting should be postponed until the very end of the famine, when all the wanderers will probably have returned to their homes.

* Government of Bombay
Madras
Chief Commissioner of Mysore

3 I am to ask you to let me know whether the
* consider it practicable to carry out this
suggestion

No. 278.

No 2427A, dated Allahabad, 18th October 1877.

FROM THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT OF NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES AND OUDH TO THE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

With reference to your letter No 886 (Famine), dated the 4th October 1877, I am directed to submit, for the information of his Excellency the Governor-General in

K k 3

Encl in
No. 288.

Encl in
No 289

To the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, North-western Provinces, No 2401 A of the 10th instant.

Council, a copy of the letter marginally noted, showing the instructions issued by this Government in regard to the suspension of the kharif kists in consequence of the failure of the crops.

2 I am also to forward a copy of a letter No 792 A, dated the 11th of October 1877, which has been addressed to the Government of India in the Financial Department

Encl in
No. 289

No 279.

No 6,276, dated 19th October 1877

From the CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY to the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

I am desired by his Excellency the Governor in Council to report, for the information of his Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council, the following information regarding the realization of the land revenue of this Presidency in the year 1876-77, exclusive of the Province of Sind, where there was no drought

2 The land revenue to be collected amounted to Rs 2,62,99,590. Out of this the sum of Rs 2,33,40,250 was collected on the 31st August 1877. The amount of remissions granted up to the same date on account of failure of crops through drought amounted to Rs. 2,15,110. As regards the residue, the subject was carefully considered by his Excellency the Governor in Council, and it was finally determined that all the outstandings should be treated as recoverable balances and so entered in the accounts.

3 Many of these balances are owing by people who are tolerably well off, and these will be gradually recovered with care and judgment when the ripening crops are brought to market. In other cases the monsoon of 1878 will be awaited. Should that prove abundant, and should a plentiful harvest be the fortunate result, it is confidently anticipated that these remaining arrears may, for the most part, be collected in 1878-79.

4 As regards those remissions which have been granted, his Excellency the Viceroy in Council may be assured that the utmost care and vigilance were exercised before granting them, and the Governor in Council is convinced that the liberality of Government has been very seldom misplaced, considering the enormous number of claims which had to be investigated. At the same time he can unhesitatingly assert that the large revenue which, in an exceptionally distressing time, has been collected, has been realised without any harshness or undue pressure.

5 A further report will be made in due course showing how the out standing balances are being recovered.

Encl in
No. 288.

No 280

No 952, dated Simla, 19th October 1877

From the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA to the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF MYSORE

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, forwarding copies of the Mysore Famine Code, drawn up, under the Chief Commissioner's orders, by Mr C A Elliott, the Famine Commissioner.

2. I am to express the satisfaction of the Governor-General in Council with the completeness of this code, and the promptitude shown in its preparation and issue. The preface, and Chapters I to IV., are all excellent. It remains for the Famine Commissioner, and the Divisional Commissioners, to see that these orders are fully and systematically carried out. The rules (pages 6, 7, 11, and 12, and Chapter IV) provide sufficiently for the treatment of persons who, from age, illness, or emaciation, are unfit for hard work. Such persons, who were crowding the relief camps at the time of the Viceroy's visit to Mysore, will, if these rules be properly carried out, have every possible chance of recovering health and strength.

3 The wage-scale (Appendix I, page 13) was approved by the Viceroy and Governor-General at the time of its issue. But instructions have since been communicated to you, desiring that the wage-scale should be re-arranged, so as to give seven distinct

days' wage. At present the wages of the whole week are arranged as six days' wages. The rules which direct that *ad interim* wages should be given to new comers, and that wages should be paid thrice a week until the people get strong and the system becomes known, will prevent evils, such as have, on occasions, arisen from the system of weekly payments.

4 Chapter V of the Code, regarding village relief, appears to lay upon the village officials duties which may be beyond the powers of some of them. But the expenditure on village relief in Mysore has hitherto been small, and now that the famine is drawing to an end, no harm, it is to be hoped, will result from the imperfect obedience which in some villages may be given to the provisions of Chapter IV.

5 The appended papers regarding the house visitation in Bangalore town, the hutting of labourers, the shape of relief hospitals, and the sanitary arrangements at relief camps and works, are all useful and worthy of a place in the Famine Code.

6 Many of the provisions, and all of the principles embodied in Chapter I-IV, of the Code, have been in operation for the last four weeks. And the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council has been glad to hear that the inmates of relief kitchens near Bangalore have improved greatly in health and spirits after 15 or 20 days on the relief works where they were well treated and regularly paid. His Excellency in Council has also learnt with pleasure that, under the present arrangements, the lamentable mortality in and near Bangalore town has gradually and steadily diminished. The Government of India will await with interest the reports of the village inspections to be effected under Chapter V of the Code.

7 I am to request that you will, with the Chief Commissioner's permission, convey to Mr C A Elliott an expression of the interest and approval with which the Mysore Famine Code of 1877 has been perused by his Excellency the Governor-General in Council.

No. 281.

Telegram, dated 20th October 1877

FROM VICEROY TO SECRETARY OF STATE

Season telegram, 12th to 18th October—Madras rainfall in all districts, averaging 1½ inches. Prospects of standing crops everywhere good. Autumn harvests yield moderate. Prices falling in Bellary, Kurnool, and Cuddapah. Quotations about 20 pounds per rupee for dry grain. On works 550,299, decrease 36,929. Gratuitous, 1,283,966, decrease 247,289. Regular burst of north-east monsoon not yet reported. Grain importation slack, but supply sufficient, and large accumulations in Madras itself.

Bombay Good rain in Deccan and Concan. Prices falling. Crop prospects good everywhere, except Sind, where gloomy. North-east monsoon reported from Dharwar. On works 119,881, decrease 62,277. Gratuitous 152,055, decrease 10,295.

Mysore Heavy showers. General crop prospects good. Grain 19 pounds the rupee. Prices still falling. On works 62,506. Gratuitous 103,750, decrease 22,554. Mortality slowly decreasing, but still very high all through Mysore.

North-western Provinces Cold weather set in. No rain. Spring crop sowings progressing everywhere. Prices high. Prospects generally good.

Punjab Good rain Rawul Pindie. Moderate showers elsewhere. Spring crop cultivation progressing hopefully.

Rajputana Spring crop cultivation progressing. More rain wanted in parts. Prices falling in places, steady elsewhere.

Indore Prospects in Malwa and Bundelkund generally good. Some rain at Gwahor. Relief works being maintained for destitute immigrants.

Bengal Central Provinces, Assam, Burmah, prospects generally good.

Hyderabad 4 inches of rain. Prospects good. Prices falling.

Reduction of 356,790 during week on relief numbers in Bombay and Madras. Causes decrease of 11 lakhs in monthly famine expenditure.

No. 282.

Encl. in
No 289.

From the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, to the SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT, NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES

No 957, Dated Simla, the 22nd October 1877

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No 792 A, dated 11th October, to the address of the Financial Department. With reference to your first paragraph, I am to thank the Lieutenant-Governor for the early warning he has given, and to say that measures will be taken by the Comptroller-General, in communication with the Accountant-General, for the supply of funds to meet the requirements of the public service in the North-western Provinces and Oudh.

2. The Viceroy and Governor-General in Council, however, directs me to address you more at length on those parts of your letter which state that only a very small part of the autumn land revenue instalment can be punctually realised, that a large suspension of the revenue demand is unavoidable; and that heavy expenditure has been necessary for the relief of the distressed, as well as on advances for land improvement and for the purchase of seed grain. A subsequent telegram from the Accountant-General intimates that he expects 99* lakhs of land revenue, namely, 33 lakhs in November and 66 lakhs in December, to be collected during the last two months of the year, so that the prospects of collecting the land revenue may have improved much during the 10 days after the despatch of your letter under acknowledgment. The Governor-General in Council hopes that the collections will be even better than the Accountant-General anticipates. It is understood, moreover, that the timely rainfall of the 6th to 11th of October has obviated the need for any considerable expenditure on relief works in the North-Western Provinces or Oudh.

NOTE.—The average receipts of the North-western Provinces and Oudh for these two months, during the last four years, have been 147 lakhs

3. In the event of its being proposed to issue orders for granting any general suspension of the land revenue demand in the North-western Provinces and Oudh, the Government of India desire to make the following observations. In the first place the failure of the autumn crop, though grievous and extensive, has not been universal. Over the greater part of the Benares and Allahabad Divisions, and over some of the south-eastern tracts of Oudh, the autumn crop has escaped. The yield may perhaps be short, but at present high prices the short crops will fetch more than a full crop would do in ordinary years; and in those tracts, at any rate, the land revenue can be punctually paid.

4. On the irrigated lands, again, the land revenue ought to be collected. It may be that many zemindars and ryots abstained from taking canal water for their autumn crops till it was too late. But it is clearly not the interest of the country, or of the public treasury, that such short-sighted policy should be encouraged. One great function of the irrigation canals is to insure the country against famine, if people, who live by the canal, do not take its water until too late in a year of drought, the efficacy of such an insurance is much impaired. And the Government cannot encourage such waste of opportunity by suspending the land revenue due on lands which were unproductive because the landowners failed to make timely use of the water brought to their doors.

5. But, apart from the specially favoured tracts, where the autumn crop was, or might have been, saved, the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council greatly doubts whether, according to the principles and practice of the revenue system of Northern India, the present circumstances are such as to warrant any general suspension of the land revenue demand. One crop only, and that not the greatest crop of the country, has failed on unirrigated lands †. There is every prospect of a good spring crop over an unusually broad area. This failure has come after two or three years of plenty, and years, moreover, when prices were higher than usual. It may be that great part of the profits from the high prices of the past season did not benefit the landholders and ryots, but went into the pockets of the village bankers and the grain-dealers. But these people have, as has been stated in recent correspondence, an interest in the produce of the soil, and in the due payment of the land revenue.

† NOTE.—In some of the lower districts of the Doab from 25 to 50 per cent. of the cultivated land is returned as protected by well irrigation

when prices were higher than usual. It may be that great part of the profits from the high prices of the past season did not benefit the landholders and ryots, but went into the pockets of the village bankers and the grain-dealers. But these people have, as has been stated in recent correspondence, an interest in the produce of the soil, and in the due payment of the land revenue.

6 The experience of past famines and droughts in the North-western Provinces, moreover, warrants the belief that wholesale suspensions of the land revenue are not required, for—

In 1860 the land revenue collections of the North-western Provinces during November and December were	-	-	-	128 lakhs
In 1861 they were, for both Oudh and the North-western Provinces	-	-	-	162½ „
In 1868 when the autumn crop failed over a great part of the country, and the spring crop was deficient, the land revenue collections of November and December were—				
North-western Provinces	-	-	-	73 lakhs.
Oudh	-	-	-	72 „
				145 „

It would thus be a new feature in the revenue administration of the North-western Provinces if the Government were to direct general suspensions of the autumn land revenue instalment because there had been an extensive failure of one crop only

7 The Government of India does not, as at present advised, share the apprehension that the people will restrict their spring crop sowings, if they are pressed to pay punctually the greater part of their autumn instalment. The reports published in the Gazette show that cultivation for the spring crop is as yet making favourable progress. And it is not understood from your letter that recent reports have reached his Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the stoppage of cultivation, or of lack of seed grain, over any considerable areas of the North-western Provinces or Oudh. The spring sowings will be nearly over before the land revenue instalments fall due, and the village bankers will, in the ordinary course of business, make advances on the crop in the ground.

8 The practice of neighbouring provinces may be adduced in support of what has in former years been the practice of the North-western Provinces. The districts of Behar are in the same case with the permanently settled districts of the Benares division, yet in the more general failure of 1874 not a rupee of the Behar land revenue was suspended in November and December 1874. During the present season the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab has directed that the November instalment shall be collected in full, reserving the grant of any necessary suspensions for the December instalment, yet the failure of the autumn harvest in the Hissar, Delhi, Amballa and Jullundur divisions has been considerable.

9 As your letter points out, the settlement in the North-western Provinces and in Oudh is with superior landholders, to whom a liberal margin of rent is left to meet the chances of bad years, and not with field occupiers as in Madras or Bombay. And therefore the landholders have, as of right, no claim to a suspension of the autumn instalment due from them. In districts like Agra, for instance, where the failure of crops and pasturage has been excessive, and in tracts where single villages are held by cultivating brotherhoods, there may be necessity for partial, but considerable suspensions of revenue. But it would be introducing a new principle into the revenue system of the North-western Provinces, and it would be a direct encouragement of the unthrift described in your fourth paragraph, if the Government were to suspend its demand on any great scale during the present autumn.

10 The Viceroy and Governor-General in Council does not desire to hamper the legitimate discretion of his Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-western Provinces and Oudh, he does not counsel, indeed he would not approve, harsh and rigorous measures to extort the autumn instalments from people who really cannot pay, but he wishes that the collectors and their establishments should be allowed to collect the land revenue, with caution and consideration for the people, in the ordinary way, special cases or special tracts being admitted to special concessions. The Government of India considers that this course may, with the excellent and experienced revenue officers under the Lieutenant-Governor's command, be taken with safety both to the people and to the public treasury. It seems desirable that no general order advising or directing wholesale suspensions of land revenue should be issued, unless matters turn out to be more generally unfavourable than the Government of India is at present aware.

11 With this general expression of the views of the Government of India, the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council would leave the matter to the discretion of the Lieutenant-Governor, in the confidence that the great bulk of the autumn instalment

of land revenue in the North-western Provinces and Oudh will be collected at the ordinary season, and that suspensions will be granted only in cases where they are absolutely necessary.

P S.—Since the foregoing letter was in type, your letter, No 2,427A, dated 15th October, has been received. The instructions of the Revenue Board, enclosed in that letter, in the main accord with the views expressed in the present orders of the Government of India. But there may be risk that, under those instructions, suspensions may be granted to deserving landholders not absolutely in need of such concessions. If, however, the injunction at paragraph 4 of your letter to the Board be obeyed, that "all who can pay up, should be required to do so," then the views of the Government of India will have been carried out. It will, doubtless, be understood by collectors that landholders who have credit, and can raise the necessary funds from their bankers, are to be reckoned among those "who can pay up."

Encl in
No. 289

No. 283.

From the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA to the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY
TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

No 973, dated Simla, the 24th October 1877

In my letter No. 856, dated 20th September last, was conveyed an expression of the hope entertained by the Government of India, that much of the arrears of land revenue due for the year 1876-77 would be collected if the season turned out favourably.

2 Since that letter was written there has been a very great change for the better in the prospects of the crops throughout the Madras Presidency. During the whole of September and October rain has in moderate but sufficient quantity fallen in almost every district. In some districts the irrigation tanks are fuller than they have been for years. In parts of the Godavery district the supply of river water for irrigation may have been short; and the early autumn crop has not yielded a good outturn by reason of the failure of rain during August,—still, so far as the weekly reports go, there seems every prospect of full winter and spring crops, provided the north-east monsoon is favourable.

3 The Viceroy and Governor-General in Council gathers from the returns of "area cultivated and revenue collected," that in most districts the area sown this year is larger than the average of previous years, though the revenue collections have been lamentably (and perhaps unavoidably) short. If, however, this large area of crop turns out well, the Government of India would hope that the arrears of last year, and also the full demand of the current year, may be collected without fail. And I am to suggest that some expression of the views of the Government of Madras on this important subject might be conveyed to the Board of Revenue.

4 The punctual collection of the land revenue of the current year is of the utmost importance to the general finances of the Empire; for the expenditure and loss of revenue during the famine, probably not less than eleven millions in all, has very seriously reduced the cash balances of the Empire.

5 The Viceroy and Governor-General in Council does not desire, and he is confident that the Government of Madras would not adopt, harsh measures to compel the people to pay land revenue when they have no money and no credit. But his Excellency in Council believes that, with the crops now on the ground, and with moderately high prices, the Madras ryots will this year, unless the season prospects change, be able to bear their proper share of the country's burden.

6 In order to show that the Government of India is not asking of Madras more than it asks and receives from other provinces, I am directed to forward copies of the letters marginally noted. From these papers it will be seen that, notwithstanding the very extensive failure of the autumn crop of 1877, the Governments of the Punjab and North-western Provinces are expected to collect punctually the greater part of the autumn instalments of land revenue, and that not a rupee

No 282 Famine Department letter No 957, dated 22nd October, to the Government, North-western Provinces.

No 279 Bombay Government letter No. 6,276, dated 19th October, to the Famine Department

of the demand will be remitted, unless circumstances change greatly for the worse. In the Bombay Presidency also, where the land revenue is collected directly from petty occupiers (ryots), as in Madras, 88 per cent of the land revenue demand of 1876-77 (the famine year) had been collected by the end of August, and less than one per cent had been remitted. An assurance has also been received from the Bombay Government that, if the winter and spring crops of the present season are good (as it appears they

will be), the whole land revenue demand of 1877-78 will be collected as in ordinary years

7 The Viceroy and Governor-General in Council would ask that, as soon as the Government of Madras is able to form an estimate of the season, he may be favoured with an estimate of the amount of land revenue that will probably be collected in the Madras Presidency before the 1st June next, both on account of—

- (a) The arrears of the year 1876-77,
- (b) The current demand of the year 1877-78

No. 284

Telegram, dated 26th October 1877.

From the CHIEF SECRETARY, Bombay, to MR. BERNARD, Simla.

Your telegram of to-day Demand for the districts, which yielded Rs 2,33,40,250 this year, as per my letter of 19th October, was for 1874-75 Rs 2,59,85,640, collections were Rs 2,58,25,619, balance Rs. 1,80,021; for 1875-76, demand Rs. 2,60,32,735, collections Rs 2,58,70,222, balance Rs 1,62,513

No. 285

Telegram, dated 26th October 1877

From the VICEROY to the SECRETARY OF STATE

Season telegram, 19th to 25th October Madras Rain general in all districts; average over 2 inches in Madras. Trichinopoly, Salem, Coimbatore Duke telegraphs to-day that north-east monsoon set in on 16th, but wind unsteady, heavy and partial storms, frequent and general, except near Madras, prospects generally improved, except Godavery Delta, Ganjam, and part of Madras Message ends.

Weekly report of crop prospects good, prices nowhere dearer than 19 or 20 pounds per rupee for common grain No fear for Ceded Districts, but some anxiety about irregularity of monsoon in coast districts Importations by sea and rail average 1,500 tons a day Demand from interior slack

On works 484,365, decrease 66,924, gratuitous 1,060,034, decrease 223,932 Administrative arrangements of August working well

Bombay General prospects good, save Sind, where no improvement, some damage by excessive rain in some parts of Concan, Deccan, and Dharwar. On works 98,773, decrease 26,108, gratuitous 139,594, decrease 12,641 Preference in favour of grain consignments on Peninsula Railway withdrawn, and traffic to Bombay for export free

Mysore Weather showery, crops flourishing, health improving, but mortality still high Price of common grain 20 pounds per rupee On works, 72,202, gratuitous, 88,757

North-west No rain save partial showers

In Punjab, spring crop sowings progressing well, prices high, but steady

Rajputana and Indore Relief provided for immigrant poor near Ajmere and Neemuch on railway works, also near Gwahar and Rutlam, and road work near Goona Special relief arrangements made for returning emigrants and wanderers on Agra and Indore road, where distress reported. Other provinces prospects good Satisfactory report of land revenue collections from Bombay Relief expenditure decreasing rapidly

No. 286

No 979, dated Simla, 26th October 1877

From the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, Public Works Department (Famine), to the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS, Revenue Department

It is with the greatest satisfaction that His Excellency the Viceroy in Council has received a copy of the proceedings of the Madras Government in the Famine Department, No 2,331 dated the 15th instant

The favourable change in the season which is described in your first paragraph is most hopeful and His Excellency in Council is glad to learn by a telegram received last night that the north-east monsoon has at length arrived to supplement and complete the hopeful prospects for the future

3. The orders of his Grace the Governor urging all district officers to take the fullest advantage of this satisfactory change in the prospects of the season by inducing people to return to their ordinary avocations, are most judicious and opportune, for, as he justly observes, "the interests of the country now demand that every available hand shall be turned to agriculture," and no less necessary is the caution conveyed to district officers to "take care that the measures which were necessary for relief of the "famine districts are not converted into a long demoralising and pauperising charity"

4 The returns received during the past three weeks show that with the returning prospects of agricultural prosperity, the orders issued by the Madras Government on the 24th September have already borne good fruit, the numbers of people receiving Government aid having diminished during the current month by 6½ lakhs, or by more than one fourth of the whole number; and his Excellency in Council doubts not that with the continued improvement in agricultural prospects and with the steady fall in the price of food which should be the natural consequence thereof, the admirable orders now issued by the Madras Government will have the effect of speedily restoring the province to its normal state, will foster the habitual self-reliance of its people, and will relieve the imperial finances from the severe strain which during the past season they have undergone.

Encl. in
No 289.

No. 287

From the ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA to the CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY. No 983.

Simla, the 29th October 1877.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 6,276, dated 19th October, reporting upon the collections of land revenue in the distressed districts of the Bombay Presidency, on account of the demand of the famine year 1876-77.

2. The Government of India gather from your letter that out of the whole land revenue demanded of the year 1876-77, 88 per cent had been collected up to the end of August last, that as yet only one per cent of that demand has been remitted, that the greater part of the unremitted balance (Rs 27,44,230) will be gradually recovered, as the people are able to pay, and that the "large revenue which, in an exceptionally "distressing time, has been collected has been realised without any harshness or undue "pressure"

3 The Viceroy and Governor-General in Council desires to congratulate the Bombay Government and its revenue officers most cordially on the result which has thus followed the policy adopted by his Excellency the Governor in Council in February last, and subsequently carried out by the present Government of Bombay The Imperial treasury, on which such heavy demands have been made for relief expenditure, has benefited greatly by the careful regard which has been paid in the Bombay Presidency to the interests of the public revenue. It is specially gratifying to the Government of India to learn that no harshness or undue pressure has been exercised in realising the State dues The diligence and success with which the Bombay ryots have set themselves to make the best of the present favourable season, are good evidence that the payment of the Government revenues did not press too hardly upon the people. This result is, the Government of India believe, in great part due to the care with which Bombay revenue officers investigated every individual case, in which suspension or remission of land revenue was claimed

No. 288.

No. 39 of 1877.

From the GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, Public Works Department (Famine), to the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA

Simla, the 30th October 1877

No. 271

In our letter No 38 (Famine), dated 11th October, we had the pleasure of reporting to your Lordship the very favourable change caused in the prospects of the season by the rainfall in Northern, Western, and Central India, during the second week of the present month.

2. Since the date of that letter matters have gone on satisfactorily. Taking the several provinces in order we have to report as follows —

Favourable rain has fallen regularly throughout the Presidency of Madras, gauging, on an average, about two inches a week up to the 22nd October The north-east monsoon (or latter rains), on which the crops in the districts of the Coromandel Coast and the Carnatic greatly

Madras.

depend, did not burst with its usual vigour. But the change of wind from S.W. to E set in on the 16th, and since then partial but heavy storms have fallen in most parts of the Presidency. Up to the 26th the monsoon was unsteady and variable, the latest telegram, dated 30th October states that the—

“ Monsoon burst in Kistna, Nellore, Kurnool, Bellary, Cuddapah, Madras, Chingleput, South Arcot, Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Madura, Tinnevely. Not yet reported burst in Combarore, Salem, North Arcot, failed at present in Ganjam, where crops withering, in Vizagapatam and Godavery bursting doubtful ”*

Successive weekly reports have shown that the early crops which suffered much from the drought during August had revived greatly from the September rain, and have yielded an outturn averaging more than half of a full harvest. The winter crop is almost everywhere in good condition, cultivation and sowings for the spring crops are making satisfactory progress.

3 Prices have fallen steadily both at Madras and in the interior; at Bellary and Kurnool in the north, and at Tinnevely and Madura in the south, the quotations of the cheaper food grains range from 19 lbs to 20 lbs per rupee. Importations of grain by sea and by railway have decreased considerably, the despatches of rice from Bengal and Burmah to Madras ports averaged during last week 1,095 tons daily, as compared with 5,454 tons daily during the corresponding week of September. Consignments to the Madras districts by the Great Indian Peninsula Railway have fallen to about 350 tons a day, this decrease is due not to any failure in the railway working, but to the backwardness of consignors. There are in Madras town accumulations of grain, which are estimated by the Local Government to suffice for six weeks. Despatches of grain from Madras into the interior now average about 1,100 tons a day; dealers at Bellary and Bangalore are stopping their consignments, and the Madras Government report that holders are speculating on the failure of the north-east monsoon. For the present there is no fear as to the sufficiency of the supply of grain.

4 We reported to your Lordship, in our letter quoted above, the substance of telegrams which had passed regarding the cessation of the preference shown by the Great Indian Peninsula Railway to grain consignments to the famine districts of Madras. We explained that though we were most anxious to meet the wishes of the Bombay merchants who urged a withdrawal of the preference, yet we considered that the requirements of the famine districts were of paramount importance. The Governor of Madras telegraphed on the 24th October that—

“ The preference given failed to bring at present any large quantity, that the traffic was very small, and that the Madras Government therefore, although prices were still high and imports needed, did not see any objection to the Bombay order for preference being now held in abeyance ”

We accordingly (on the 25th October) informed the Bombay Government by telegraph that the preference granted on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway in favour of grain consignments to the famine districts, might cease for the present; and we at the same time explained that the north-east monsoon had not yet burst at Madras, and that therefore the withdrawal of the preference could not as yet be final and permanent.

5 The combined result of the revised relief rules,† and of the favourable change of the season, has been to reduce considerably the numbers in receipt of State relief in the Madras Presidency. The numbers have been—

For the Week ending	On Relief Works	On Gratuitous Relief	Total
29th September -	- 628,259	1,603,721	2,231,980
6th October -	- 587,228	1,531,255	2,118,483
13th „ -	- 550,299	1,283,966	1,834,265
20th „ -	- 484,365	1,060,034	1,544,399

The reduction during the last three weeks has thus been 687,589, or about 30 per cent. So far as we have learnt the people who have thus ceased to be recipients of relief have gone back to their homes and their fields, to the great advantage of themselves and of the country, as well as to the benefit of the public treasury. The shortening of the administrative chain in famine matters has certainly conduced to efficiency and economy in relief operations, and so far the arrangements made by the Viceroy and the Governor of Madras on the 31st August are working well, though there was at the

* A later telegram received since this letter was struck off reported that the monsoon had burst well everywhere except in Ganjam.

first some delay in giving effect to those arrangements. Subsidiary instructions have been issued by the Government of Madras on minor points and local details outside the scope of the revised relief rules; these instructions all tend to prevent waste of public money and demoralization of the people on the one hand, while on the other to provide that people in real distress shall not be left to starve. A copy of one of the more recent of these instructions, with our letter approving its principles, will be found in Enclosure No. 1 to this letter.

6 Throughout the Bombay Presidency there has been sufficient rain, and Sir Richard Temple telegraphed (on the 21st October) that "a new form of anxiety is arising from excessive rain in parts of Sholapore, Sattara, Kaladgi, Belgaum, and Dharwar, where fine weather is much needed, as damage is caused by wet to autumn and winter crops." Later telegrams dated the 28th and 30th say that excessive rain continues to retard harvest and threatens to reduce the yield, and that "no favourable change has occurred in the weather save in Sattara and Sholapore," where it is now dry.

On the whole the prospects of the autumn and winter crops throughout the Bombay Presidency continue to be good. Prices are falling, and they now range from 24 lbs in Khandesh to 13 and 16 lbs per rupee in Dharwar, Belgaum, and Kaladgi. The numbers in receipt of State relief were—

For the Week ending on the—	On Relief Works	On Gratuitous Relief	Total
29th September	219,734	163,008	382,742
6th October	183,613	162,348	345,961
13th "	119,881	152,055	271,936
20th "	98,773	139,594	238,367
27th "	70,617	128,307	198,924

So that during the last four weeks the reduction in the number of relief recipients has been 187,818, or about 48 per cent. The Bombay Government has from time to time issued orders providing that, while all who can leave the relief works should be encouraged to do so, destitute persons and wanderers who are unable to labour or who cannot get employment should be carefully looked after and relieved. We are satisfied that relief is not being withheld from any who are really in want.

7 In Mysore there has been moderate rain throughout the fortnight. The condition of the winter crops is good, and the prospects of the spring crops are most favourable. Prices have fallen, and are now quoted at 20 lbs per rupee in Bangalore. Markets are everywhere sufficiently supplied, new grain is being brought for sale, and dealers are reducing their importations from Madras and the seaboard.

8. Detailed instructions for the administration of relief of all kinds have been drawn up, on the basis of the orders issued by the Viceroy at Bangalore on the 8th September. These instructions have been thrown into the shape of a Famine Code for Mysore. * Other copies will be sent hereafter, only one is available now. copy* of which will be found as Enclosure No 2 to this letter. The Code has been drawn up by Mr C. A. Elliott, the Famine Commissioner, under the orders of the Chief Commissioner. It is an excellent compendium of instructions suited to the present state of affairs in Mysore, many of its provisions founded on the orders of the Government of India, will be found applicable to famine relief administration elsewhere. In our Secretary's letter (see Enclosure No 2) acknowledging the Code, we expressed our special satisfaction with the clauses, which carefully provide for the humane treatment of those who are unable to do a full day's work, or who are in need of medical care and special food.

9. During the past month 25 relief officers (five of whom were native officers of the Bengal Army) 20 engineers of different grades, and 34 medical subordinates have been sent to Mysore. Much has been done to systematise and improve the arrangements at relief works and relief camps, to secure the proper treatment of the suffering poor and to prevent speculation and mismanagement.

10. Up to the latest reports, deaths, mainly due to famine, are still occurring in and near Bangalore, whither had congregated tens of thousands, for whom adequate relief was not available in their villages. The poor creatures,—who thus wander in search of charity, grow weaker and weaker, and at last die during the cold rainy nights—mostly come from the distressed tracts in the centre and north of the province, and they are said often to pass by relief works and relief houses, where they could at once obtain relief. A special organisation has been arranged for finding these wanderers, before

they are past recovery, and bringing them forcibly into relief hospitals and relief camps. The reported famine deaths in and round the town and cantonment of Bangalore were—

during August	-	-	-	-	20 per day
during 1st to 10th September	-	-	-	-	41 "
during 11th to 30th September	-	-	-	-	35 "
during 1st to 13th October	-	-	-	-	26 "
during 14th to 17th October	-	-	-	-	23 "
during 18th to 20th October	-	-	-	-	16 "

The deaths in relief camps and relief hospitals were—

during August	-	-	-	-	84 per day
during 1st to 10th September	-	-	-	-	95 "
during 11th to 30th September	-	-	-	-	70 "
during 1st to 13th October	-	-	-	-	55 "

The numbers fed in the relief camps in and around Bangalore from the 1st August up to the 10th September were about 36,000, of whom barely one sixth were permanent inmates of the camps. From the 11th September to the 30th October the average number of persons relieved at the camps was about 20,000, of whom from one half to three quarters were permanent inmates. The good done by the changes in the relief system, and by the improvement in the season, is apparent from the reduced mortality in Bangalore town and cantonments generally. The number of deaths, exclusive of reported famine deaths and of the deaths in relief hospitals, is returned at—

In Bangalore town and cantonment	}	884 for the month of July
		1,185 " " August
		225 " " September

11 We have not yet received detailed reports, but we learn that the Famine Commissioner fears that the mortality from famine in the Tumkur district and other parts of Central Mysore has been very large. A recent telegram from the Famine Commissioner, who is still journeying through the distressed districts, informs us that the condition of the people in the north-western districts of the province is better than he had expected, and that additional relief operations there are not now needed. At Enclosure No 3 will be found the relief reports of the province for the last three weeks. The changes in the numbers in receipt of relief has been as follows—

During the Week ending—	On Relief Works	On Gratuitous Relief
15th September-	53,745	208,683
22nd "	56,551	161,892
29th "	58,693	126,204
6th October	62,506	103,750
13th "	73,202	88,757
20th "	78,478	72,838

It is satisfactory that the numbers on relief works now form a much larger proportion of the total numbers in receipt of relief. The reports state that the paupers gain much in health and spirits within a few days of their being drafted from gratuitous relief at camps or kitchens to relief works.

12 Major Moncrieff, the Acting Chief Engineer of Mysore, has returned from a journey to the district of Coorg. He reports that at the present season there is no need for extensive relief works, as the coffee gardens, now and for the next three months, will furnish ample labour. His detailed report has not yet been received, but we gather that there was ground for the representations made to the Viceroy on his visit to Mysore, regarding the need for relief operations in Coorg during the summer and early autumn months.

13 There has been a heavy fall of rain in the Hyderabad country, the crops are in good condition, prices are cheaper, and relief operations are being closed. In Berar the prospects of the crops are excellent.

14 In the Central Provinces there has been some loss of the rice crop in the districts of Saugor, Damoh, and Sumbulpore, owing to the shortness of the September rainfall. But, for the rest, the prospects of the winter crops, and the progress of the spring crop sowings, are everywhere good. Immigration into Saugor from the Central India States has now ceased, and the immigrants have begun slowly to return. As yet they return in parties of only

50 to 200 a day; and many thousands are still in Saugor and Damoh, for some of whom relief employment has to be provided.

15 Though the condition of affairs in Rajputana was very greatly improved by the rainfall reported in our letter of the 11th October, yet there were tracts where no autumn crop had been sowed, and where spring crops never grow. These tracts were situated principally in Rajputana and Central India States. Marwar and the desert States north and west of the Aravelli hills. Emigrants from these parts were reported to be still thronging Ajmere; and therefore, whilst postponing the preparation of railway work beyond the Sendra pass towards Erinpoorah, we have directed that our sanction to the prosecution of railway work in the pass shall hold good, in order that relief employment may be provided for destitute immigrants. In Central India, though the prospect of the Malwa crops is good, and though there has been further rain in Gwalior, yet there is not sufficient agricultural employment for the many thousands of immigrants, who have come into the country between Neemuch and Indore. On the representation of the agent, Sir Henry Daly, we have directed that the earthwork on the Neemuch and Rutlam section of the Central India Railway shall be commenced at both ends. In this way employment will be provided for immigrants into the Western States of Central India. But in the South-eastern States also there is need for relief to the immigrant poor, who were flocking down the great road from Agra to Indore. Though the emigrants are beginning to return home northwards, yet all have not the means of supporting themselves on their homeward journey, and deaths among them from cholera and even from hunger are reported. Goona is the only place where British officers are quartered on the whole length of road from Gwalior to Indore. The officers there have, partly from private subscriptions and partly with the help of a grant from the Madras Relief Fund, opened relief houses, and have given food and clothing to many thousands of destitute wayfarers. The Maharaja Scindiah has engaged to maintain and indeed has maintained relief houses as far as Seepree on the Indore road, and arrangements are being made for opening relief places between Seepree and Goona. The recipients of relief are subjects of native States, and the relief houses will be in Native territory. The cost of these operations ought not properly to be a charge on the British Indian taxpayer; but the relief is being given, and if the money for its cost cannot be had elsewhere, the British treasury will have to bear the charge. Effort will be made, however, to procure the necessary funds from the native States interested. For those immigrants who require relief employment near Goona, work is being commenced on a cross road from Goona to Oojein, for which funds are available in the Central India Agency budget of the current year.

16 There has been no further appreciable rain in the North-west Provinces, but there has been a good fall of rain at Rawul Pindee in the North-west Provinces and the Punjab, which had not shared in the rain of the second week of October. Over the whole of the North-west Provinces, the Punjab, and Oudh, preparations for the spring crop are making good progress, an unusually broad area is being sown with spring grains, and prices have fallen somewhat. We have not yet heard whether all the proposed relief works can at once be forgone. But the schemes for extensive relief works in the North-west Provinces have been laid aside, while in the Punjab no need for special relief works had been represented by the local Government.

17 The crop prospects are now good over Bengal and Assam. In the Bassein and Henzada districts of British Burmah, serious floods destroyed (see Enclosure No 4) large breadths of the young rice crop. But most of the flooded lands have been or will be replanted. The latest advices from Rangoon and Mouleim show that merchants expect a very large rice crop in Burmah, and their estimate is that the exportable surplus will reach 800,000 tons.

18 At paragraph 3 of your Despatch No 53, dated 26th July, it was mentioned that a further report from Dr Lewis and Dr D D Cunningham, respecting the fevers recently prevalent in Bombay and Madras, would be awaited. We have now the honour to forward (Enclosure No 5) a short report in which these officers state their opinion that the fevers prevalent in Bombay during the earlier part of the year 1876 were of the ordinary "intermittent" and "continued" types, and were not famine fevers. They state also that, in the Madras Presidency, fevers, "so far from being exceptionally severe during the early months of 1876, were decidedly in abeyance." The mortality returns of the Madras distressed districts for the six months, November 1876 to April 1877, show that cholera and smallpox were the most prevalent diseases from December to March.

19 In Enclosure No 6 will be found copy of a telegram despatched to your Lordship on the 16th current, regarding the death rates of the Madras Presidency, also a table

No. 256*

Bengal, Assam, Burmah

No. 231

No. 275.
" 69.

showing the reported deaths in each of the distressed districts during the six months, November 1876 to April 1877. The net result is that, in these districts, containing a population of 13½ millions, the reported deaths of the half year were 373,993 (or 27 per thousand), being 227,123 (or 16½ per thousand) above the reported deaths of previous years for the same area and the same period, and 188,945 (or 13 per thousand) above what is believed to be the normal death rate of an Indian population. 182,114 deaths from cholera were reported during the six months, this latter number is nearly equal to the excess of the reported deaths above the supposed normal death rate. It is not possible to say how many of the excess deaths were due to famine. The Madras Government have been asked to furnish tables of the reported deaths in districts which are not distressed for the same six months, and also to send tables for subsequent months as soon as they are ready. The results which these tables may show will be reported to your Lordship. The rural registration of deaths is not as yet very complete or trustworthy anywhere, so far as our Sanitary Commissioner is able to judge (see pages 107-8 of his Annual Report for 1875), and the latest report of the Sanitary Commissioner for Madras (pages 53 et seq) would show that the registration of deaths in that Presidency is still capable of improvement. Accordingly we have preferred not to trust to the returns of births and deaths alone, but we have proposed a partial counting of the people in the distressed districts as soon as the famine is over, so that we may ascertain approximately what the loss of population may have been. At Enclosure No 6 will be found a circular letter in which we have issued instructions for a census of selected tracts in the famine-stricken country of Southern India.

No. 277

We have, &c
(Signed) LYTTON, &c.

No 289.

No. 40 of 1877.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.—PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

FAMINE

FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA

Simla, the 30th October 1877

With our letter No 27, dated the 25th June 1877, we forwarded to your Lordship papers submitted by Sir Richard Temple, describing the differences of practice between the several provinces of India in regard to the collection, suspension, and remission of the land revenue during a year of drought. We had previously decided in February that we would not interfere with the discretion of the Local Governments of Madras and Bombay in this matter, but we forwarded the papers to the Government of Madras for an expression of their views after the present crisis was over. The Madras Government has not yet had leisure, from the more pressing duties of famine relief administration, to consider and report upon those papers. Until the views of the Madras Government have been received, we shall not trouble your Lordship with any discussion of the general question whether land revenue ought to be remitted or suspended in a time of drought.

2 But, although we wait an expression of the views of the Government of Madras before submitting to your Lordship a final expression of our opinion on the important general question, we have now the honour to forward copies of papers which go far to show the need for some general ruling on the matter; while the subject of the papers has a very important bearing upon our present financial position. In Enclosure No 1 will be found a letter from the Madras Government, forwarding a Table in which the Board of Revenue show the demands, collections, and balances of land revenue for the famine year 1876-77. It will be seen that—

No. 198.

	Lakhs
(a) The land revenue current demand for the year 1876-77 was only	355
compared with an average demand of the three previous years of	449
(b) The total collections, current and arrears, for the year 1876-77 were	
only	278
compared with a previous average of	449
(c) The actual remissions of the year 1876-77 are	3
on account of the arrear demand, no remissions having yet been	
granted on the current demand	
(d) The balances of the year 1876-77 are	130
compared with a previous average of	60

C 102

M m

It thus appears that the deficiency in the year's* land revenue collections amount to 449 minus 278 lakhs, that is to 171 lakhs. This total is considerably in excess of previous estimates. If more than 45 lakhs out of the outstanding balance of 130 lakhs should be collected hereafter, then the deficiency on the year will be proportionately reduced; but if the annual collections of the present year fall short of 45 lakhs, then the deficiency of the year 1876-77 will practically be increased above the total of 171 lakhs. The attention of the Madras Government has been drawn to the extreme gravity of the losses which the public treasury has, according to these figures, to bear; and we have expressed our hope that it will not sanction any avoidable sacrifice of land revenue, either by reduction of the demand or by remissions.

No. 237.

Nos. 279,
284.

3. In Enclosure No. 2 are papers concerning the demand, collections, and balances of land revenue in the Bombay Presidency for the same year (1876-77). It appears that in the Bombay Districts, exclusive of Sinde—

	Lakhs
(a) The land revenue current demand for the year 1866-67 was	263
compared with an average current demand for the two previous	
years of - - - - -	260
(b) The total collections on account of the current demand of 1876-77	
were, up to the 31st August - - - - -	233½
compared with an average for previous years of - - - - -	259
(c) The remissions granted on account of the current demand were	2
(d) The balances of the year 1876-77 were - - - - -	27½
compared with an average for previous years of - - - - -	1½

The Bombay Government report that this large proportion of the land revenue demand has been collected, even during a year of distress, without harshness or undue pressure. We have expressed our approval of these results, and our satisfaction that they should have been attained without undue pressure on the people. The results are much to the credit of the revenue officers of the Bombay Presidency. It will be remembered that the Bombay Government were in the first instance disposed to grant considerable remissions, but that they modified their orders in this respect on our forwarding Sir Richard Temple's representations of the grave but avoidable losses which a policy of heavy remissions would entail. It will be seen, moreover, from the papers forwarded with our letter of the 25th June (quoted above), that the Bombay revenue system differs from the Madras system, in that the Bombay revenue officers inquire into each ryot's claim to remission or suspension on its individual merits, while Madras revenue officers grant remissions "in block" for whole tracts, without respect to the harvests gained by or the paying power of individual ryots. The Bombay system has, so far as the experience of the past season goes, turned out to be the best for the public treasury.

Nos. 270,
272, 276,
282.

4. Enclosure No. 3 contains correspondence with the Government of the North-western Provinces respecting the extent to which suspensions of the land revenue demand should be granted during the months of November and December 1877. The Lieutenant-Governor was at first disposed to think that the greater part of the autumn instalment of land revenue (about 150 lakhs in all) would have to be suspended over the whole of the North-western Provinces and Oudh. His first letter, dated the 11th October, was, however, written before the full effect of the rain that fell all over the country between the 6th and 10th October was appreciated; and his orders to the Board of Revenue, dated the 18th October, do not authorise such extensive suspensions of the land revenue demand as we had feared might be granted. We have instructed the Lieutenant-Governor that the condition of our treasures does not permit of any postponement of the land revenue demand beyond what may be absolutely necessary. We have pointed out that neither the terms of the land revenue settlement nor the practice of the North-Western Provinces Government in previous years of drought, nor the circumstances of the present and previous seasons, nor consideration for the well-being of the people, nor the procedure of neighbouring and similarly situated provinces, support the view that very extensive suspensions of the land revenue demand are necessary in the North-Western Provinces during the present quarter.

5. The Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab proposes to collect the November land revenue instalment in full, and to grant suspensions, only where absolutely necessary, on the December instalment of land revenue.

6 The papers now forwarded to your Lordship show that the loss of land revenue in the year 1876-77, on account of the drought, was—

		Lakhs	
In the Madras Presidency	-	-	171 or 38 per cent
In the Bombay Presidency	-	-	25½ or 10 per cent
Total	-	-	<u>196½</u>

The difference is due in great part to the difference of revenue practice in the two Presidencies. In the Deccan and Southern Mahratta country the famine and the failure of crops was, if the price of food is fair index of such severity, as severe as in any part of the Madras Presidency, for in Dharwar, Kaladgi, Sholapore, and Belgaum the price of food ranged for months dearer than in any district of Madras. The land revenue in Bombay, just as in Madras, is paid by petty occupiers (ryots) direct to Government, and, so far as recent fiscal phenomena went, the condition of the Deccan ryots seemed to be poorer than that of the Madras ryots.

7 We are as yet unable to report how far the land revenue collections of the current year (1877-78) may be affected by the recent famine. Much may depend upon the north-east monsoon (autumn rains) in the south of the Madras Presidency. If the rains are favourable then we hope that the whole of the current demand and much of the balances of last year may be collected in Madras. We have (see Enclosure No 4) drawn the attention of the Government of Madras to the need for collecting as much as possible of the land revenue of the current year, provided the season continues as favourable as during the past two months, and we have asked for an estimate of the probable collections, on account of the current and arrear demand, as soon as the prospects of the season are clearly known.

No 283

We have, &c
(Signed) LYTTON, &c.

No 290

Revenue, No 74.

From the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA IN COUNCIL TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT
HONOURABLE THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL

India Office, London, 31st October 1877.

Para 1 The Despatch of your Excellency's Government, dated 20th August, No 34 of 1877, announcing that your Excellency, accompanied by Sir Alexander Arbuthnot, proposed to visit Poona, Bangalore, and Madras for the purpose of conferring with the Local Governments and the Chief Commissioner of Mysore on the condition and prospects of those territories, under the circumstances of a renewed failure of the south-west monsoon in many quarters, has been considered by me in Council.

No 164

2 The reports which, since the date of the letter under reply, have been received by telegraph, fully establish the wisdom of the resolution to which your Excellency came.

3 I avail myself of this opportunity to express my general concurrence in the views stated in the minute of your Excellency, dated the 12th August, which forms one of the Enclosures to the Despatch under reply.

I have, &c
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No 291

Revenue No 82

From the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA IN COUNCIL TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA
IN COUNCIL

India Office, London, 8th November, 1877

Para 1 I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's Despatch of the 5th September, No 33 of 1877 giving an account of your Lordship's visit to Poona, Madras, and other places for the purpose of conferring with the Governors of Bombay and Madras and with other high officers on the subject of the famine.

No 215

2 The Despatch is one of high importance, but in replying to it I am greatly embarrassed by the fact that more recent information received by telegraph has materially altered the condition of many districts through which your Lordship passed and that therefore your observations apply in some measure to situations which have ceased to exist. It is very gratifying to me to add, that, as a rule, the prospect has considerably improved.

3 I have to express my cordial appreciation of the wisdom and public spirit which induced your Excellency to undertake this journey for the purpose of examining personally the state of the country, and of strengthening the hands of the local governments and administrations, by your sympathy and counsel, in the performance of those arduous duties which have demanded the exercise of the highest energy and judgment.

4 Your Excellency's journey extended from Simla, through Amballa, Agra, and Allyghur, to Jubbulpore; thence by Khandesh and Nassik to Poona, where you met the Governor of Bombay, thence to Bellary, before reaching which place the Resident at Hyderabad had an interview with your Lordship, and then on to Madras. On the date of the Despatch you were about to start for Bangalore.

5 Your Excellency's Despatch gives a rapid but vivid description of the condition of the territories through which you passed, and you availed yourself of the opportunity of visiting relief camps in Poona, Bellary, and Madras. It is difficult to exaggerate the advantage to the public service in all executive departments when the head of the Government thus sees for himself the terrible proportions of the evil with which he has to contend.

6. The results of your consultations with his Grace the Governor of Madras have been stated in your Despatch No 34 of the 5th of September, to which I will give a separate reply. Two subjects are prominently dealt with in the Despatch now under reply:—

1st The carrying powers of the railways

2nd. Private subscriptions in aid of relief funds

7 The anxious attention of the Governments of Madras and Bombay has been directed to the increase of the carrying powers of the railways, but it has been found almost impracticable to obtain from them the daily delivery of the number of tons which it was thought each company ought to be able to transport. Under these circumstances, application was made to me for the supply of additional engines and waggons. These indents, as modified by more recent advices, are, as your Lordship has been informed by telegraph, in process of receiving due compliance, and I trust that the railways will soon be able to meet the exigencies of the exceptional demands made on their resources.

8 With respect to private subscriptions in aid of relief funds, I understand your Lordship's view to be this. That the Government is responsible, as far as may be practicable, for the saving of life by all the available means in its power, and that for this purpose an official agency has been organized, that it is not desirable that another agency, or the same agency under another name, should be employed on the same lines in the distribution of private charity, that such an interference would only impair the efficiency of the arrangements of Government, while the subscriptions could hardly make any appreciable difference in the expenditure of the State. At the same time, your Excellency was perfectly alive to the fact that there were objects to which the efforts of private charity might well be directed, such as the extension of relief to women of the respectable classes, of aid to persons of very small fixed incomes, and to others who were struggling if possible to remain in their homes and not to resort to relief camps. Similarly, your Excellency was also of opinion that arrangements by grants to orphanages and to individuals, for the support of those children who had lost their parents through the famine, might reasonably be the work of private charity, and you had requested the Governor of Madras to consider the specific objects to which the operation of such private charity should be directed, and the agency by which it should be distributed and superintended. If I have thus interpreted rightly the views of your Excellency they have my concurrence.

9. I approve of your instructions to the Resident at Baroda to be cautious as to the opening of petty works and the commencement of gratuitous relief. The long and exceptional prosperity of the ryots in Guzerat should render the necessity for the adoption of such measures a distant contingency. Your instructions to political officers in the neighbouring States to Baroda, to urge on the Chiefs the propriety of admitting

free passage of grain from and to tracts threatened to scarcity, were also, I consider, very judicious

10 The condition of Mysore is a subject of great anxiety to your Excellency. You have strengthened the famine organisation in that province by the deputation of some selected officers, an arrangement which has my full approval. As it appears that the invested funds of the Mysore State, amounting to upwards of forty-six (46) laes of rupees, have been exhausted by the famine expenditure, I sanction the grant of a loan of fifty (50) laes, which your Excellency proposes to make in four instalments to that State.

11 The general conclusion which I draw from your Excellency's Despatch is that, terrible as is the calamity which has visited the greater part of India, it has everywhere been met with unsparing energy and devotion by the public service in all Departments, and conspicuously by your Excellency and the Governors of Madras and Bombay.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY

No 292.

Revenue, No. 83

From the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA IN COUNCIL to the GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA
IN COUNCIL.

India Office, London, 8th November 1877

Para 1 Your Excellency's Despatch, dated 20th September, No 35 of 1877, relative to the famine administration of the Mysore Province, and giving an account of your Lordship's visit to Combatoor, Coonoor, and Ootacamund, has been considered by me in Council.

No 239 .

2 I regret that your Excellency should have found the administration of relief in Mysore in so unsatisfactory a condition, and I approve of the arrangements which you at once ordered for its improvement. It is gratifying to find that in 10 days, under the able superintendence of Mr C A Elliott and Major Moncreff, your Lordship was able to report that there was most satisfactory evidence of the beneficial results of the new system.

3 I consider that your Excellency acted with judgment in sanctioning a contribution of Rs 30,000 towards the laying out and metalling of a road in the Wynad as a relief work for the numerous labourers wandering from Mysore to that district in search of employment. The sum thus advanced is hereafter to be recovered from the Mysore State, and the rest of the estimated expenditure on the road will be provided by the Madras Government and the Planters' Association. On other requests and suggestions made to your Lordship by the Wynad planters, and deputations from various municipalities, I shall await the results of your Excellency's deliberations.

4 The statements made to your Excellency as to the mineral resources of the Wynad and the adjoining country, and especially as to the auriferous character of the soil, are of high interest, and are well deserving of the attention which your Lordship proposes to devote to them.

5 I approve of your Excellency's intention to depute either Mr Elliott or Major Moncreff to ascertain personally the wishes of the coffee planters of Coorg on the subject of relief works, and as to the manner in which their co-operation can be most beneficially employed.

6 In the last paragraph of the Despatch under reply your Excellency was able to give a more cheering view of the general state and prospects of the season than I have received by any previous mail, and it is a source to me of heartfelt satisfaction that subsequent communications by telegraph have shown that the improvement has been progressive.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY

From the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA IN COUNCIL to the GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA
IN COUNCIL

India Office, London, 22nd November 1877

No 216

Para 1 Your Excellency's Despatch of the 5th September, No 34 of 1877, describing the arrangements concluded for systematising the policy and strengthening the administration of State relief throughout the famine-stricken districts of the Madras Presidency, has been considered by me in Council.

2. Your Excellency, in the 4th, 5th, and 6th paragraphs of the report, states with great clearness the peculiar difficulty of the problem presented for solution. The famine in the Madras Presidency had assumed such dimensions, both actually and in prospect, as to become one of the most serious disasters with which, as your Lordship says, the Supreme Government has ever had to deal. While the executive responsibility, at least in the first instance, rested with the Local Government, the financial responsibility rested, as always, with the Government of India. The wide extent and severity of the famine rendered the duty imposed on the Supreme Government one of anxious gravity, but one of which it could not efficiently acquit itself without, in a great degree, interfering with the action of the administration which had on the spot to provide for the mitigation of the calamity.

3. It was not deemed expedient, and I think rightly, to transfer for the time the seat of the Supreme Government to the Madras Presidency, and thus to bring the executive and financial responsibilities into such immediate contact as to prevent all administrative delay. It was, therefore, necessary to devise some plan by which the Supreme Government would be justified in relaxing its control over the Local Government, and by which the action of the latter would be rendered more prompt, direct, and efficient.

4. Your Lordship first laid down in the "Gazette of India Extraordinary" the principles by which famine policy should be guided. These are briefly summed up in the 10th paragraph of the Despatch.

- 1st. An abstinence by Government from all measures which might interfere with the activity of private trade
- 2nd. The initiation of a large scheme of public works as the essential portion of the relief system, other forms of relief being subsidiary. The large works to be under the direction and control of the Public Works Department
- 3rd. All gratuitous relief to be as far as possible temporary, and all relief camps to be maintained only for receiving and supporting the starving and the maimed, and for getting them into a condition to labour

These principles appear to me to be sound, and judicious. At the time when these arrangements were being matured, I called your Lordship's attention by telegraph to the importance of guarding from undue pressure, under the piece-work system the large numbers of those who would not, as wholly infirm, be consigned to gratuitous relief, but who had become so enfeebled by privation as to be incapable of performing the ordinary task. I find that full provision has been made against this danger.

5. Your Lordship then proceeded to arrange that the Supreme Government should be represented by a carefully selected agent. For this most important duty you nominated Major-General Kennedy, the Secretary to the Government of Bombay in the Public Works Department, who had gained great distinction by his successful superintendence of relief operations in the Bombay Presidency.

6. You then determined that, by rules passed under the India Council's Act, the Governor of Madras should take the famine business into his own hands, as was done by Lord Northbrook during the famine of 1874 in Bengal, that Collectors and executive officers should correspond with the Government on famine matters direct and not through the Revenue Board as heretofore; and that Major-General Kennedy, acting as the accredited agent of the Government of India, should be appointed personal assistant to the Governor in all famine affairs. These measures, by which in your Excellency's words, the Governor of Madras became virtually a dictator in famine affairs, as far as the constitution permitted such an arrangement, were settled between the Governor and yourself, and have been loyally accepted by the other members of the Madras Government.

7 The arrangements appear to me to have been well calculated to secure the objects which your Excellency had in view I have to communicate to you, on behalf of Her Majesty's Government, their high appreciation of the judgment with which your policy has been conceived, and the energy with which it has been carried into execution.

I have, &c
(Signed) SALISBURY

No 294.

Revenue, No. 86

From the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA IN COUNCIL to the GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL

India Office, London, 22nd November 1877

Para 1 Your Excellency's Despatch of the 27th September, No 37 of 1877, which gives a concluding account of your visit to the famine-stricken districts in Southern India, has been considered by me in Council.

No 253.

2 The great improvement which a reformed system of superintendence had in a few days introduced into the Bangalora and Kolar districts of Mysore is highly satisfactory. I share your Lordship's regret that a delay has occurred in the manifestation of a similar improvement in the districts of Madras, but I trust that the new code of instructions drawn up by his Grace the Governor, with the assistance of General Kennedy, for the guidance of officers engaged in famine relief will at once lead to the introduction of the necessary reforms.

3 I have read with attention the correspondence alluded to in the 8th paragraph of the Despatch under reply, relative to the plan of operations proposed for adoption by the General Relief Committee at Madras, and I am of opinion that, under all the circumstances, your Excellency was justified in giving your sanction to the issue of a notification directing local officers to give their best assistance to the Committee. The matter is one of considerable difficulty, but I do not doubt the Government of Madras will be able to indicate the objects to which the operations of the Committee can be directed, without interfering with the general action of the Government, and without imposing too heavy a burden on the Revenue establishments.

4 At the date of the Despatch your Excellency had completed your tour, and expected to arrive at Simla on the following day. Your Lordship places on record your obligations to several high officers for assistance given during the exceptional work which has engaged your personal attention, and it is a source of sincere gratification to me to state my opinion that, in the performance of this arduous duty, your Excellency has rendered a real and important service to the State.

I have, &c
(Signed) SALISBURY

No 295

Revenue, No 88

From the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA IN COUNCIL to the GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL

India Office, London, 29th November 1877

Para 1 The Despatch of your Excellency in Council, dated 11th October, No 38 of 1877, reporting on the present condition and prospects of the various provinces in India either afflicted or threatened with famine, has been considered by me in Council.

No. 271

2 The Despatch passes rapidly in review the situation in Madras, Bombay, Mysore, the Nizam's Country, the Central Provinces, Rajputana, and Central India States, the North-west Provinces, the Punjab and Bengal.

3 The substance of the statements relative to all the provinces is the same, "general improvement." The calamity with which India has been visited will leave traces which may for some time cause anxiety and involve further expenditure, but I think I may now, without presumption, entertain the hope that the crisis of the famine has passed and congratulate your Excellency's Government on the improved prospects before you.

4. I approve generally of the orders which have been issued under your Lordship's direction, as reported in the Despatch under reply, in relation to the present state of affairs. But I take for granted that, if the favourable anticipations as to the future are realized, your Excellency will avail yourself of the earliest opportunity to reduce the extra establishments which you have found it necessary to create. I trust that the precautions now taken by the Madras Government may have the effect of checking the speculation which, I regret to be informed by your Government, has been practised by many subordinate Native officials, and in some localities have been the cause of great mortality.

5. I note with satisfaction the testimony borne by your Excellency to the good services rendered by the Honourable Sir Alexander Arbuthnot and the Honourable Mr Hope.

I have, &c
(Signed) SALISBURY

No 296.

Revenue, No 98

From the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA IN COUNCIL to the GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.

India Office, London, 27th December 1877

No 288.

Para 1. The Despatch of your Excellency in Council, dated 30th October, No 99 of 1877, giving a further account of the condition and prospects of the provinces in India which have suffered from or have been threatened by famine, has been considered by me in Council.

2. The statements submitted in the Despatch are generally favourable. In Madras the north-east monsoon has broken in all the districts except Coimbatore, Salem, North Arcot, Ganjam, Vizagapatam, and Godavery. The early crops have greatly revived, and a yield to the extent of more than half a full harvest is expected. The winter crops are in good condition, and cultivation and sowings for the spring crops are making satisfactory progress. Prices have fallen, and the numbers gratuitously fed and employed on relief works have decreased during the month of October from 2,231,980 to 1,544,399, a fall of 30 per cent. Efficiency and economy have been secured by the shortening of the chain of administration, and the arrangements made by your Lordship in consultation with the Governor of Madras at the end of August have been attended with success.

3. In Bombay a sufficiency of rain has fallen, but in Sholapore, Sattara, Kaludji, Belgaum, and Dharwar, more than a sufficiency, which has caused some damage to the autumn and winter crops, at the date of the Despatch improvement had been manifested in Sattara and Sholapore, and the general prospects of the crops continued to be good. Prices had fallen, and the numbers on relief works and on gratuitous relief had decreased from 382,742 to 198,924, a decrease of 48 per cent.

4. In Mysore, moderate rain had fallen, the condition of the winter crops was good, and the prospects of the spring crops favourable. Prices had fallen, and the markets were sufficiently supplied. The Famine Code, drawn up by Mr C A Elliot, is a compendium of instructions which will be of permanent value.

5. The statement of the mortality in and around Bangalore is a very melancholy record, but it is satisfactory to notice that the improvement in the season and the changes in the relief system had led to a large diminution in the number of deaths during the past month. The numbers gratuitously fed had fallen from 208,653 to 72,838, while the constant drafting from this class to that on the relief works had increased, the latter from 53,745 in the middle of September to 78,478 on the 20th of October.

6. In Hyderabad the crops were in good condition, prices cheaper, and the relief operations closed.

7. In the Central Provinces there had been some loss of rice crop in Saugor, Dumah, and Sambulpore on account of the deficient supply of rain in September. In the other districts the prospects of winter crops were good, and the preparations for the spring crops were in satisfactory progress.

8. In Rajputana and the Central Indian States the general situation was greatly improved by the rainfall in the middle of October. But there were parts, principally

in Marwar, in which the autumn crops had not been saved, and where spring crops never grow, for the relief of emigrants from these parts into Ajmere, railway work had been provided. Similar relief employment had been arranged for immigrants into the Western States of Central India. I note with pleasure that his Highness the Maharajah Scindiah had opened relief houses on the Indore road as far as Seepree.

9 In the North-West Provinces, the Punjab, and Oude preparations for the spring crops were in active progress, and prices had fallen. In the Punjab no necessity for special relief works had been suggested, and in the North-West Provinces all schemes for extensive works had been abandoned. In Bengal, Assam, and British Burmah the crop prospects were very favourable.

10 I am glad to understand that, in the opinion of Doctors Lewis and Cunningham, the fevers prevalent in Bombay in 1876 were of the ordinary "intermittent" and "continued" types, and were not "famine" fevers, and that during the same period in Madras, fever, far from being exceptionally severe, was decidedly in abeyance.

11 I approve, in conclusion, of the resolution of your Excellency in Council to have a partial counting of the people in the distressed districts of Madras as soon as the famine is over, in order approximately to ascertain what the loss of the population may have been.

I have, &c
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No 297.

Revenue, No 99

From the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA to the GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.

India Office, London, 27th December 1877.

Para 1. The Despatch of your Excellency in Council, dated 30th October, No 40 of 1877, relative to the suspensions on remissions of Revenue demands in the year 1876-77, has been considered by me in Council.

No 289

2 I approve of the orders of your Lordship in Council to the Local Governments in connexion with this subject, but I will reserve the expression of my own views on the general question until the information for which you have called is before me.

3 I cannot, however, withhold the expression of my satisfaction that in Bombay so large a portion of the land revenue due has been collected at such a time, and still more, that it has been collected, as stated by the Government of Bombay, without any harshness or undue pressure. This result is highly creditable to the revenue officers, European and Native.

I have, &c
(Signed) SALISBURY

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