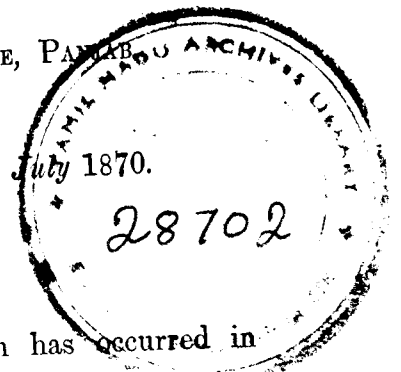


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LEPEL GRIFFIN, ESQUIRE,
SECRETARY, CENTRAL RELIEF COMMITTEE, PANJAB,

ROBERT EGERTON, ESQUIRE,
PRESIDENT, CENTRAL RELIEF COMMITTEE, PANJAB,

Murree, 28th July 1870.



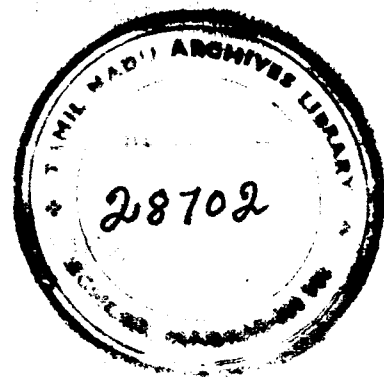
Some explanation seems necessary of the delay which has occurred in submitting a report on the operations of the Famine Relief Committee, during year 1869 and the early part of 1870.

2. The final meeting of the Central Committee was held on the 29th November last, when I submitted a general statement of receipts and disbursement, which was accepted by the Committee. The operations of the Committee, owing to the continued distress in the Cis-Satlej districts, were not closed until March 1870: when the work of preparing an abstract of the expenditure of the Local Committees had to be commenced. This you will understand from the accounts submitted, was a very tedious and laborious one. Numerous references to districts were necessary, and it was not until the last month that the accounts were complete. The more care has been bestowed on their preparation as so large a portion of the amount expended was contributed by private subscribers, to whom it is due to show that a careful and judicious was exercised over the expenditure and that satisfactory results had been obtained. It is difficult or impossible to check expenditure accurately in a famine, and it would have been unwise to consider too closely the pecuniary obligations for relief when distress was almost universal. But the public have subscribed generously, and the Government, who only insisted that the people should not be allowed to die of hunger, may be satisfied that what has been spent wisely and well by the district officers and the Secretaries

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REPORT ON THE FAMINE OF 1869-1870.

1. The scarcity in the Panjab during the year 1869, so severe as to be justly called a famine, was due, in a great measure, to the failure of the harvest of 1868. The harvest of 1867 had been scarcely an average one, and the stock of grain in the province at the commencement of 1868 was unusually low. During the early months of 1868 so much rain fell that it was anticipated that the rainy season would be injuriously affected, and this proved to be the case.

The summer was exceedingly hot, and during July and August only a few showers fell, too light to be of any material benefit to the crops. The grass was burnt up and the cattle began to die in great numbers. Their usual fodder, 'chari,' owing to the drought, became hard and indigestible, and produced a severe inflammation of the bowels, occasioning in some districts a great mortality. In the districts south of the Satlej and in the independent Rajputana States the wells and tanks dried up, water was impossible to procure in sufficient quantities, villages were deserted, and the people flocked northward, driving their cattle to the banks of the Panjab rivers, where they hoped to obtain sufficient grass to preserve their lives.

2. On the 14th of September 1868, the Government of the Panjab addressed all Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners in the Province, calling their most special attention to the distress, more or less severe, which might be expected to prevail, if the drought, from which most districts were then suffering, should continue. It was directed that all District Officers should watch closely the progress of events, the rise of prices and the increase of destitution, and, in communication with the Commissioners, should at once determine what special works might most advantageously be set on foot in their respective districts to afford work to such of the poor as might be thrown out of employment. Preliminary arrangements were to be made to insure efficient superintendence of any such works and the general principle was affirmed that the interests of the public and grain-dealers were identical and any disposition to interfere with prices or grain-dealers should be discouraged, and, if necessary, peremptorily stopped.

3. The drought in the Panjab still continued, and the reports from the direction of Sirsa and Hissar became extremely grave.

Further orders.

By the commencement of October the Kharif crop had entirely failed and the grass had withered away: the tanks had dried up, the wells had become brackish and unserviceable, so that the inhabitants had no choice but to abandon their villages and seek food and pasture elsewhere, while the number of immigrants from Rajputana, where the aspect of affairs was still more gloomy, added greatly to the distress. In the Hissar Division the Government were, as early as October, compelled to give direct assistance, and ordered any necessary outlay for relief works to be incurred without formal sanction. Such works were accordingly commenced on an extensive scale, and gave employment to a very large number of persons at the time when such assistance was most needed. The advantage of relief works is most evident at the commencement of periods of severe distress. The time arrives when the people, emaciated, weak and heart-broken, are unwilling if not unable to work, and have so lost energy and courage that they prefer to die in their villages to asking for the work which the Government is ready to give them.

4. On the 5th of October, by direction of the Government of the Panjab, the Financial Commissioner circulated to all District Officers and Commissioners of Divisions copies of the Resolution of the Government of India, No. 3847, of the 22nd September 1868, laying down rules for the adoption of measures advisable in case of famine, with a letter from the Secretary to the Panjab Government, directing the Financial Commissioner to supply frequent periodical reports of the rain-fall, the state of the crops and the price of grain; while the Inspector General of Police was directed to furnish any information of importance received through his department. Local Relief Committees were ordered to be formed wherever necessary, and rules for the conduct and superintendence of special works were laid down.

5. On the 21st of October the Government sanctioned the suspension of the Revenue demand wherever Commissioners might be satisfied that the realization of it would cause serious distress: this suspension not being lightly made, but on good and sufficient grounds, and on the understanding that the zamindars should exercise the same leniency towards their tenants that the Government showed towards them.

6. At the close of 1868, it appeared certain that the Rabbi harvest, which furnishes all the food grain, would be very deficient, and in many parts of the province would altogether fail as the Kharif harvest had done. The Government accordingly informed Commissioners of Divisions, by a Circular dated the 2nd January 1869, that the measures which had already been sanctioned for the employment of able-bodied persons on special works would be insufficient to meet the case of those whose age or infirmities unfitted them for labor, and that the time had arrived when the public should be invited to supplement by their contributions the efforts of Government to prevent mortality and relieve distress. Local Committees, wherever they were not already formed, were directed to be organized without delay, for the collection and distribution of funds, which would be supplemented in the case of private subscriptions by a contribution of equal amount by the State.

7. At Lahore a Central Committee was formed under the orders of the Lieutenant-Governor, composed of the following gentlemen:—

President.

ROBERT EGERTON, ESQUIRE, *Financial Commissioner.*

MEMBERS:—

MR. JUSTICE BOULNOIS.

MAJOR GENERAL S. ABBOTT, *Agent Panjab and Delhi Railway.*

COL. R. MACLAGAN, *Secretary to Government, Department Public Works.*

LT. COL. DRUMMOND, *Secretary to Government, Railway Department.*

LIEUTENANT COLONEL COXE, *Commissioner of Lahore.*

THE REVEREND KILBEE STUART.

LT. COL. GULLIVER, *Secretary to Government, Irrigation Department.*

DR. C. M. SMITH, *Civil Surgeon.*

LIEUTENANT COLONEL YOUNGHUSBAND, *Inspector General of Police.*

LESLEY PROBYN, ESQUIRE, *Accountant General.*

DR. DALLAS, *Inspector General of Prisons.*

DR. DERENZY, *Sanitary Commissioner.*

CAPTAIN W. R. HOLROYD, *Director of Public Instruction.*

HECTOR GUNN, ESQUIRE, *Agent Agra Bank.*

J. A. E. MILLER, ESQUIRE, *Secretary to Financial Commissioner.*

Honorary Secretary, LEFFL GRIFFIN, ESQUIRE.

Several changes in the constitution of this Committee, which held its first meeting on the 16th January and its last on the 29th November, were made during the year. Mr. Egerton left for England in March, and his place as President was taken by Mr. P. S. Melvill, Officiating Financial Commissioner, Colonel Coxe was succeeded by Colonel Cracroft, and Dr. Dallas by Dr. Gray. During three weeks in October Colonel Gulliver kindly acted for the Secretary, who was absent from Lahore.

8. The operations of the Committee were to be confined to the relief of those classes of the population, who, from any cause whatsoever, were unable to work for their own livelihood, or to obtain, by their work, sufficient to support life. For the able-bodied portion of the population special work had been provided under the direction of the local authorities and the Department of Public Works. The Committee was to have control over and administer all subscriptions for the relief of general distress and the funds assigned by Government for the relief of the infirm poor. They were to be a consulting body, to which District Officers were to apply for advice and guidance in questions of difficulty; and were to supply funds wherever local means were insufficient. They were moreover to supervise the procedure of local officers in matters of relief and to take care that it was consistent, rational, and in accordance with the principles laid down by the Government of India in their Resolution of the 22nd September 1868. The Committee did not interfere with the disposal of sums collected in the several districts for the relief of local distress, and left the utmost latitude to Deputy Commissioners, who were empowered, in cases of urgency, to act on their own responsibility in drawing advances from the treasury, referring the case to the Central Committee for submission to Government. The Committee, moreover, was the channel through which all applications for Government assistance or for the grant of equivalents to subscriptions realized were to be forwarded.

Lastly, the Central Committee had the duty of auditing the accounts of District Relief Committees.

To enable the Central Committee to perform these several duties, Statements, Weekly and Monthly, in a prescribed form, were directed to be submitted from each district, showing the income and expenditure, the number of infirm poor relieved, and the number of able-bodied paupers employed upon relief works under the District Officers. Although the Committee had

no concern with the employment of able-bodied paupers yet it was necessary to collect statistics of their numbers; both to estimate the amount of general distress and to ascertain if the number of those relieved gratuitously bore a fair proportion to those who gave an equivalent of work.

9. During the last quarter of 1868, the price of all food grains in the Panjab was exceedingly high. The average of wheat was about 10 seers the rupee, though in Sirsa it was as low as 8 seers, 8 chataks; in Hissar 9 seers: in Hoshiarpur the same. Nor were the inferior grains, generally used largely by the people in times of scarcity, cheap enough to be able to afford much relief. Gram was only one seer cheaper than wheat: Barley averaged 13 seers the rupee. Bajra (spiked millet) was as expensive as gram: Jodr (great millet) and Moth a pulse (Phaseolus aconitifolius,) averaged 11 seers, while the price of Rice was altogether prohibitive. With the prices of grain everything had risen rapidly: Ghat, from the destruction of the cattle, became a luxury which few could afford, and Grass and Bhūsa were enormously expensive.

10. During the last few days of January and the first ten days of February 1869, rain fell in considerable quantities in the Panjab. In the Jalandhar Doab and the northern districts of the Bāri and Rechna Doabs it was heavy, while south of the Satlej, though less in amount, it was still of great benefit for the time, and the grass, which had almost disappeared, began again to spring up. The accounts from most districts were brighter and the improvement continued throughout February and March, so that, on the 22nd of the latter month, the Central Committee considered that it was unnecessary to continue the collection of private subscriptions towards the General Fund.

11. The state of the funds at this time was as follows:—

Private subscriptions to the general distress,			
with equivalent,	...	...	Rs. 9,053
Interest on old Famine Fund,	...	...	„ 7,500
Advances from ditto,	...	...	„ 10,000
Balance of the Lancashire Fund,	...	...	„ 1,575

Total, Rs. 28,128

Of this sum little more than Rs. 5,000 had been spent, leaving a balance of Rs. 23,000. The Government had placed at the disposal of the Committee a lakh of rupees from the old Famine Fund, of which it was determined to withdraw, at present, no more than Rs. 20,000 from its investments. Ten thousand having been already credited to the Committee's account: a balance of Rs. 1,13,000 remained available, seeming to warrant the Committee asking for no further subscriptions from the public. In addition to this sum, Rs. 90,742-7-4 had been collected, with the Government equivalent, for the relief of local distress; while during the month of February 4,70,588 infirm poor had been relieved, at a cost of Rs. 26,948-14-3, and 89,387 persons had been employed on special works.

12. During March a considerable quantity of rain fell; in some districts so heavily as to injure the crops: but the general condition of the Panjab north of the Satlej had much improved and there was little fear for the future. But the state of Hissar, Rohtak, Sirsa and Karnal grew daily worse, and the number of immigrants from foreign territory constantly increased.

13. In June rain fell in the districts north of the Satlej, but to the south, where it was most urgently wanted, there was little or none. Food rapidly rose to prices which prevented any of the poorest classes from obtaining sufficient to support healthy life, the grass again withered away, and fodder of any kind became very scarce. Locusts made their appearance in great numbers, and an unusual amount of sickness, caused in a great measure by insufficient and bad food, added to the distress. During the month of June, the people in the Hissar Division had found a most welcome and important addition to their scanty food in the unusually large crop of jungle berries. The Government waste lands in the neighbourhood of the town of Hissar were the residence of hundreds of families of Bikanir immigrants, including women and children of all ages, who lived on the fruit of the *ber*, crowding under the bushes during the heat of the day, and sleeping there, often, at night. Many of these poor wretches were emaciated in the extreme, and during the later weeks of June, there was a large addition to their numbers, fresh arrivals having come from Dehli and elsewhere, whither they had vainly gone in search of employment, waiting for the first fall of rain to return to their villages. All the large cities of the Punjab were now crowded with immigrants from foreign territory, for whom it was necessary to organize special relief arrangements.

The richer classes of natives were liberal in the extreme, feeding daily thousands of their poorer countrymen, and the figures which show the amount of subscriptions to the Fund are no guide to the amount expended by private charity, which was very great and honorable to the humanity of the natives of the Panjab.

14. During July rain fell, in many districts, reviving the standing crops, and rendering the soil fit for the autumn sowings. But the weather was excessively hot, and the fierce winds like the blasts from a furnace dried up the moisture too soon. The condition of the Panjab became critical in the extreme. As in the previous year, the heavy spring rains seemed to have prevented the usual rain-fall at the proper season: through the whole province, week after week, not a cloud was visible in the sky, and the crops withered and fell away. About the middle of August, it became certain that unless rain fell speedily a famine more terrible than any known in the Panjab since the evil year of 1783 must result. The stock of grain in the Panjab was now almost exhausted. Encouraged by the heavy rains, early in the year, the people had sown a greater breadth of land than in any year since annexation. This diminished greatly the stock of food, and what remained was rising day by day to a price which meant starvation to many and want to all save the rich. The people had, too, begun to lose heart, and fancied that a curse had come upon the land. Year after year they had reaped scanty harvests, and now, at last, when the promise was so good, and they had mortgaged houses and fields to buy seed to sow every available acre of land, the heavens were shut up and they saw the crops turn a sickly yellow, while the cattle died, and there was nothing but death or ruin before them. Even had there been sufficient grain in the country, the people, especially the artisan class, had no money to buy it. The high prices, so long continued, had exhausted their savings; their houses and ornaments were pledged, their scanty furniture sold, and the money-lenders would advance nothing more. The people were, moreover, unable to bear famine so well as during the last year; for they were exhausted with anxiety and want, and a terrible sickness was doubling the lists of mortality. The prices in some of the richest districts of the province were far higher than they had been in the poorest districts during the famine of 1860-61, and the grain-dealers, though in many cases unjustly accused, were creating an immense amount of ill feeling, by storing up the grain, by mixing inferior grain with the wheat, and by raising the prices quickly and continuously. The great

crime of these men may simply have been that they were prospering while others were being ruined ; but it is no use to expect people who are starving to be logical, and the cry against the banniahs, a cry which has an unhappy significance in time of famine, rose louder and louder. Every night the people came out of the towns and villages, and with drums and processions to every shrine prayed for rain, while the hearts of those who had to think for the people grew sick with longing for the rain which never came. Those who saw most of the people during these unhappy days will know that no tribute of praise to their conduct can be exaggerated.

The excellent conduct of the people.

Crime, it is true, largely increased in some districts ; but the increase was only in theft ; and whatever any code of morality may say it is more reasonable to steal than to die. But the mass of the people bore their sufferings with a patience, a reticence, and a courage truly noble. They understood that the Government was doing all it could for them, and they accepted its relief gratefully ; but they did not apply for relief till it was needed to save their lives : they complained little, and remained at the worst and the darkest time patient, obedient and loyal. The people have deserved well of the Government, and no race in the world could have borne themselves, under such trying circumstances, more bravely or well.

15. Towards the end of August the wished-for rain came, but it was very partial and too scanty to be of much advantage, and, on the 1st of September, the Central Committee again appealed to the public for assistance. They showed how the expectations of a rich harvest, which had been natural and general after the heavy rains of July, had been disappointed, and that unless rain immediately fell, the harvest would be utterly lost and the cattle would perish as they perished by tens of thousands early in the year. But on the 4th and 5th of September, when almost all hope was gone, a heavy fall of rain literally saved the Panjab. It was general over the whole province from the Jamna to the Indus, and was plentiful in those Cis-Satlej districts which needed it most. Here it had come too late to make a harvest, half withered away, good : but the crops, even where they were worst, recovered in a wonderful manner, and north of the Satlej and on the frontier there was hope of at least an average harvest, while some districts eventually reaped a harvest exceptionally good. How imminent had been the danger, how intense the anxiety, and how great the relief, the people of the Panjab and the officers of Government will not soon forget.

The rain at last falls.

16. The operations of the Central Relief Committee were not at once affected by the rain-fall. The fear for the future was at an end, but the present distress was very great. Prices continued to rise owing to the smallness of the stock, and it was only in March 1870 that they began sensibly to decline. The cattle had died in such numbers that Government assistance was necessary to purchase new oxen to plough the land, and the distress in the districts of the Hissar Division did not show, till November, much tendency to decrease, though the Rajputana immigrants left for their own villages.

The operations of the Central Committee were not much affected by the rain.

17. But no special report need be made of the further operations of the Central Committee. On the 29th of November a meeting was held at which it was resolved that the time had arrived when the direct action of the Committee in the way of relief might appropriately cease, and that what future relief operations were necessary might more conveniently be left to the district authorities acting in their ordinary executive capacity. At this meeting grants of Rs. 12,000 were made to the districts of Karnal, Gurgaon, Hissar and Sirsa, and the general accounts of the Committee's income and expenditure for the year were submitted by the Honorary Secretary and approved. It was thought necessary to ascertain that the sums received from the Central Committee and the Government equivalents had been correctly credited in the Local Committees' accounts ; and that the abstract of their whole expenditure from the commencement of the operations should be published. The preparation of these accounts has involved a great deal of labor and has been the cause of some delay in the submission of this report. The accounts have had to be checked over and over again ; for the system followed by the several districts was not, in all cases, uniform, and it is only during the last month that the accounts have been satisfactorily made up.

The amount of Government equivalents.

18. The Accountant General furnished a statement of sums which had been granted as Government equivalent to local or general subscriptions. This list did not coincide with the accounts furnished by districts ; but the differences and his explanation are given in the following statement, which includes everything so sanctioned during the financial years 1868-69, 1869-70 :—

Districts.	Amount as per Accountant General's Statement.			Amount as per District or Local Committee's Statement.			Difference.			REMARKS.
1. Hissar District, ...	13,471	10	3	24,425	12	5	7,954	2	2	* The Deputy Commissioner asserts the amount to be correct; there must be some omissions in the Accountant General's Statement.
2. Sirsa District, ...	2,154	1	2	6,013	11	4	†3,859	10		† Rs. 3,475-4-0 and Rs. 384-6-0— to the amount of difference, overlooked in the Accountant General's statement.
3. Rohtak District, ...	18,034	1		64,884	1		46,850			‡ The Deputy Commissioner asserts the correctness of his statement.
4. Delhi District, ...	5,000			5,000						
5. Karnal District, ...	20,386	8	4	15,386	8	4	\$5,000			§ Treasury advance, afterwards repaid from funds received from the "Central Relief Committee" included in the Accountant General's statement.
6. Gurgaon District, ...	4,384			4,384						
7. Lahore District, ...	11,547	13	4	5,226	2	4	¶6,321	11		Rs. 801-5-0 sanctioned in Government letter No. 669, dated 14th May 1868, are omitted to be shown in Accountant General's statement; and this amount added to the difference makes 7,123, of which 7,178 are those sanctioned for "Central Relief Committee," and Rs. 10 a difference between 898-5-4 and 988-5-4, the latter amount being acknowledged by the Deputy Commissioner, while the Accountant General asserts (in February 1869) the former.
8. Ferozpur District, ...	6,500			6,500						
9. Amritsar District, ...	6,788	15		6,788	15					
10. Jalandhar District, ...	1,324	10		1,324	10					
11. Hoshiarpur District, ...	7,534	5	3	6,976	2		¶558	3	3	¶ This sum was sanctioned for relief works, Tanda road, and not for direct relief.
12. Ambala District, ...	2,425	8		2,425	8					
Total amount to Districts,	Rs.	1,49,335	6	5						
13. Central Relief Committee,	Rs.	7,113					7,113			This amount was included in the Lahore grant (See No. 7 in the Accountant General's Statement.)
Total Equivalents,		1,56,448	6	5						

19. The statements now submitted are four in number. The first, in 16 parts, from A to P, gives an abstract of the income and expenditure of each of the districts affected by the famine.* Statement No. 2 contains the total abstracts of the several districts,

* This statement has not been printed.

with their grand total, showing the receipts and disbursements on account of relief in the Panjab during the whole period over which relief operations extended. It also includes the amounts of subscriptions and donations collected for the General Relief Fund by those districts in which no local relief was necessary.

Statement No. 3 contains merely the accounts of the Central Relief Committee, and was submitted by me to the meeting of the 29th of November, and published in the Gazette of the 16th of December. The further operations of the Committee during 1870 are, however, added to this statement, which is a complete record of its work. Statement 4 is an abstract of the whole accounts of Central and Local Committees throughout the Panjab, showing the income and its nature, with the expenditure and the manner in which the money has been expended.

20. From these accounts it will be seen that the sum of Rs. 4,21,674-2-11 has been expended in the direct relief of paupers unable to work. In the hands of the Central Committee and in Local Treasuries a balance remains of Rs. 21,882-8-7, although it is probable that some of this may have been expended since District Officers forwarded their latest accounts to me. The number of destitute persons relieved was over six millions, that is to say, there were 6,160,045* cases of relief, comprising 19,54,224 men, 23,93,895 women, and 18,11,926 children; and the number of persons who were employed on local works under the control of the district authorities was 2½ millions—2,583,990—being 11,77,206 men, 9,00,718 women, and 5,06,066 children.

To these should be added the very large number employed under the Public Works Department on special or ordinary works. In some districts the Department Public Works was able to provide sufficient work for the able-bodied, as in Kangra, where a great number of persons were employed on the new roads under the Executive Engineer, and at Madhopur, Gurdaspur district, in the construction of a new dam. The excavation on the Sirhind Canal, between Rupar and Douraha-ki-Serai, gave employment to all who asked for it: while on the Western Jamna and Bari Doab Canals, and on the Inundation Canals of the Multan and Dera Ghazi Khan districts, abundance of work was procurable.

* This is the number relieved for one day, counting the sum of the numbers relieved daily during the whole period.

In addition to the work given to able-bodied paupers, and the direct relief given to those unable to work, the Government throughout the distress made large advances (Takávi) to zamindars and others for digging and repairing tanks and wells, and, later in the year, for the purchase of cattle. These advances amounted during the year 1869-70 to Rs. 5,49,706 for the whole province, of which no less than Rs. 3,99,091 was advanced in the Delhi and Hissar Divisions alone. Remission of revenue demand during 1869-70 was granted in the Rohtak district to the amount of Rs. 89,201, and in Sirsa Rs. 13,320. Considerable sums were suspended during the famine, but were for the most part collected before the end of the year 1869-70.

21. The expenditure of the Central Committee on Establishment was trifling. An auditor on Rs. 50 a month looked over the monthly accounts; and with a clerk on Rs. 25 formed the whole establishment. Printing Statements and Circulars cost Rs. 116-2-8, and the only miscellaneous expenditure during the year amounted to Rs. 1-6-0. Mr. Stanley McGowan audited the monthly returns to the satisfaction of the Committee, and Gurdit Singh, my English clerk, kept the accounts and general business of the Committee in the most careful and complete manner.

* * * * *

36. A brief account must now be given of the progress of distress and relief operations in the several districts of the Punjab, and for the sake of convenience of reference the districts will be taken in alphabetical order.

37. In the Ambala district the distress was at no time very great; the harvest was fairly good, and the necessity for relief arose chiefly from the presence of a large number of starving immigrants from Bikanir and the Rajputana States. But the local subscriptions were sufficient to meet the wants of the district, and no applications for assistance were sent to the Central Relief Committee.

38. The Amritsar district, the centre of the Jat Sikh country, is one of the most rich and populous in the province. In its northern portion it is well wooded and exceedingly fertile, the water is near the surface and the Bari Doab Canal supplies it with any exceptional irrigation it may require. Towards the south, in the direction of the Satlej, the land rises in level; the wells are deep and no canal irrigation is possible. It is therefore evident

that drought would be more severely felt in the southern than the northern portion of the district. Indeed to the north in the sub-divisions of Battala and Ajnala distress was little felt. The population was purely agricultural, plentiful irrigation enabled them to produce crops at least of an average quality, and the high prices allowed them to make large profits, and to support without difficulty the 'kamíns' or village servants who in times of distress are always supported by the proprietors of the land, if indeed these latter are not themselves suffering from want. The presence of a great city like Amritsar, with 136,000 inhabitants, increased the difficulties of the district, for its reputed wealth made it the centre to which all distressed persons were attracted from both British and foreign territory, and there were at one time many thousand immigrants in the city and its neighbourhood subsisting wholly upon charity. They did not appeal in vain to the rich merchants, who acted with great liberality and daily fed very large numbers of the poor.

39. So early as September 1868, a meeting had been held to determine the works which might best be undertaken should the occasion arise, and it was arranged that the works should be carried on simultaneously in the different sub-divisions of the district so as to avoid any inconvenient concentration on a single point. It was not thought necessary to commence work at once; but at the end of October 1868, a proclamation was issued directing all those who required work as a means of subsistence to apply to the Executive Engineer, who would provide it for them. On the 20th November the Deputy Commissioner issued a general order that the village Malbah fund, an extra cess contributed by the zamindars for village purposes, should be made available for charitable relief as far as possible.

40. The following letter of the Commissioner of the Division, of the 14th December, will show the state of the upland country or bángar.

"I have to report that having personally inspected the high Manjha country between Taran Taran and the Bias, I am of opinion that the time has come for opening works for the relief of the people. The zamindars have still a moderate stock of food but the necessity of providing for the village seps and kamíns (village servants) presses heavily upon them. The attitude of the people is admirable. I have not seen a single beggar: there is no attempt to get up a fictitious appearance of distress, and only in one small tract have the zamindars hinted that a suspension of Government demand in February would be a desirable relief. This will certainly be necessary unless rain opens the granaries. Certainly at present there is no starvation in this part of the country. The zamindars are well off, and the labor of the 'seps' is so valuable to them that they make their interests identical with their own. But the village stores of grain will with

difficulty last till next harvest, and any work which will enable part of the population to buy food of the grain merchants will be a great relief."

41. Relief works were then started in the district on which labour was paid for at famine rates: roads from Batala to Sri Hargovindpur, Jhandiala to Taran Taran, and Taran Taran to Vairawal. These works, which were undertaken for the benefit of the villagers, did not attract many labourers; but the distress in the city became very great, and it became necessary to establish poor-houses at which the poor might be fed. A Local Committee was formed, and the district was divided into several sub-divisions, each being placed under the charge of a special officer. Under the Executive Engineer were the roads from Amritsar southward to Hariki-ghat on the Satlej, and from the city to Ajnala, both of which gave work to a very large number of persons.

42. At the city itself there was abundance to be done: around the walls was the great ditch, from which the materials for the rampart had been excavated, now a foul sewer fruitful of disease, and on this work it was determined to commence.

With reference to the rate of wages on relief works, the following remarks from the report of Mr. W. Coldstream, the Secretary Local Relief Committee, may be quoted:—

"The rate of wages has been on the chief works $1\frac{1}{2}$ annas to adults, male and female: 1 anna to children over 10 years of age, and 6 pies to children under 10. These rates vary from those stated by Govt. of India in its 'memoranda of measures approved' to be used, in making no distinction between the pay of adult men and adult women and in giving children over 10 one anna instead of 6 pies. The rates adopted commend themselves, as, for this part of India at least, more fair and equitable. The city ditch work at Amritsar was started at a 2 anna rate for men and women, but this was obviously excessive, as new applicants, in crowds, continued to throng the work after the rates had been lowered. The wages of women, however, were reduced about the beginning of April to 1 anna, and then raised to $1\frac{1}{2}$ anna. The reduction in wages did not lessen the attendance at the works.

Towards the close of the operations, and with a view to bringing the work to a conclusion, a one anna rate for adult men was adopted. The immediate effect was a reduction in the average per head of work done and a large decrease in attendance.

I have been careful to go into these facts regarding the rate of wages on our principal works, because a fair estimate of the proper rate of wages during such a crisis may be formed from them: and your Committee deem that the rates adopted were those under the circumstances most suitable, viz.

	A.	P.
Adults, male and female, ..	1	6
Children above 10, ...	1	0
Do. under 10, ...	0	6

The average cubic feet per head for all famine works was 19: and this is nearly double what was accomplished at the Amritsar works, where the average was only 10 cubic feet. This rate is unquestionably low. At such work under favorable circumstances an able-bodied man ought to accomplish his 100 cubic feet per diem. Nevertheless the causes of this small amount of work done are easily found.

The proportion of women and children was more than 50 per cent. Women with children in arms were allowed to earn their mite, and children of tender years carried their tiny loads to swell the household earnings.

Though there was a fair proportion of able-bodied laborers, yet undoubtedly the old and feeble were numerous: and charity forbade the rejection of any one able to work at all.

The season was a very trying one to work in. The fierce summer sun prevented anything like active work during a great portion of the day.

The burning heat had the effect of hardening the ground near the surface to such an extent as to render it very difficult to break. This was particularly the case at Sariáli where the ground was so baked that 10 strokes of a mattock hardly cut one inch into the ground. At the same time, when the work was closely supervised by a European officer, the daily average of work rose greatly. Thus, in his report for the week ending 13th February, Mr. Macpherson states that he spent one day at the works, and under the direct supervision of himself and Mr. Nicholl the work-people did more than usual; the average per head being 22 cubic feet; but this result, says Mr. Macpherson, cannot always be obtained, as personal superintendence cannot be given daily. I think it may fairly be concluded that had strict supervision been employed a considerably larger amount of work would have been done by the gangs; and had the Committee, at the commencement, anticipated the dimensions to which these operations would attain, they might wisely have arranged for more effective superintendence.

The following account of the organization of the working parties on the Amritsar city ditch works has been supplied by Mr. Vaughan:—

The proportion of men, women and children employed on the work, from a detail in Mr. Vaughan's report for the week ending the 20th March, appear to have been as follows:—

Men,	about,	...	...	...	six-thirteenths.
Women,	"	..	...	...	four-thirteenths.
Children,	..	..	...	...	three thirteenths."

43. The proportion of able-bodied labourers seems to have been about 25 per cent; as the scarcity increased the proportion of the able-bodied labourers rose, and this was a good test of the severity of the distress. At the time of the great pressure on the work at the city ditch in April, where nearly 3,000 a day were employed on this work alone, the proportion of Amritsar people to foreigners and persons from other districts was as 123 to 100. The districts which sent most paupers were Sialkot, Bikanir, Sirsa, Hoshiarpur, Saháranpur, Shahpur and Lahore. At the beginning of April, after the rain had removed the chief fear of famine, the works were brought to a close.

44. On the Amritsar ditch works, Rs. 12,819-8-9 had been spent, giving a day's wages to 1,19,331 persons, of whom 50 per cent were men and the remainder women and children.

45. The Hariki road works started for the relief of the population of the Mánjha employed 96,849 people. The work performed was 22,54,003 cubic feet, an average of 23 cubic feet per head, a high average compared with Amritsar, and accounted for by the fact that the work consisted principally in dressing embankments and not in excavation. The class of people employed was, moreover, agricultural, more accustomed to out-of-door labor than the Amritsar paupers.

46. With regard to direct relief, three poor-houses were started in the city of Amritsar, one at each of the Tehsils, and one at Attari, under charge of Sirdar Ajit Singh, Honorary Magistrate. The number of people relieved was 1,08,185. It was attempted to obtain some light work from the paupers at the poor-houses, in making rope and thread and spinning, but the profit was not appreciable and in most manufactures there was a decided loss. The most profitable labor was grinding wheat.

47. About the middle of August the continued drought and increasing distress made it necessary to recommence relief works at Amritsar, and the Ahluwalia Dháb, a vast morass in the centre of the city in which the sewage collected, was considered the most suitable work. A great number of persons were employed upon this :—

	Persons.
From 21st to 31st August, ...	7,250
„ 1st to 4th September, ...	5,008
„ 5th to 11th Do., ...	12,251
„ 12th to 18th Do., ...	14,539
„ 18th September to 9th October, ...	17,420
„ 9th to 16th „ ...	17,939
„ 16th to 23rd „ ...	17,760

The average proportion of men, women and children was pretty constant : and taking the number for the last week recorded, 17,760, the proportion was divided as follows :—men, 4,987 ; women, 9,131 ; children, 3,642 ;—being a far higher proportion of the two latter classes than on the works at the beginning of the year. The work was continued till the close of 1869, and continued till its close to attract a great number of persons. The prices of grain during the quarter ending the 30th September were as shown in the margin.

	Seers.	Chataks.
Wheat,	11	8
Barley,	16	5
Gram,	12	1
Bajra,	9	9
Jowár,	11	10

48. The whole arrangements of the Amritsar district were admirably carried out : and reflect great credit on all the officers who took part in them.

49. Although in the Gurgaon and Karnal districts of the Dehli Division distress was both very severe and early felt, in the Dehli district itself there was scarcely any need for assistance from without. The reason for this is partly found in the presence of the large and rich city of Dehli, to which the distressed poor flocked when unable to support themselves in their villages. As in Amritsar and Lahore, the richer classes acted with great humanity and liberality. All the great merchants fed numbers of poor daily and charity was scarcely ever asked in vain.

50. On the first appearance of distress in November 1868, the Superintending Engineer was requested to supply work to all who asked for it : and sufficient was found in the district for able-bodied paupers till the close of scarcity.

51. The harvest in the district was indifferent : the gram crop almost entirely failed, and on unirrigated land the wheat and barley, which had been largely sown, was much below the average.

52. The following letter from the Deputy Commissioner of Dehli, dated 20th September 1869, will show the state of affairs in the autumn after it had become necessary to renew relief operations :—

No. 2363 of 20th September 1869, from Deputy Commissioner Dehli, to Commissioner Dehli Division.

In continuation of my No. 362 of this day's date, I have the honor to report the steps which have been taken to relieve the distress in this town, and the further ones which I consider it necessary to propose for the district.

2. At a general meeting of the Municipal Commissioners, at which you presided, the measures for the town of Dehli now reported were inaugurated.

3. The Municipal Commissioners made a donation of Rupees 2,000 from the Municipal Funds. Rupees 5,000 have up to date been subscribed by English and Native gentlemen, and it is believed that Rupees 2,000 more will yet be collected :—

Total collected,	..	..	Rs. 7,000
Promised,	..	..	„ 2,000
			—
Total,	..	..	Rs. 9,000
			—

4. I trust you will move Government to supplement this by a liberal donation, equal, if possible to the amount raised by private subscription. I fear that high prices

will prevail for some time. It is true that within the last few days Indian Corn ("mukkae") has fallen from 11 seers to 11 and 16 for the rupee, but other cereals maintain their high prices, and wheat and barley will probably remain near their present figure until the Rubbee crop is ripe.

5. Relief operations have already been set afoot. Cooked food (bread "roti,") is distributed daily to between 2,000 and 3,000 people. I was present at the distribution yesterday. Nine-tenths of those relieved were women and children: the rest consisted of boys, infirm old men, and cripples. Nearly two-thirds of the mass consisted of immigrants from Mewat and other distressed parts of the country.

6. The experiment was made of requiring the poor to work at reduced rates, but it was found that classes resorted to the relief works who were not deserving of relief, and practically no return was obtained for the expenditure.

7. I have now to solicit sanction to start bakeries for the gratuitous distribution of bread at Soniput, Nujjuffgurh, Furreedabad, and Bullubgurh: some relief seems very desirable. A constant stream of immigrants is pouring through the district from other parts of the country who are all more or less urgently in need of relief. To these must be added the women and children of our own poor. An able-bodied poor man often earns only two (2) annas a day; and when he has a wife and three or four children this is insufficient, with grain at its present high price, to feed the whole family.

8. I propose to limit the expenditure as follows:—

Soniput,	}	...	..	Rs. 300 per mensem.
Nujjuffgurh,				
Furreedabad, ..	..	..	..	250 "
Bullubgurh, ...	...	..	..	200 "

9. I trust that the respectable inhabitants of these towns will emulate their brethren of Dehli, and subscribe half the amount required; for the rest I must look to Government.

10. I have to-day addressed the Secretary, Relief Committee, on this subject, but shall be glad to receive your sanction to commence at once. The expenditure will be required probably for nearly two months.

11. In conclusion, I desire to especially bring to your notice the exertions of the

Rae Choona Mull.
Rae Sahib Singh.
Rae Mahaish Doss.
Lalla Rummee Mul.
Khan Maibhoobux.

Native gentlemen, as per margin,* who have been especially prominent in their exertions. Not only have they contributed liberally themselves (Choona Mull heading the list with Rs. 500); not only have they gone from house to house in a body to collect contributions; but they are doing what is even more valuable, giving up their time to the laborious and painful task of personally superintending the cooking and distribution of food and the exclusion of the unworthy from the mass of those who apply daily for relief. Their arrangements are complete and good.

53. The price of flour in October 1869, varied from 9 seers at Dehli and Balabgarh, to 9 seers 6 chitaks at Sonipat, and 14 seers 10 chitaks at Faridabad. Bajra was selling at 17 seers.

54. The district of Firozpur might naturally be supposed to be almost more liable to famine than any other in the province.

Firozpur.

Some hundred years ago it was well cultivated and fertile, and the home of a large and flourishing population; but, from various causes, more or less obscure, it relapsed into jungle; the sand deserts to the south drifted year by year more to the northward, the villages were deserted, and the wells choked up. Such was the district when it came under English administration. Since then order and good government have done much and cultivation has largely increased; but much remains to be done to secure the district against famine. The river Satlej, which flows to the north of Firozpur, has still to be utilized and employed in irrigating the dry country to the south; for well irrigation is in many parts impossible; in Mokatsar the water is at 180 feet from the surface, at Bhadour 200, and as a consequence wells are few: the people contrive to collect sufficient water during 8 months of the year in tanks, and during the dry season drive their cattle to the banks of the Satlej for pasture and water. But with all this, and relying almost entirely on rain for harvests, the soil of Firozpur is rich and peculiarly suited for barley, and the tract between the old and new bed of the Satlej, for wheat. During 1868-69, distress was far less in Firozpur than in many districts more favorably situated. This was partly owing to the custom of storing large quantities of grain in the villages, and also that districts in which drought is the normal and not the exceptional state of things, are more able to bear without suffering an unusually severe drought. Jhang and Shahpur districts, which depend very little on irrigation, suffered little during the scarcity.

55. But Firozpur was close to the Bikanir country, from which the inhabitants were early driven by want of water, not only for irrigation, but even for drinking purposes; and in December 1868 it became necessary to call a meeting to consider what steps should be taken to support the immigrants. At this meeting Rs. 5,000 were subscribed, and the following extract from a letter of Mr. Wakefield, dated 14th January, Secretary Municipal Committee, will show the state of things at that time:—

"We have now nearly 1,000 starving poor, supported either by labour or pure charity, as each case may require; and with the Rs. 10,000 which will now be available, we have calculated that we shall be able to support these people for the next five months—i. e., till June next—when it is hoped that the fall of the periodical rains will enable them to go to their homes in Bikanir territory. The residents proper of the district have not as yet applied for aid. They do not as yet beg for either labour or food, and there is still

hope that a sufficient latter rain will save the standing Rubbee crops, so as to prevent their being reduced to such straits."

A large number of persons were relieved from poor-houses opened in the district, and able-bodied paupers were employed on the construction of a road over the old bed of the Satlej, and in improving the neighbourhood of the city of Firozpur. During the last week in February, 5,931 persons were in receipt of direct relief and 3,485 were employed on special works. That there was a sufficiency of grain in the district is proved by the fact that during this week the exports were 15,581 maunds while the imports were 3,528 maunds. Fodder had, however, almost disappeared and the cattle died in great numbers from actual starvation, and the gram crop had been much injured by a caterpillar which devoured the leaves of the plant. In August this district was compelled to apply to Central Committee for assistance. Portions of the district such as Mokatsar had lost both the Rabbi and Kharif crops absolutely, and it became necessary to re-organize relief-houses, which were formed at all the Tehsils and at the ferry over the Satlej, where food was distributed.

56. The Local Relief Committee dissolved on the 11th of September, the necessity for any general system of relief having ceased with the heavy rain. During the last two weeks of August 23,036 persons, of whom only 3,095 were men, received gratuitous relief; and from the 1st to the 9th of September 21,235, of whom 260 were men.

The operations however could not be brought to a close so soon as was anticipated, and it was the beginning of November before gratuitous relief ceased, the number of paupers during the month of October being nearly 10,000.

57. There is no occasion to give any detailed account of this district, which is fertile, well watered, and with a light assessment.
Gujrat. Subscriptions were made for the relief of local distress; but the people were well off and able to support their own poor, and the subscriptions might with advantage have been sent to the Central Committee for expenditure where they were really wanted.

58. On the 19th November 1868, sanction was conveyed to the expenditure of Rs. 5,000 in the Gurgaon district for the relief of
Gurgaon. distress; but no special works were then undertaken, though food was given to all the really infirm, not very many in number,

In January the Commissioner of Delhi reported that there was very little distress in this district but subscriptions were invited. Though about 1,000 per week received food, there does not appear to have been any great distress till August 1869, when prices rose to 8 and 9 seers of flour per rupee, the demand for grain for seed being very great, and the export southward being four times as great as the import. In September the sufferings of the poor were very great: large numbers of immigrants from Rajputana were in the district, nearly half of them so emaciated as to be unable to work.

59. During the two weeks ending the 5th of September, 4,058 infirm paupers were relieved; and for the general state of things the Deputy Commissioner had better speak for himself:—

"During the month of September a very large amount of rain fell and quite dispelled all fears of drought. The crops and grass sprung up very luxuriantly, but towards the close of the month the continued wet did much injury to the *bayra*, knocking off the blossom and turning the formed grain black; *jowar*, *mats*, &c., sown along with the high millet, also rotted, but where these different descriptions of growths were sown apart, they have thriven well, and are expected to yield an ample harvest, should the clear weather just set in continue,

2. Food grain continued at famine rates during the whole month and distress was great in consequence, but during the last week there has been a slight alteration for the better.

3. During the month of September, 8,336 persons were relieved at the different alms-houses in the district, the expenditure being Rs. 1,510-4-9, leaving, at the close of the month, Rs. 385-6-1 in hand.

4. This sum will suffice for little more than a week, and the destitute must still be fed for some time to come, as they are incapable of earning their own livelihood; besides 'Marwaries' and 'Bagrees' arrive daily in a most destitute state and must be provided for, though it be only for a day at a time.

5. The meals issued were as follows:—

For males,	11,403	=	Rs. 463 15 10
For females,	28,140	=	" 788 9 4
For children,	18,809	=	" 257 11 7
Total,	...		Rs. 1,510 4 9
Being on an average per male,	6 chattacks,	=	8 pies per diem.
	Female, 4 "	=	5 ditto.
Children of 10 years and less,	2 "	=	2½ ditto.

6. The various works employed daily—

Men.	Women.	Children.	
195	121	107	= 423 persons.

7. I beg that 1,500 Rs. be granted, as otherwise the alms-houses will have to be closed at once and large numbers of persons will starve.

8. The cold and damp at night are very much felt by these poor, who have hardly any clothing on their persons, and not sufficient stamina to battle with the weather; they will therefore require at least a blanket each: this should also be taken into consideration, and an additional provision made as early as possible.

9. A good deal of fever has already appeared, owing to hot days and cold nights."

60. The district of Hissar suffered perhaps more than any other in the whole province from the famine, though Karnal was not far behind. Situated on the border of the Bikanir desert, it shared many of its desert characteristics, and was almost entirely dependent on rain for its harvests. The drought and scarcity were felt here very early, and so early as August 1868 foreigners from the neighbouring Independent States came in for food and work.

On the 28th September, the Commissioner of Hissar, in reply to letters of Government submitted a list of works, of the estimated cost of 75,475 Rupees, which were proposed to be undertaken for the relief of distress in the Sirsa district, consisting of roads, wells, and a bridge over the Ghaggar at Khyraha. The state of the Division was such that immediate action was desirable, and sanction was conveyed to the commencement of such works as were recommended to be first undertaken. On the 7th October, sanction was accorded to the commencement of two works in the Hissar district, *viz.*, re-metalling the Hissar and Hansi road, estimate 19,008 Rupees, and improving the road between Hansi and Bhewani, estimate Rs. 4,752.

The reports from this Division were already, in the first week of October, gloomy in the extreme. The Kharif crop and the grass crop had both entirely failed, and the people, so far as fodder for cattle was concerned, were in a worse condition than during the famine of 1860-61. The tanks had all dried up, and the wells in many places had become brackish and unserviceable, so that the inhabitants had no choice but to leave their villages and seek food and pasture elsewhere, while the numbers of people flocking from Rajputana, where affairs were still more gloomy, still further complicated the case. The Government accordingly gave general sanction on the 13th October for incurring such outlay as might be necessary on famine works in anticipation of formal sanction. At the same time sanction was given to an expenditure of Rs. 6,000 for digging *katcha* wells in the Division, and a little later to an expenditure of 28,000 Rupees from Imperial funds for digging, enlarging and deepening tanks in the Hissar and

Rhotak districts, where no local funds were any longer available. In the Sirsa district, the local funds were sufficient for the time to afford the relief required.

On the 31st October, the Government sanctioned Takavi advances aggregating 16,420 Rs., in the Hissar district; at the commencement of November, a further grant of Rs. 10,000 for repairs to wells and tanks; and on the 27th of that month, Rs. 3,784 for the clearance and improvement of the Jahazghar tank in the Rhotak district. Every effort was made in the Hissar Division to supplement the Government aid by private subscriptions, which amounted on the 5th of December to Rs. 18,243-3-5, in the following proportions:—

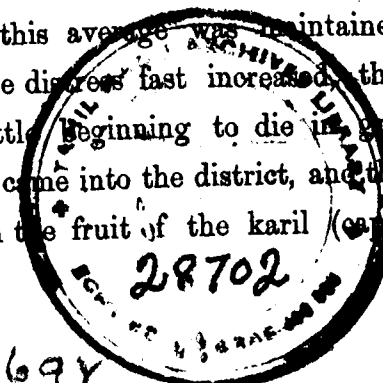
Hissar,	Rs. 9,175-9 -3
Rhotak,	„ 5,208-0 -0
Sirsa,	„ 3,859-10-2

Total, Rs. 18,243-3-5

The Government conveyed sanction, on the 19th December, to general Takavi advances of unlimited amount, for the purpose of digging wells and tanks in the Hissar Division. The late Financial Commissioner, four years before had made a somewhat similar proposal, but the people, in times of plenty, were not eager to sink wells, and did not accept the State assistance with any alacrity. At the present time, however, they are fully conscious of the desirability of storing up water against a future famine, and the demands for advances to sink wells and tanks are very numerous.

61. In January the local subscriptions, with the Government equivalent, were found sufficient to meet actual requirements. Relief-houses were established, where the infirm received food, cooked or uncooked, and public works were in progress giving employment to all able-bodied persons who required it. Up to the 20th of February, 106,808 men, and 126,970 women and children, had received relief, and 80 poor-houses were then open at which food was distributed.

During the month of March above 110,000 persons were relieved and about 33,000 were employed, and this average was maintained during the following month; but during May the distress fast increased, the great heat withering up the grass and the cattle beginning to die in great numbers. Many immigrants from Bikanir again came into the district, and the poor, unable to buy grain, supported themselves on the fruit of the karil (*carbaris aphylla*)



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which was unwholesome when eaten in any quantities, and the berries of the jhal or pilu (*Salvadora oleoides*). But whether the jungle fruits were wholesome or not they were the means of saving many lives; for this year of famine, the crop of wild fruits was larger than had been ever before remembered, and during the month of June gave food to many thousand people.

62. But the condition of Hissar, in July, became critical in the extreme. The fruit of the 'ber' (*Zizyphus jujuba*) which had been the chief support of so many, was now exhausted, while the number of immigrants had largely increased, a stream passing through daily from the south, others returning from the neighbourhood of Dehli to their homes. The people were losing heart, fodder was almost unprocurable, and wheat rose to 11—12 seers the rupee.

The rain which fell so generally during the latter part of July did very temporary good to Hissar. The weekly number relieved had risen on the 17th of July to 40,000, and the mortality was so severe among the cattle that 118,338 had already died.

63. The state of affairs in August will be seen from the following letter :—

From W. E. Purser Esquire, Officiating Deputy Commissioner Hissar, to Lepel Griffin Esquire, Secretary Central Relief Committee, No. 692 dated 18th August 1869.

"The state of this district has now become so serious that I think it right to bring the matter prominently to your notice. There has been no rain to speak of since the 27th July, and, at present there is not the least sign of any more rain—a fierce west wind, sometimes perfectly hot, reminding one of the beginning of June rather than the end of August, sweeps day and night over the country, burning up the crops and grass, and rendering all agricultural operations impossible. Even if we were to get rain now, the extent of land sown is so small compared with the usual area cultivated that relief measures could not be safely suspended till the Kharif of 1870, though no doubt they would be on a reduced scale.

2. But if, as appears highly probable, and every day without rain renders more certain, the "Kharif" in the *barani* lands is again to prove a total failure, a calamity will arise such as has not been known within the memory of man in this part of India.

3. The district is at the best of times never a rich one. The people are, in a great measure, 'Pachadas' to the north, and 'Ranghurs' to the south—two castes notoriously poor, lazy, and improvident.

4. In most places there is only one crop, the Kharif.

5. The people depend for great part of their support on their cattle.

6. The district is exposed to the first shock of the immigration of the starving population of the Rajpootanah States. Considering then that, being always poor, we have no resources left unused; that there will have been no harvest for two years; that

for all practical purposes cattle no longer exist in the district; and that we are being inundated by a flood of paupers from Beekaneer, Jeypoor, and other States, the calculation which gives three quarters of the people of the district as the number which will have to be fed by Government, if they are not to starve, does not seem incorrect. Indeed, in saying that one-fourth of the population can do without aid, it is only on the supposition that the Canal authorities will afford a reasonable supply of water to the district.

7. It appears then that, in case the 'Kharif' fails, there will be some 350,000 people to whom relief must be given.

8. It is in vain to expect that every exertion possible can prevent a fearful mortality, but much can be done, especially if the matter is looked boldly in the face, and preparation made without delay. If the distress is once allowed to get to a head, it will be utterly hopeless trying to control it.

9. Two things are absolutely necessary in order to meet the emergency,—money and a proper establishment. This district cannot supply any more funds worth mention; a few thousand rupees may, perhaps, be collected, but this is a drop in the ocean.

10. The necessary funds cannot be raised in India unless the Government supplies them. It becomes then requisite to try to raise them elsewhere, and to apply once more for assistance to the English people, who are always able and willing to give largely.

11. But, besides money, a proper establishment is required to supervise the relief operations. It is too much the custom to throw all the additional work caused by a famine on the ordinary district staff; which at the best of times, is too often overworked; the result is that the real supervisors are Munshes, at eight or ten rupees a month, and Tehseel Chuprassees on five; Government money is spent, and the poor receive scanty relief. I speak from practical experience. There ought to be at least one European officer whose sole business it should be to control the relief operations. He would have under him Native Supervisors on a fair salary in each Tehseel. His work would be principally inspection; and, in order to enable him to do this properly, he should have as little office work as possible. Relief-houses should not be scattered broad-cast over the land, multiplying returns and increasing facilities for cheating. All unnecessary reports and returns should be done away with; red tape must yield when the lives of tens of thousands are at stake: of course the medical staff will have to be increased also.

12. It will be necessary too to make some provision for children whose parents will die or abandon them.

A Relief Committee has been formed here; it consists of the European officers of the station, the Extra Assistant Commissioner, the Tehseeldar and the Municipal Committee of Hissar.

13. At the first meeting held yesterday various new works were proposed; suggestions were made for removing the starving poor outside the town, and for increasing the relief establishment and diminishing its work by shutting up unnecessary relief-houses and attaching the recipients of relief to other poor-houses. When these measures have been matured they will be duly communicated.

14. It was at this meeting that the calculation was made that three-quarters of the population would require relief. It was also ascertained that the stock of grain in the district is rapidly becoming exhausted, exports being largely in excess of imports: wheat is to-day selling at eight seers for the rupee, and a further serious increase is expected.

15. The number of persons receiving relief is daily increasing. There can be no doubt that in some villages, the landowners have left in numbers greater or less. I heard yesterday of five villages in the Bhewanee Tehseel alone. No reports have been received on the subject from the other Tehseels. Still the cases are isolated and few.

16. The Beekaneer people who went home are coming back again. Cholera (if the disease really is cholera) is still continuing its ravages at Sewanee; and after having been apparently stamped out at Balsamund has appeared again in an aggravated form. It has now established itself to the north of the canal in the Futtehabad Tehseel, but as yet the deaths are few.

17. The state of the district is very bad and the prospect most gloomy. But I do not wish to be understood as saying that all hope has passed. If within the next fortnight there is rain, there will be some crops, and much distress will be averted, but if not, and there is no sign of rain at present, it will be necessary to prepare for the calamity I have mentioned. It appeared better to make this report this week than next, in order that the Central Committee might be well informed of what may be expected, and that it may take such measures as seem necessary in the emergency.

18. I have written fully and freely on this subject because it is one of paramount importance. I should fail in my duty if I kept silence."

64. The report the week following the above-quoted letter was somewhat more favorable, and Mr. Purser's letter gives so admirable an account of the state of the district that no apology is needed for quoting it *in extenso*.

From W. E. Purser Esquire, Officiating Deputy Commissioner, Hissar, to Lepel Griffin, Esquire, Secretary, Famine Relief Committee, Lahore—No. 720, dated Hissar, 25th August 1869.

"I am glad to be able to inform you that there has been a fair fall of rain in some parts of the district since I wrote last.

On the 22nd there was a slight shower in several villages to the south; at Hissar itself the rain was confined to one side of the station.

On the 23rd there was a good shower, measuring 1·3 inches at the Court house, and 0·8 at the Tehseel.

The rain-fall in the district has as yet been reported as follows:—

Hissar	...	1·3 and 0·8
Hansee	...	1·25
Bhewanee	...	Drizzling (24th).
Burwalla	...	0·25
Futtehabad	...	0·0

The rain has therefore not been general, and has not extended far to the north of the canal. Still much good will be done: a considerable extent of land will be brought under cultivation, principally with *moth*, *moong*, and *jowar*.

The seed formerly sown will be saved and may be expected to germinate. In some places the land previously sown has been covered with sand, but in most places, where there has been rain, the seed is safe for the present. If there are two or three more good

showers a tolerable harvest may be expected. Of course, these remarks apply only to the area affected by the recent rain. Distress is rapidly increasing. Placed as Hissar is, as the frontier post between the British and Native territories, it is only to be expected that it will be first affected by the influx of the starving population of the latter; who being uncared for by their own rulers, seek refuge in the former, where some attempt, however imperfect, is made to relieve the wants of the needy. During the last few days there has been a stream of people coming in from the surrounding Native States. The returns do not show this, because they are not kept up in such a way as to show the daily number of persons receiving relief. These are divided into two classes,—those with tickets, and those without. The former get bread; the latter grain. No new arrivals ever get tickets, and those without tickets are only counted once a week. I do not see the object of the distinction, and the sooner it is discontinued the better. The difficulties in the way of properly distributing relief are enormous, and can only be met by proper supervision, which at present is not available.

The people are so reduced by starvation and want that their bodies are almost rotten; the least blow brings on a festering sore. To use physical force to such is impossible. Many of them are so wild with hunger, and others wish to get more than their share by scrambling, that orders to keep quiet and to wait till the turn of each person comes are quite unheeded, and as soon as the food is brought a general rush takes place, and the people shove and scramble like so many wild beasts. It may be possible to stop this. The distribution of food now takes place outside the town instead of inside. Six rows of stables have been placed at the disposal of the Relief Committee, which afford admirable shelter to the foreign poor. They prefer in fine weather loafing about and sleeping on the banks of the canal; but when it rains they seek the shelter of those buildings, where every arrangement has been made to supply them with water and everything else required. Even if there is more rain, and that all over the district, it must be expected that distress will grow more and more intense for the next two or three months. The number of able-bodied poor seeking work will probably diminish, as many will be employed in agricultural operations; but the number of infirm seeking relief will increase.

Now is the time to make arrangements to meet the still too probable famine. Our funds are quite exhausted; in fact some of the relief-houses have been shut up, but I had them opened again. The funds will be supplied from the Treasury in anticipation of a grant.

In addition to the Rs. 5,000 previously asked for, I would solicit a further grant of the same amount, with which it will be possible to carry on relief measures for some time longer."

65. After this the accounts from Hissar became slightly more favorable. Some rain fell early in September, but prices continued to rise, wheat selling at 8 seers 8 chittaks the rupee, and during the week ending the 28th of August 63,000 persons received relief and the next week 62,710.

The rain again held off: ploughing had to be suspended owing to the strong west wind which dried up the soil. Unless more rain fell immediately

the good results of the showers of July would come to nothing. There were no signs of rain, and the prospect of at least another year of famine became each day more distinct.

But during the first week of September the abundant rain, so long withheld, at last fell. Writing to the Committee on the 8th September, the Deputy Commissioner says :—

“ It is hardly too much to say that the rain, if followed by one or two more showers, has saved the district. The Kharif crop will not, however, be more than half the usual quantity, if so much ; and the ruin caused by the drought of last year was so great and wide spread that it is now painfully apparent in the untilled fields of every village. It is doubtful, Mr. Purser continues, whether this district will be able to feed itself during the next year, but the late rains justify a hope that there is no longer any fear of the terrible calamity which seemed impending.”

66. The worst was now over, but distress could not be expected for long to subside. The immigrants from the south, however, departed to their homes ; in the week ending the 23rd of October the number receiving relief had fallen to 35,939, and a final grant of Rs. 4,500 on the 29th November to Hissar closed the accounts of the Central Relief Committee with this district, to which it had sent during the year Rs. 35,500.

67. No praise can be too great for the officers of this district, Native and European, who worked splendidly and with the greatest success.

68. The only distress in the Hoshiarpur district was from the high prices, and among the village servants, artisans, and immigrants from Rajputana. The district is an exceedingly rich one ; cultivation is general ; irrigation is abundant, and lying close under the Kangra hills ; the rain-fall was greater than elsewhere. Such being the case it seems at first sight strange that prices should have risen in Hoshiarpur to a height hardly reached in districts suffering severely from famine. During the last quarter of 1868 wheat had been at 9 seers the rupee, higher than any district in the Panjab with the single exception of Sirsa, where it was 8 seers 8 chatacks, and the same as Hissar. For the quarter ending the 31st March 1869, wheat was 11 seers the rupee ; the next quarter it remained about the same ; and during the quarter ending the 30th September it again rose to 9 seers the rupee. One reason of the high prices was that in the Hoshiarpur district the custom of storing grain was not followed by the villagers, who sold or exported the corn immediately after the harvest.

By the end of January a Relief Committee had been established, and the works suitable to be taken in hand had been decided upon. Any distress was, however, much relieved by the heavy rain at the beginning of February and the villages of the Kundi and Jaswan Dhún alone required special assistance. Two tukavi advances for canals in the upper valley were accordingly sanctioned, a tank at Bhawnour, and another at Baroti. Relief-houses were opened at Unah, Amb, Garshankar, Harianah and Dussooah. Sixteen hundred men were employed on the Tanda road, but the distress was not so great even in the Kundi villages as to require special works to be undertaken.

Up to the 18th of September 1869, 32,800 persons had been employed, at a cost of Rs. 5,720-13-9, and 33,515 had received relief at a cost of Rs. 2,153-6-2. By this time all necessity for special works had ceased and the harvest in the Hoshiarpur district was exceptionally good.

69. This, the neighbouring district to Hoshiarpur, is also exceedingly rich and fertile. The distress here was owing to the high prices alone, caused by the same habit of exporting all the grain of the district. Relief works were started in February, and employed a large number of people, though the rate paid was not above two annas a day, and the district roads, especially that to Nakodar, gave all able-bodied laborers as much work as was required ; poor-houses were opened at which food was distributed ; but the only people who came were ordinary beggars and foreigners from other districts, and during the whole year the only assistance asked from the Central Committee was Rs. 200 for the Cantonment poor.

70. In the hill district of Kangra the ordinary works carried on by the Public Works Department, under Captain James Browne, Executive Engineer, were at first sufficient to employ the people. At Dhangu, near Pathankot, about 100 men were daily employed, between Nurpur and Kangra 1,500, and between Kangra and Piror over 4,000, making a daily average of 5,600 men. In these early days of February 1869, Kangra sent the subscriptions collected in the district to the Central Committee ; but six months later was compelled to ask assistance itself. The truth was that Kangra is exceptionally situated at the end of a long valley, backed by the Himalayas. There were no good highways through the country, and no large towns to attract grain-dealers and importation. Maize and rice were, more than wheat, the specialties of the Kangra valley, and the consequence of a long drought was that the stock of grain became speedily exhausted and the

price of wheat rose to 6 seers the rupee, far dearer than in any district of the Punjab. This price was not long maintained, and the first week in October had fallen to $8\frac{1}{2}$ seers, but this was altogether prohibitive to the poorer classes, of whom 2,583 were relieved during the week in question. The crops were now being cut, and as the harvest was, on the whole fair, the distress rapidly declined.

71. The district of Karnál, lying midway between Rohtak and Ambala, ^{Karnal} has suffered from famine as severely as Hissar, and perhaps more severely when it is remembered that the Grand Trunk Road runs through the district giving every opportunity for importation of grain. The eastern and south-eastern portion of Karnál is protected from famine by the Western Jamna Canal; while in the northern parganahs or sub-divisions, well irrigation is practicable. The western portion, the *bárh*, *bángar* or upland tract, comprising the western portion of the Karnál parganah, the sub-divisions of Asundh and Kathána with part of Kythal, covering an area of about 600 square miles, is especially susceptible to distress from drought, owing to the absence of means of irrigation, from the great depth of the water and the idle and improvident character of the people. The *istumrári* villages of the Mandal Chiefs, which, ever since their cession by Lord Lake in 1806 have been in a poor and depressed condition, have suffered most. The Chiefs, themselves foreigners and involved in debt, take little interest in their estates, and view any suspension of revenue, in seasons of drought, by the Government with great dislike. In 1861 great numbers died from famine in these villages, and the relief so largely afforded in 1869 alone prevented a like deplorable result.

72. The Deputy Commissioner of Karnál, Major J. Parsons, submitted a final report on famine operations, on the 14th of May last, which was forwarded to Government by the Financial Commissioner with his No. 372 dated 4th June 1870. His Honor the Lieutenant Governor considered that the report should be printed, as it was extremely creditable to all the officers of the district, and was a good exemplar instance of the way in which the famine operations were conducted.

As his report is short I have included it in my own. The statements accompanying it are all given, in abstract, in my accounts, and need not be published.

No. 73, dated 14th May 1870, from Major J. Parsons, Deputy Commissioner Karnal, to Colonel R. Young, R. E., Commissioner and Superintendent Delhi Division.

“ On the eve of departure for another district I have the honor to submit for the information of Government a brief report and a few statistical returns regarding the measures taken from the commencement of the alleviation of distress from the late famine, which was very severe in the Karnal district.”

2. Action was first taken in the matter in September 1868, when owing to the complete failure of the Khurreef harvest of that year in a large portion of the district, it became imperative to provide employment for distressed agriculturists and laborers. In that month relief works from local funds were commenced at Nigdoo, Joolmana, Gounder, Amoopoor, Dachour and other villages in the central portion of the district, where distress was already showing itself in a severe form, and relief works were provided from Municipal Funds at the towns of Karnal and Kythul.

3. In the following month sanction was received for commencing several relief works from Imperial Funds, and further works were simultaneously carried on from Municipal and Local Funds.

4. Near the close of November 1868 a private subscription list was opened to obtain a fund for the relief of persons unable to work, but no expenditure was incurred from this fund during this and following month, it being advisable as a check to pauperism to require heads of families and communities to support their own dependants as long as possible; relief works were however carried on continuously.

In the latter part of January 1869 distribution of food to helpless persons commenced, but operations in this respect were confined to the sudder station only.

5. By the end of February 1869 the local private subscriptions amounted to Rs. 8,454-8-0, and by that time it having been found impossible to stay the increasing distress by relief works alone, or supplemented by distribution of food at a few points only, arrangements were made for feeding the helpless poor at several points of the district where distress prevailed.

6. From March to October 1869 distress was very severe, and necessitated a large expenditure in both relief works and in distribution of food to persons unable to work, emaciated and helpless men, women, and children. Relief works from Imperial Revenue closed in January 1870, but some relief works were constructed from Local Funds in March 1870. The distribution of food to the helpless still continues at a few localities, and should remain for some months longer.

7. As connected with the famine relief arrangements it may be added that suspension of revenue was sanctioned for several villages, and that an increased amount of assistance was afforded to the agriculturists in tuccavee advances for sinking wells, and that special advances were made for the purchase of seed and plough bullocks. The great scarcity of pasturage owing to the prevailing drought caused the zemindars very heavy losses in cattle, which died in great numbers in both the years of 1868 and 1869.

8. Since the commencement of the famine to the close of the past year the aggregate expenditure in relief measures from the different sources has been as follows—

1. From Private Subscriptions.

A. Local, ...	15,370	11	4	}	52,670	11	4
B. Received from Central Relief Committee at Lahore,	37,300	0	0				

2. From Imperial Funds:—

A. Sums received in equivalent of private subscriptions,	15,386	8	4	}	1,11,290	1	9
B. Received for relief works,	36,632	9	5				
C. Tuccavee advances for constructing wells,	14,521	0	0				
D. Ditto for bullocks and seed,	44,750	0	0				

3. From Local Funds, 3,982 6 0

4. From Municipal Funds, 3,700 0 0

Total, Rs. ... 1,71,643 3 1

* * * * *

The aggregate amount of revenue demand suspended was in Khalsa villages Rs. 24,454. Ditto in Jagir and Istumrar villages Rs. 22,193.

* * * * *

9. The famine works executed were principally tanks, earth-work, being a description of employ in which women and children as well as unskilled laborers could take part; the tanks moreover were very convenient for the distribution of labor throughout the district as required, being useful in many localities owing to the scarcity of wells therein, and the distribution of the work was a matter of much importance as it is unfortunately a fact that zemindars will not go long distances from their houses to obtain labor until reduced to the utmost straits and privation, or till they may be too much emaciated to be able to work.

10. The largest number of helpless persons receiving relief was in April 1869, when there was an average of 12,120 persons per diem receiving food at 31 poor-houses throughout the district; of this number nearly four-fifths were women and children. It was found practically better to maintain a number of poor-houses than to attempt to congregate the helpless at a few points: many will not attempt to go long distances to be relieved till they are too weak to travel, and there is moreover great difficulty in providing shelter for large numbers of strangers and in making adequate conservancy arrangements, and great danger of epidemic diseases breaking out amongst the people congregated. At the head quarters of the district and at the Kythul out-post the ticket system of distribution of food was enforced; this was not practicable at the villages, but all the recipients of food were duly registered.

11. The largest number of laborers employed on famine works was during the month of April 1869, when there was a daily average of 1,814 men, women and children at the works.

12. The allowance of flour at the food distributing localities was 8 chuttacks per diem for male adults each, 6 chuttacks for women and for children from 10 to 14 years of age, and 4 chuttacks for children under 10 years of age; and as distress decreased grain in the above quantities was substituted for flour.

13. On the 1st April last distribution of food continued at 5 localities, viz., at the head quarters and at 4 villages in the Kythul Tehsil. At Kurnal the recipients are reduced to the ordinary paupers of the town, and they will be in future provided for by the Municipality. It will probably not be advisable to close poor-houses in the Kythul Tehsil before the ensuing Khurreef harvest. Those remaining are in the Kuthana and Assundh pergunnahs (one at the Revd. Mr. Carleton's village, Suntokh Majra,) where I found in my last tour in that direction, that distress is not yet extinct. There has been a very general failure of Rubbee crop in these two pergunnahs. The expenditure required for these poor-houses will be about Rs. 400 a month, and there is now a balance of about Rs. 800 at the credit of the combined private subscription and Government equivalent fund. Since December last Government equivalent grants have ceased; to make them equal to the aggregate of local private subscription a further sum of Rs. 1,445 would be required; with this addition there would probably be a sufficiency of funds to carry on the remaining comparatively small amount of relief as long as necessary.

14. I should still advise a few relief works being added in the Kuthana Purgunah; however this might be chiefly arranged for from Local Funds.

15. The expenditure for the relief of distress in the district through the late anxious time has undoubtedly been heavy, but it was altogether unavoidable, for with a more limited expenditure arrangements could not have been effectually made to avoid mortality among the people from starvation, nor to prevent the impoverishment of the agriculturists to an extent ruinous to themselves and most detrimental to the State, and to prevent very extensive emigration, which is by no means desirable from lightly populated tracts. Moreover, no expenditure was incurred that was not absolutely necessary, and a large portion of it, viz., upwards of Rs. 15,000, was from private subscriptions; and it might be here noted that the entire pecuniary assistance from Imperial Funds is as nothing in comparison with the increase of canal revenue from increased demand for water during the drought; the results moreover have been most satisfactory in the suppression of distress, whereas in the prior famine of 1860-61 there was much mortality among the people and ultimately heavy expenditure. I attribute the success of the late arrangements in a great measure to the early appreciation of the dangerous state of the district and the early remedies provided.

Had matters been allowed to go unheeded for some length of time at first great mortality would have ensued notwithstanding any amount of expenditure of money.

16. The most distressed parts of the district have been the central or Bar portion of the Kurnal Tehseel, known as the Nurdhuk, the southern portion of the Kythul Tehsil, and the Assund and Kuthana Pergunnahs of that Tehsil; in all these localities the lands are almost entirely 'baranee,' well water is very scarce and at depths varying from 100 to 150 feet from the surface of the ground; the Nurdhuk, which is principally Jagir or Istumrar, has moreover the disadvantage of a comparatively high rate of assessment. Much of the eastern and south-eastern portions of the district are protected by the Western Jumna Canal, and the northern portion has the advantage of more or less well irrigation. I had long been recommending the commencement of the new Hansi branch of the Western Jumna Canal. With this branch, which is now commenced, and the new Indree and Sirsa branch (via Kythul) much of the Bar tract will

be protected by canal water, and this district will in future years enjoy comparative immunity from famines.

17. I am greatly indebted to the late Central Famine Relief Committee at Lahore, for the kind assistance readily accorded whenever required for this district throughout the famine. Its Secretary, Mr. Lepel Griffin, was most courteous in his correspondence, and made due allowance when from the great pressure of works in this district returns were occasionally late in submission, and he much facilitated work by allowing demi-official notes in emergencies to take the place of formal correspondence. I also received very great assistance from both the Commissioner, Colonel McNeile, and from the Financial Commissioner.

18. Mr. Purser, Assistant Commissioner, was most energetic while employed in the district. He attended greatly to relief measures while at the Kythul out-post, and had then much opportunity for seeing to the prevailing distress and assisting in all projects for its alleviation. He frequently rode long distances in the hottest weather to superintend the working of different poor-houses and relief works of the Kythul Tehsil. The late Extra Assistant Commissioner Gopal Sahai also rendered much assistance in this department in the Kurnal Tehsil. To the Revd. Mr. Carleton of Suntokhmajra in the Kythul Tehsil I am also much indebted for his cordial co-operation, he both superintended works and relief-houses in his neighbourhood.

19. Tehsildars Ameer Ali, Hurdeo Sahai, and Raja Lall, and Naib Tehsildar Himmat Singh also performed good service in the famine relief arrangements; likewise the late Supervisors Mahomed Tucee and Sheonanth Rai, who were employed in the Kythul and Kurnal Tehsils respectively from April 1869 to January 1870. The District Road Superintendent, Kunhya Lall, had very heavy duties, and was most useful in preparing plans and estimates, as well as superintending various works. The Naib Superintendent of the Vernacular Department, Guneshi Lall, had also heavy statistical and other additional duties to perform in connection with the relief arrangements, and performed the same in the most zealous manner. The Kythul and Kurnal Municipal Committees rendered me also considerable assistance in this department."

73. The district of Lahore generally did not suffer very severely, although in the City itself there was great distress. The
Lahore. Bari Doab Canal flows through the district and the land in its neighbourhood was preserved from the worst effects of the drought: but a very small portion of the district is thus watered and the country generally is dry, bare and dependent upon rain for any harvest. On the 1st of February 1869, a meeting was held in the Lawrence Hall, the Lieutenant Governor being present, to inform the public of what had been done in the district and to ask for help. Large subscriptions and donations were collected, and to the end of the year Lahore asked no aid from Government or the Central Committee, but supported its poor by private charity.

74. Relief was, however, commenced on too extravagant a scale, and thousands who should have been required to work for their living received gratuitous relief. This was soon stopped, and those who desired maintenance were compelled to reside in the poor-houses, while special works were started in the neighbourhood of the City and the Civil Station of Anarkalli in filling up holes, dressing embankments, and improving the sanitary condition of the place. The report of the Executive Engineer shows that, on the 6th February, 326 men, 151 women and 47 boys were employed, and that on the 25th February, the average was 1,033 per diem. Of these about half were inhabitants of the district; 146 from Bikanir, and the remainder from all parts of the Punjab, and even from places so far south as Lakhnow, from whence 47 laborers came. The richer classes in the City acted with much liberality, and Mir Muhammad Sultan, Lala Mela Ram and others distributed food to large numbers of poor daily. The liberality of natives can be but poorly tested by subscription lists. They like to give in their own way; and the way chosen by the authorities often does not resemble it in the least. They prefer to dispense their own alms, and, in Lahore, or in the "Ahluwalia Katra," the Regent Street of Amritsar, hundreds and even thousands of poor were relieved daily at the doors of the shops. The charity was not discriminative, but there was little need of discrimination when half the population was starving: and ostentation may have been the motive for charity, as indeed it generally is: but so long as men give, their motives are immaterial.

In March, after the rain, direct relief and special works were brought to an end; but the condition of the district was very unsatisfactory. The mortality among cattle, owing to the want of fodder, had been very great, and, in the Sharakpur Sub-Division, a grievous murrain had doubled the number of deaths. In this and the Lahore pargannah, the Rabbi harvest was estimated at only one-third of the average yield; in Chunian one-fourth, and in Kassur one-half.

75. In August it became necessary to re-open the poor-houses, and to recommence special works. There was abundance of work to be done in the Civil Station, and a great number of poor were employed in excavating a small lake in the public gardens, and in levelling the ground in the neighbourhood.

76. In the district, apart from the city operations, the only special work undertaken was a Rājbaḥa or canal cut from the canal to the town of Chunian. The money for this useful work was raised by private subscriptions, and only a

small grant was required from the Central Committee, in February 1870, to complete the work.

77. The road between Raiwind, a station on the Multan line of Railway, and Kassur gave employment to a large number of laborers throughout the year : but the want of water made the work difficult and unsatisfactory as to the amount performed.

78. At the beginning of February a meeting was held at Ludhiana to consider what arrangements were necessary for the relief of distress. In accordance with the resolutions of this meeting a system of tickets was devised, the holders of which were entitled to receive relief in the form of cooked food. Special work in excavation was provided from the 4th of February : but, at the beginning of March, it was stopped as it appeared that all the immigrants from Bikanir were able to obtain work, at higher rates, on the Railway itself. The issue of relief in food was, at the same time, reduced, and on the 15th of March was entirely stopped.

The prospects of the district were thus reported to the Financial Commissioner :—

“The want of rain was much felt till the heavy showers which fell about the 26th January. The crops were greatly benefitted by these falls, and grass is now springing up. Cattle have suffered greatly from want of fodder. The demand for labour is not on the increase; those who desire employment find it on the Railway. The area of irrigated land cultivated is not less than in preceding years, but owing to want of rain at the proper time, less unirrigated land than usual has been cultivated. The Rubbee is expected to be an average one. In the *Jugraon Tehseel* the crops on irrigated lands are above the average, as unusual pains have been taken with them. The area of unirrigated land sown is comparatively small. In some villages the out-turn will be much below the average. There has been great mortality amongst the cattle owing to want of fodder; as yet there is hardly any grass except in the low lands near the Sutlej. *Simralla Tehseel*.—The prospects of the Rubbee were much improved by the rain which fell at the end of January. It is anticipated that there will now be ample fodder for cattle. Zemindars who formerly wished to sell their cattle do not now desire to do so. Most of the immigrants from Bikaner are believed to have returned to their homes.”

79. No further relief operations were necessary till August, when Captain Gurdon, Officiating Deputy Commissioner, wrote on the 17th to the Secretary Central Relief Committee as follows :—

“3. I regret to say that now matters have assumed a much gloomier aspect than they presented in the spring; the rains here, as in most places in the Punjab, are unhappily holding off, and there is fear now that, unless we speedily have rain, the seed-grain,

which was necessarily withdrawn for purposes of cultivation from the market, must be looked upon as thrown away : with the hope of a good rainy season the cultivators sowed every available piece of land, and this naturally put an extra strain on the grain market. The prices round about in other districts are so approximate to Ludhiana rates that all imports, except from the villages of the district in very small quantities, are at an end.

4. The present rates here are as follows :—wheat 8 seers, gram 9 seers, and flour 7 seers, for the rupee; and, owing to the rain holding off and the want of imports, there is no telling to what rate prices will not rise in the next few days even.

5. There is a large poverty-stricken population of Cashmiris here, besides other weavers who used once to earn fair wages, but are now more or less out of work owing to the depressed state of trade.

6. I have addressed the Commissioner of the Division at length on the subject of this letter to-day, but my principal object is to urge the necessities of Ludhiana on the Central Committee and to beg for assistance.”

80. The rain, up to this time, had been only sufficient to keep the crops alive : and they were fast withering away. Prices continued to rise, and on the 1st of September flour was quoted at 7 seers per rupee. During the first week in September, 20,052 paupers received gratuitous relief, 1,993 men, 6,911 women and 11,148 children. The Committee had reduced the amount of food given, to four chittaks : but this was found to be insufficient, and it was raised to six chittaks, which was still too low. If people are to be fed at all, it is necessary to give sufficient to keep them in health. Six chittaks is certainly not sufficient for an adult : but the recipients probably obtained food elsewhere than at the poor-houses. The week of the greatest distress was that ending with the 12th of September, when 31,665 persons received relief, 29,000 of these being women and children. A month later the cheaper kinds of grain were coming into the market; the crops, saved by the opportune rain, recovered; and the relief operations were gradually closed. Ludhiana only asked for Rs. 1,000 from the Central Committee : the richer inhabitants subscribing liberally, among whom Sirdars Uttam Singh and Badan Singh and Bhai Narain Singh are mentioned with special praise.

81. The district of Rohtak, like Sirsa, Karnal and Hissar, began early in 1868 to suffer from the effects of the continued drought, and besides the general sanction for digging wells and tanks in the Hissar Division, a special grant was accorded to the Hissar and Rohtak districts : and, on the 27th of December, a grant of Rs. 3,784 for the clearance and improvements to the Jahazgarh tank. Subscriptions were raised in the district, amounting, on the 5th of December, to Rs. 5,208 ; and by the following

month special works for the employment of all able-bodied paupers were in full operation. The month of December showed 54,334 paupers receiving gratuitous relief, and January 150,102, an increase of nearly 300 per cent: during February there were 26,649 persons on the rolls; in March 146,256: and during the first week in April 115,630. These great fluctuations in the number of actual paupers and the proportion between those receiving gratuitous aid and the able-bodied persons employed, was so startling that the Committee called the earnest attention of the Deputy Commissioner of Rohtak and several other districts to the reiterated orders of Government, that no relief should be afforded to persons able to work, except in return for labor. To give relief on any other system was merely to pauperize a district, and intensify, instead of diminishing, distress.

82. The Deputy Commissioner of Rohtak reported that the lists had been prepared with great care: that those receiving relief were for the most part women, the crippled, the lame, blind and otherwise helpless. At the same time the proportion between the two classes was inversed a few weeks later; and for the weeks ending the 9th and 16th of May, 5,478 and 7,069 infirm persons only were relieved, while able-bodied persons employed were 30,530 and 30,088. The numbers rose towards the end of the month, but the system of keeping up the lists varied in the several Tehsils, which accounted for many remarkable fluctuations, and the report submitted by Lieut. Colonel Hawes, the Deputy Commissioner, in May was highly satisfactory, and contains so much interesting information that it is given here in its entirety, as abstracted in a letter from the Secretary to the Financial Commissioner:—

“2. Two-thirds of this district are dependent on rain for the production of a crop; and if the rain fails, the scarcity that results is necessarily severely felt. In the *barani* tract two successive crops of cereals and of fodder failed, and the consequence was a great scarcity of food and loss of employment to the people, and great mortality and depreciation in value of cattle.

3. The Deputy Commissioner states that not a single instance of death of a human being from starvation has come to notice.

5. A very large sum was collected in this district by private subscription, and the Deputy Commissioner also gives the names of the individuals who distributed food to the poor at their own expense. The total value of food so distributed was Rs. 11,545-10. The amount of private subscription was Rs. 47,601, which with the Government equivalent raised the District Relief Fund to Rs. 95,202, of which Rs. 74,435-3-11 was expended in the relief of 6,74,191 able-bodied persons employed in excavating tanks.

The District Fund was apparently independent of any aid from the Central Relief Committee.

6. In addition to this a separate fund was raised for the gratuitous relief of persons unable to work, who amounted to 4,99,397. The receipts were Rs. 13,756-13 from private subscriptions, and the same amount from Government, making a total of Rs. 27,513-10, of which, Rs. 3,876-11 was distributed in cash, and Rs. 9,766-12-11 in food, leaving a balance available of Rs. 13,870-2-1.

7. There was also a sum of Rs. 25,984-0 sanctioned by Government from Imperial Revenues for excavation of tanks, of which Rs. 15,094-9-3 was expended.

These works employed 137,703 laborers. A sum of Rs. 8,000 was also sanctioned by Government for roads, of which Rs. 5,449-10-8 was expended, and which afforded employment to 55,485 persons.

8. Tuccavee advances were given to the extent of Rs. 11,894, for the construction of 379 kutchha wells.

13. The statement of mortality of cattle alluded to by the Deputy Commissioner subsequently received shows that 88,300 cattle died, and 50,300 were sent away to graze in the hills, leaving about 2,11,500 in the district, of which 63,000 were plough bullocks. From the above figures it is evident that it must have been and still is very difficult for the people to keep the cattle alive on their ordinary food at such high prices, and unless a plentiful supply of grass is obtained, the support of their cattle will continue to be a burden to the people.

The relief which has been afforded to the district in various shapes may be summarized thus:—

Expended in—			Rs.
District Fund works	...	...	74,435
Tanks from Government Funds	...	...	15,096
Roads from ditto	...	...	5,449
Private relief	...	...	11,545
District Relief Fund in cash and food	...	...	13,643
Tuccavee advances for kutchha wells	...	...	11,894
			1,32,062
Government revenue remitted	...	...	1,62,551
Total Relief	...	...	2,94,613

This is exclusive of the unexpended balances of funds amounting to Rs. 43,070, and Land Revenue suspended, amounting to Rs. 1,73,670.

17. A marked feature of the recent operations is the extent to which private liberality was evinced by the people of the district, which the Deputy Commissioner (in his 25th and 26th paras) attributes to his having endeavoured to throw the burden of the relief of the poor on to the Committees to which they belonged, and to his having worked with the people and carried them with him in all measures for their relief and benefit.

18. The Officiating Financial Commissioner considers that Lieutenant-Colonel Hawes is deserving of much credit for his praiseworthy exertions on this occasion, and

that the watchful care and prudent measures of the Commissioner, Mr. Naesmyth, throughout the famine, not only in this district, but in the entire Hissar Division, merit the highest commendation.

83. During June and July relief operations were carried on vigorously, but, in the latter month, no new works were considered necessary; and at a meeting of the Local Committee it was resolved to continue operations till the close of August only, when the small balance left at the credit of the Famine Fund would be given, without payment of interest, in Takavi advances for the purchase of seed-grain and plough bullocks: the advances to be repaid after the gathering of the Kharif harvest. This resolution it was, however, impossible to carry out, and, during the month of August, relief was more urgently required than ever. The partial failure of the Kharif harvest and the total loss of the Rabbi harvest were feared, but the late rain saved the crops and the distress speedily diminished till in the week ending the 3rd of October only 8,665 paupers were on the lists, although the price of flour still continued at 8 seers the rupee.

84. This district was at no time affected by the famine otherwise than by the presence of considerable numbers of immigrants from Bikanir, Marwar and elsewhere, for whom work was provided in levelling part of the old fort within the town of Sialkot, and Rs. 500 was allotted to each Tehsil for the relief of destitute persons.

The Deputy Commissioner of Sialkot in February 1869, proposed to raise money for the General Relief Fund by means of a cess of two per cent on the Government Jamma (Revenue Demand) and a "contribution" from each license tax payer equal to the amount of the tax. The Central Committee expressed their disapproval of this way of raising money, considering that such a cess could in no way be looked upon as of the nature of "voluntary contributions."

The Deputy Commissioner then wrote that the funds raised would be voluntary, and that he had lowered the contribution to one per cent on the Jamma. The Central Committee still expressed disapproval, but as Rs. 9,091-3-3 was raised in the district it may be presumed that some sort of cess was imposed. With regard to the right of a District Officer to impose local cesses, on his own authority, or the expediency of allowing such a power, the Central Relief Committee had nothing to do, but they were decidedly of opinion that such action was quite unwarrantable. To call a cess levied on the whole district, on

the Government Jamma, a voluntary contribution, is absurd. The people may take good care to show no disapprobation to the District Officer; but it is a forced contribution all the same. The Central Committee twice expressed their disapproval of this method of raising money, and there was no local distress worth mentioning in the Sialkot district, as is proved by the Deputy Commissioner, writing to the Committee on the 1st and 18th of June, stating that there was a balance of Rs. 6,158-8-5 still in hand, and requesting that Rs. 762-2-5 might be paid from it to compensate octroi contractors for certain losses sustained by the temporary removal of the tax on edible grains; an object which must be presumed to be quite in opposition to the wishes of subscribers, who, whether the money raised was voluntarily given or not, intended it to feed starving and infirm persons, and not to relieve the Municipal Funds of a legitimate burthen.

85. To understand the character of the Sirsa district, which much influenced its suffering from the famine of 1869, it is necessary to say a few words regarding its former history.

The country was formerly known as Bhattiana, inhabited by a wild, turbulent pastoral race, the Bhattis, who had preserved their independence for many hundred years. The tract they inhabited was a strip of desert country stretching from the borders of Hissar, to the sand wastes of Bahawalpur and the Satlej, and bounded on the north by Firozpur and the territories of the Maharaja of Pattiala. The country consisted of vast plains, covered after rain with abundant grass and scattered over with scrubby low jungle. Irrigation, from the depth and scarcity of water, was almost impossible, and little cultivation was attempted, the Bhattis living chiefly on the produce of their flocks and herds, which were famous for their numbers and excellence throughout Northern India.

Raja Amar Singh of Pattiala over-ran Bhattiana more than once and founded many villages there; but, in 1783, a terrible famine depopulated the country. The cattle died, the new villages became deserted, the land newly cultivated relapsed into jungle; and, when the territory fell into the hands of the English, in 1803, as part of the territory ceded by the conquered Mahrattas, it was no better than a desert; so uninviting that for nearly twenty years the English did not care to take formal possession, and it was only after the Bhattis had incited conquest by their raids into the British provinces that the district was finally annexed.

Since then the aspect of things has changed ; where one village formerly was found there are now ten ; the people are as quiet as in other districts, and have given up, in a great measure, their pastoral life for settled life in villages and agricultural pursuits. But the district is as dry as ever, and absence of rain signifies there entire failure of the harvest except in the few patches where well irrigation is possible.

86. Sirsa is in the Commissionership of Hissar, and shared in the relief measures undertaken in the autumn of 1868 for that Division. Poor-houses had to be opened in Sirsa early in October, and in the week ending the 20th February 11,023 persons were receiving assistance and 12,092 were employed on relief works.

The gradual progress of distress in the district will be seen from the following table :—

PERSONS RELIEVED.					
		Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
October, 1868	..	2,051	1,489	2,250	5,798
November "	..	2,901	7,208	7,589	17,698
December "	..	10,388	10,958	12,467	33,813
January, 1869	..	12,844	14,510	13,321	40,715
Total ..					98,024

The expenditure during these months was :—

October	..	..	Rs.	292	2	2
November	..	..	"	858	2	3
December	..	..	"	2,191	10	6
January	..	..	"	2,189	11	1
Rs.				5,531	10	0

87. During the first three weeks of March the numbers much increased, but towards the end of the month there was a considerable diminution in the number of paupers. The local subscriptions were by this time exhausted and the Central Committee had to send assistance. The improvement continued during the months of April and May, and the following letter of Mr. Wilkinson to the Secretary Central Relief Committee of the 3rd of June, will show the state of affairs at that time :—

" 2. There are altogether 12 relief houses in the district :—one at head quarters and three under the direct supervision of European officers of the Customs ; one under the Extra Assistant Commissioner at Fazilka, and one at Ellenabad under the Naib Tahsildar.

3. The number of persons relieved during the week ending 29th May was on the whole less than that of the previous week,* but at the Dubwali relief house the pressure seems to have been very great. In a D. O. letter, dated the 28th May, the Patrol writes that ' things are getting worse daily. There were over 600 people applying for relief yesterday.' In a letter received a day or two later, however, the same officer writes : ' you will be glad to hear that things are looking better now.' The reason for this relief house being more frequented is that other centres are at some distance, and that the water supply, scarce and not particularly good elsewhere, is here tolerably good and abundant.

4. No special reports have been received from other officers ; but the Civil Surgeon and the District Superintendent of Police, both of whom have visited the majority of relief stations during the month, state that the distress is everywhere still very great, and that in their opinion relief is not given to any but persons who are urgently in need of it, and such as are unable to work. In one or two cases they noticed persons who seemed capable of labour, but it must be expected that some such would smuggle themselves in.

5. At Dubwali, again, small-pox is reported to prevail, and a Medical Officer has been sent to make quarantine arrangements.

6. Immigration has been very small during the fortnight reported upon.

7. The officers who have visited the relief houses state that the wants of those in distress appear to be very carefully attended to, and that with few exceptions the condition of the people is not so bad as might be expected.

8. The scarcity of water is everywhere very great, and adds much to the prevalent distress.

9. Relief operations must be continued for some time."

And in continuation of the above, writing on the 25th of June, Mr. Wilkinson states :—

" 2. I am informed that at Raneeah and Ellenabad, two relief centres not specially noticed in my letter of the 3rd current, the relief is properly carried on ; that is to say, that deserving persons are relieved and are well cared for. Considering, indeed, the intense heat of the weather (which is represented by residents to be unusual), it is a matter of surprise that more deaths from exhaustion are not reported. The experience of the Orissa famine showed that numbers died from this cause, even after they had received relief, and the difference here noted is probably attributable to the fact that the relief has been given promptly and before the starving were so far weakened as to be incapable of being kept alive.

3. The pressure at the Dubwalee relief-house has considerably decreased. When relief operations commenced, it was generally believed that famine works would be undertaken there on a large scale, and with the able-bodied the infirm and old flocked to a point

which promised to be a centre of extensive relief operations. The indigents of foreign States helped to swell the numbers.

4. Rain is much required and is anxiously looked for. There have been showers on the 8th and 10th June, 1869, but not of adequate quantity."

88. The state of the district did not improve much till September. On the 14th of August flour was selling at three seers less than at the end of the previous week, the grass had disappeared, and the crops were dying away.

The rain of the beginning of September saved the crops, but there was for some time no sensible diminution in the number of applicants for relief. "Their condition," writes the Secretary to the Local Committee, "is lamentable in the extreme: at the head quarters relief house, crowds upon crowds present themselves daily, emaciated in body and apparently ravenous."

But a change for the better soon came. Flour fell to 14 seers 6 chittaks the rupee, and the third week in October it was only necessary to assist 6,709 persons. But poor-houses could not yet be closed, and, at the last meeting of the Central Committee, on the 29th of November, 1869, a sum of Rs. 2,500 was granted to Sirsa to enable it to carry on relief operations, until they could be closed.

89. In the remaining districts of the Punjab there was distress, owing to the exceptionally high prices, but nothing special necessary to record here. Indeed, in the districts to the north and in the Derajat the crops were good, and even the sandy districts of Jhang and Shahpur did not suffer severely. In Montgomery, early in the year, fears were entertained of famine, but distress diminished after the first rains of March. In Multan, there were plenty of beggars, but Multan is traditionally famous for beggars, and at any rate they were not disposed to work at famine rates. The Executive Engineer of the Lower Satlej and Chenáb Division tried to employ them on the Wali Muhammad Canal. For three days the men took their wages with a great deal of grumbling, but on the fourth day threw the money on the ground and insisted on three annas a day. Not obtaining the desired increase, they condescended to take up the money again; but they then disappeared and never returned again. Their distress may, consequently, be presumed to have been not unbearably severe.

90. There is no occasion for me at the close of this report to bring to the notice of Government, on behalf of the Central Relief Committee, the

names of those officers who, in the opinion of the Committee, have taken the wisest and the most successful measures for the relief of distress.

The Government is well aware how its District Officers worked; and the result of their labours was that they saved the people from dying of hunger; when starvation appeared inevitable. All have done well, but the heaviest burthen has been borne by the districts of Hissar, Karnal, Sirsa, Rohtak and Amritsar, in all five of which the amount of work seemed to increase the energy of the officers; for the arrangements for relief in these districts were more systematic and excellent than in other districts where the pressure was less felt.

LEPEL GRIFFIN,

Honorary Secretary Central Relief Committee.

STATEMENT No. 2.

SHOWING AMOUNTS RECEIVED AND EXPENDED ON ACCOUNT OF

FAMINE RELIEF, IN THE DISTRICTS OF THE PUNJAB DURING

THE FAMINE OF 1868-69 AND 1869-70.

STATEMENT AMOUNTS RECEIVED AND EXPENDED ON ACCOUNT DURING THE FAMINE

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
DISTRICTS.	INCOME.						EXPEN.	
	Subscriptions re- alized.	Donations realized.	Government equiva- lent to subscrip- tions and dona- tions.	Government grants other than Govern- ment equivalents.	Amounts received from Central Re- lief Committee.	Total.	Cost of feeding des- titute persons.	Amounts of pecu- niary assistance given to destitute persons.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1.—Districts in which relief operations were in progress.								
Hissar, as per Statement No. 1 A, ...	16,642	...	24,425	9,329	85,572	85,870	69,797	16,000
Sirsa, " " " " 1 B, ...	583	6,742	6,012	833	18,500	34,373	32,838	649
Rohtak, " " " " 1 C, ...	514	64,538	64,884	...	3,000	1,32,922	20,055	1,11,753
Dehli, " " " " 1 D, ...	5,126	3,182	5,000	...	1,200	14,508	7,644	4,100
Karnal, " " " " 1 E, ...	...	16,175	15,386	...	37,300	68,861	63,038	3,792
Gurgaon, " " " " 1 F, ...	...	6,190	4,384	...	1,200	11,774	8,885	2,354
Lahore, " " " " 1 G, ...	6,627	200	5,226	1,632	114	12,800	11,145	351
Ferozpur, " " " " 1 H, ...	...	5,906	6,500	...	4,500	16,906	9,819	4,990
Amritsar, " " " " 1 I, ...	8,320	498	6,782	...	...	15,567	11,427	...
Sialkot, " " " " 1 J, ...	...	9,091	...	1,289	...	10,380	1,251	939
Jalandhar, " " " " 1 K, ...	521	3,274	1,324	3,102	220	8,444	3,966	3,036
Hoshiarpur, " " " " 1 L, ...	633	6,244	6,976	4,388	100	18,342	5,170	13,126
Kangra, " " " " 1 M, ...	2,306	...	...	...	1,000	3,306	651	16
Gujrat, " " " " 1 N, ...	587	1,698	...	...	...	2,280	1,074	72
Ludiana, " " " " 1 O, ...	...	6,866	...	...	1,000	7,866	5,508	1,002
Ambala, " " " " 1 P, ...	...	2,591	2,425	...	...	5,017	1,976	3,033
2.—Districts which only collected subscriptions and donations for the "General Relief Fund."								
Rawalpindi, as per statement No. 3 Dr. side	...	1,482	...	...	1,482	...	...	...
Jehlam, " " " " " " " "	...	662	...	...	662	...	...	...
Shahpur, " " " " " " " "	...	529	...	...	529	...	...	...
Bannu, " " " " " " " "	...	509	...	...	509	...	...	...
Simla, " " " " " " " "	...	404	...	...	404	...	...	...
Jhang, " " " " " " " "	...	389	...	...	389	...	...	...
Dera Ismail Khan, " " " " " " " "	...	340	...	...	340	...	...	...
Multan, " " " " " " " "	...	175	...	...	175	...	...	...
Peshawar, " " " " " " " "	...	148	...	...	148	...	...	...
Muzaffargarh, " " " " " " " "	...	130	...	...	130	...	...	...
Montgomery, " " " " " " " "	...	106	...	...	106	...	...	...
Hazara, " " " " " " " "	...	45	...	...	45	...	...	...
TOTAL, ...	41,813	1,40,083	1,40,335	20,226	1,03,707	4,55,168	2,54,258	1,60,462

NOTE.—Annas and pie

No. 2.

FAMINE RELIEF IN THE DISTRICTS OF THE PUNJAB, OF 1868-69, 1869-70.

10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
DITUR			BALANCE AT THE CLOSE OF THE RELIEF OPERATIONS.		NUMBER OF DESTITUTE PERSONS RELIEVED.				NUMBER OF ABLE-BODIED PERSONS EMPLOYED.			
Amounts realized &c.	Amounts remitted to Central Relief Committee.	Total.	Cr.	Dr.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.								
72	...	85,870	...	...	6,84,113	4,70,714	3,57,191	15,12,018	49,369	62,913	69,119	1,81,401
...	885	34,373	...	...	1,83,694	2,11,163	2,02,693	5,97,550	1,24,642	70,264	66,081	2,60,987
1,043	70	1,32,922	...	...	2,80,801	2,98,288	1,39,909	7,18,998	5,28,860	5,21,709	1,95,784	12,46,353
2,000	...	13,753	755	...	25,382	24,094	12,247	61,723	21,900	21,015	10,929	53,844
...	...	66,835	2,026	...	4,58,805	8,36,502	6,47,742	19,43,049	1,28,286	48,015	29,328	2,05,629
...	...	11,139	634	...	82,571	1,94,121	67,835	3,44,527	7,604	4,584	3,136	15,324
...	...	11,904	1,896	...	30,951	32,886	21,416	85,253	45,575	18,903	21,595	86,073
...	...	15,739	1,166	...	23,649	83,261	1,49,131	2,56,041	32,691	11,887	7,624	52,202
...	...	11,427	4,159	...	61,055	74,484	55,405	1,90,944	1,50,000	85,715	64,285	3,00,000
...	2,000	4,191	6,188	...	4,993	2,952	4,848	12,793	4,577	33	367	4,977
...	...	7,003	1,440	...	23,598	28,007	7,806	59,411	13,591	5,468	4,495	23,554
...	...	18,296	45	...	30,495	22,225	17,297	70,017	42,068	30,410	16,481	88,959
...	2,638	3,306	...	...	4,277	5,226	5,468	14,971	2,395	55	119	2,569
...	1,134	2,280	...	...	6,216	1,997	986	9,199	650	150	65	865
1,355	...	7,866	...	...	26,358	87,430	1,12,050	2,26,338	6,459	5,591	4,247	16,297
...	...	5,010	6	...	26,766	20,545	9,902	57,213	19,539	14,006	12,411	45,956
...	1,482	1,482	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	662	662	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	529	529	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	509	509	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	404	404	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	389	389	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	340	340	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	175	175	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	148	148	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	130	130	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	106	106	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	45	45	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4,470	11,652	4,36,845	18,320	...	19,54,224	23,93,895	18,11,926	61,60,045	11,77,206	9,00,718	5,06,066	25,83,990

omitted.—Printer.

LEPEL GRIFFIN.
Secretary Central Relief Committee.

DURING THE FAMINE OF 1868-69, 1869-70.

Cr.

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Secretary, Central Relief Committee.

Dr.

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Secretary, Central Relief Committee.