

INDIAN FAMINE CHARITABLE RELIEF FUND, 1900

MADRAS PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE.

REPORT

ON THE

OPERATIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

FROM ITS FORMATION UP TO 31st DECEMBER 1900.

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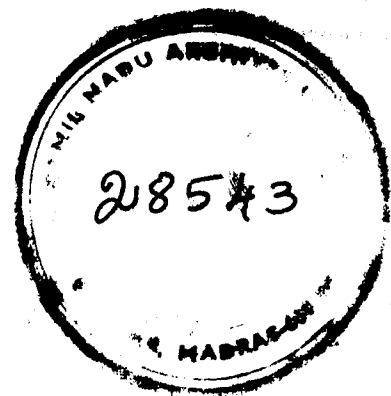
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# INDIAN FAMINE CHARITABLE RELIEF FUND, 1900.

## MADRAS BRANCH.

### REPORT ON THE OPERATIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

MADRAS, 16 January 1901.

No. 23 .

From

THE HONORARY SECRETARIES,  
INDIAN FAMINE CHARITABLE RELIEF FUND,  
MADRAS BRANCH,  
Madras,

To

THE HONORARY SECRETARY,  
INDIAN FAMINE CHARITABLE RELIEF FUND  
CENTRAL COMMITTEE,  
Calcutta.

SIR,

Referring to your circular letter No. C-24 of the 3rd December 1900, the Executive Committee has the honour to submit a brief report of its operations from the commencement up to 31st December 1900.

2. The Committee was formed in March 1900 under the following circumstances :—

The season of 1899 was extremely unfavourable. In June and July the rainfall was very scanty over the greater portion of the Presidency and was less than the quantity recorded in any of the previous thirty years. In September, however, the rains were fairly normal and averted, for a time, the necessity for starting relief works; but in the subsequent months—October to December—, there was a serious failure of the usual north-east monsoon rains, especially in the Deccan districts and in parts of Nellore and Kistna, which caused total loss of crops in some taluks, and greatly reduced the outturn in others. From September 1899, owing to an abnormal demand for grain from Western India, which was severely affected by famine, the prices of the dry grains rose rapidly in the Deccan and Central districts, and at the end of December they were dearer than the scarcity rates in the former group, and ranged high in the rest of the Presidency. Early in February 1900, Government found it necessary to open a few test relief works in parts of Cuddapah and Nellore, and in March following, relief operations were extended to the other districts of the Deccan and to the upland taluks of Kistna. In February and March the prices of the staple food-grains were more than double the normal in the districts named above, but the stocks of grain were ample and the distress felt by the poorer classes was nowhere very acute.

3. *Preliminary operations.*—On the 9th March 1900, a public meeting of the citizens of Madras was held in the Banqueting Hall for the purpose of forming a local branch of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund, and for collecting funds for charitable relief, at which His Excellency the Governor, Sir Arthur Havelock, presided. A report of this meeting is printed as an Appendix. Subscriptions amounting to Rs. 36,800 were announced on the spot, and a strong and influential Provincial Committee was appointed. On the 13th March, a meeting of the Provincial Committee was held in the Banqueting Hall, with His Excellency the Governor in the chair, at which an Executive Committee of forty-four members (subsequently raised to forty-five) was appointed with the following office-bearers:—

The Hon'ble Mr. G. G. Arbuthnot, Chairman; Messrs. Arbuthnot & Co., Honorary Treasurers; Mr. H. K. Beauchamp and the Hon'ble P. Rajaratna Mudaliyar, Dewan Bahadur, C.I.E., Honorary Secretaries.

4. The Executive Committee held its first meeting on the 20th March and, after settling preliminary details, resolved to adopt the steps taken in 1897 for the collection of subscriptions. A circular letter was accordingly addressed to all Judges and Collectors of Districts inviting their co-operation and requesting them to form local Committees, chiefly of non-official members, for organising measures for raising subscriptions for purposes of charitable relief and for distributing relief where necessary.

The Committee met again on the 3rd April and amongst other things resolved to collect small subscriptions by placing boxes at all the principal places of public resort, such as Banks, Temples, Railway Stations, Shops, etc., and boxes were accordingly sent to the various banks, firms, trustees of temples, etc., in the city, with fairly satisfactory results. Arrangements were also made for holding entertainments in aid of the Fund.

5. In response to the circular issued to them, Collectors and District Judges all over the Presidency and the Dewans of Travancore and Pudukkottai soon organized District Committees at their Head-Quarters with local Sub-Committees at various centres in their districts.

The total subscriptions promised up to the end of December 1900 amounted to Rs. 2,71,841, of which Rs. 2,41,611 had been collected up to the end of November, viz., Rs. 2,05,591 towards the General, and Rs. 36,020 towards the Provincial, Fund. Of the total collections on account of the General Fund, Rs. 1,85,000 have been remitted to the Central Committee at Calcutta, as shown below:—

|                       | Rs.    |
|-----------------------|--------|
| 2nd April ... ..      | 25,000 |
| 2nd May ... ..        | 25,000 |
| 6th June ... ..       | 15,000 |
| 3rd July ... ..       | 20,000 |
| 13th July ... ..      | 15,000 |
| 8th August ... ..     | 30,000 |
| 5th September ... ..  | 20,000 |
| 11th September ... .. | 20,000 |
| 5th October ... ..    | 15,000 |

Considering that the resources of the people of the Presidency had been severely taxed during the year, and that many of them had contributed largely towards the Transvaal War Fund, etc., the subscriptions to the Famine Charitable Relief Fund may be considered to be on the whole very satisfactory and compared well with the subscriptions raised in 1897. As the distress in the Presidency was confined to a small area and was not very acute, the collections towards the Provincial Fund were not large, amounting to only Rs. 36,020 up to the 15th December 1900. Of this sum, Rs. 28,526 has been allotted to the districts named in the margin for granting relief to the distressed poor.

|                    | Rs.   |
|--------------------|-------|
| Cuddapah ... ..    | 8,500 |
| Kurnool ... ..     | 2,000 |
| Anantapur ... ..   | 2,020 |
| Kistna ... ..      | 2,500 |
| Nellore ... ..     | 1,500 |
| North Arcot ... .. | 3,000 |
| Malabar ... ..     | 9,006 |

\* Of this sum, Rs. 1,500 have been returned by the Committee.

6. *The Administration of the Funds.*—In his speech at the inaugural meeting of the Famine Fund at Calcutta, His Excellency Lord Curzon indicated the objects to which the Charitable Relief Fund might be legitimately devoted, without interfering with or overlapping the operations undertaken by the State. These objects were the same as those laid down by Lord Elgin in 1897. The first of these provides for supplementing Government gratuitous relief to the aged, infirm and children, and the third for the relief of the numerous poor but respectable persons, who will undergo almost any privation rather than apply for Government relief. The bulk of the relief given in this Presidency during the present distress was under these two heads. It may be noted, however, that no gratuitous relief was granted by Government in any district, and what relief was granted in this way was entirely from the Famine Relief Fund.

7. The amount spent was largest in Cuddapah. The local Committee of this district brought to the notice of the Executive Committee early in May 1900, the unsatisfactory condition of the people in certain parts of the district and applied for a grant of Rs. 5,000 for giving relief to gosha women and to such of the respectable poor as were contemplated in object III. After consulting the Board of Revenue, Member in charge of Government relief operations, a sum of Rs. 1,500 was at once allotted to the District Committee and a further sum of Rs. 3,000 was forwarded to the Committee in July following. In September, a further grant of Rs. 2,000 was made to this district, and this was supplemented by a similar grant in November 1900, thus raising the total allotment for the district to Rs. 8,500. In addition to this grant, a sum of Rs. 5,000 was also allotted, at the instance of the Board of Revenue Member, for giving relief to the weavers in certain parts of the District. The poorer classes of this community, having lost their usual occupation owing to the absence of demand for their wares, were reduced to much distress and Government adopted special measures for relieving them by providing them with employment at their own looms, and purchasing the cloths manufactured to order. Between February and September some 3,000 to 3,500 weavers were in receipt of this form of relief, but towards the end of September, when good rains fell and prospects much improved, Government discontinued the relief and the weavers were left to their own resources. It was soon found, however, that the closing of the relief by Government had been somewhat premature, and a sum of Rs. 5,000 was accordingly sanctioned from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund (Provincial) for continuing relief to the weavers on the lines adopted by Government. The greater portion of the grant will, however, be recouped when the cloths manufactured by the weavers are sold and the proceeds credited to the Fund. While this Report is being printed information has been received to the effect that Government has resumed its weaver-relief operations; and so no further demand on our Fund will be necessary.

8. The system adopted in giving relief to the poor was similar to that followed in 1897-98. The condition of the several applicants was fully enquired into on the spot, and the applicants selected for relief were entered in a register prescribed for the purpose, and each person was furnished with a ticket of admission. On production of the ticket, the person was granted a money or grain dole, at rates fixed by the Sub-Committee, with the approval of the District Committee.

9. Besides the districts in which the Government opened its own relief works, the Committee found it necessary to grant relief from the Provincial Fund to two other districts, viz., North Arcot and Malabar; where, owing to the failure of the usual rains, the poorer classes suffered considerable distress. In July last, the Rev. Dominic brought to the notice of the Committee the condition of the lower classes in parts of Walajanagar taluk in North Arcot, and, after due enquiry by the local officers, a sum of Rs. 1,000 was placed in the hands of the District Committee for affording the required relief. Later on, in December, a further allotment of Rs. 2,000 was made to this District.

In Malabar, where the season in 1899 was the worst known for several years, the District Committee arranged to retain for expenditure on local relief, three-fourths of the amount that might be collected in the District towards the Famine Fund. The sum thus set apart amounted to Rs. 9,006, out of which Rs. 7,930

was handed over to the Poor House Committee at Calicut (consisting of the District Medical Officer, the Municipal Chairman and two other gentlemen), and the remainder was distributed to the District Sub-Committees for the relief of the poor.

10. Fortunately for the Presidency, the distress, as already stated, was not very severe, and private charity was everywhere available for the most needy. Considerable help was also given by various missionary bodies, more especially in parts of Kistna, Nellore and Cuddapah. The Madras Government, for instance, has placed on record its high appreciation of the enlightened liberality of the Rev. Dr. J. E. Clough, of the American Baptist Mission, and of the services rendered by Mr. V. Ananda Rao Pantulu, Chairman, Municipal Council, Ongole, in connection with the relief of the poor during the recent famine in the Neilore district. The American Baptist Mission has been most generous during the late bad season, spending about Rs. 1,10,000 in various ways; of this, Rs. 20,000 have been spent in Ongole town for roads, water-supply and other improvements on which poverty stricken and destitute people have been employed.

Information regarding the number of persons relieved in each district and the amounts actually disbursed from the Famine Fund is not yet available, as the operations are still in progress and may in all probability have to be continued until the next rains set in.

We append, however, the report of the District Committee of Cuddapah, where approximately Rs. 13,500 out of the total Rs. 33,526 was spent.

11. The Collectors of all Districts have made arrangements for auditing the accounts of the Fund in the manner indicated in our Committee's Resolution, dated the 20th November 1900, copy of which was forwarded to the Central Committee with our letter No. 340, dated 27th November 1900, while the accounts of the Executive Committee at Madras will be audited by an officer deputed by the Accountant-General.

We have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servants,

HENRY BEAUCHAMP,  
P. RAJARATHNA MOODELLIAR,  
*Honorary Secretaries.*

## APPENDICES.

### APPENDIX I.

#### FORMATION OF A MADRAS BRANCH.

In response to a requisition by the citizens of Madras, the Sheriff convened a public meeting on the 9th March 1900 at 5 P.M. at the Banqueting Hall for the purpose of forming a local branch of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund for the collection of subscriptions and for the distribution of relief. The meeting was very largely attended by representatives of all communities and interests in the city. Among those present were the Hon'ble Mr. G. G. Arbuthnot, the Hon'ble the Chief Justice, the Hon'ble Mr. Arundel, the Hon'ble Mr. Winterbotham, the Hon'ble Justice Sir Subramania Iyer, His Highness the Prince of Arcot, the Hon'ble Mr. Norton, the Hon'ble Mr. Syed Mahomed Saheb Bahadur, Mr. H. K. Beauchamp, Mr. P. Rungiah Naidu, Mr. A. W. B. Higgins, Mr. H. Scott, the Ven'ble Archdeacon Elwes, the Hon'ble Rev. Dr. Miller, Mr. N. Subramaniam, the Rajah of Parapanad, Rajah Sir S. Ramasawmy Moodelliar, Mr. Krishnadoss Balamukundoss, Mr. G. D. Ker, the Most Rev. Archbishop Colgan, the Right Rev. Bishop Mayer, the Rev. J. Ogilvie, Mr. V. G. Lynn, Mr. A. D. Jackson, Lieutenant-Colonel T. H. Pope, I.M.S., the Hon'ble Colonel Sir George Moore, Mr. O. R. Jones, Mr. P. R. Sundaram Iyer, Mr. V. Krishnasawmy Iyer, the Rev. J. Cooling, Mr. G. Narayanasawmy Chetty, Mr. G. Gopala Row, Mr. M. Veeraragavachariar, Mr. C. Karunakera Menon, Mr. Lodd Govindas, the Rev. J. Lazarus, Mr. P. Theagaroya Chetty, Mr. W. S. Venkataramanjulu Naidu, Mr. R. N. Pragasa Moodelliar, Mr. M. Thirumala Chariar, Mr. Sultan Mohideen Saheb Bahadur, Mr. John Adam, Mr. F. Nusserwanjee, Mr. S. Appasawmy Chettiar, Mr. N. Appusundaram Pillay, Dewan Bahadur V. Krishnamachariar, and several others.

His Excellency the Governor, accompanied by Mr. H. A. Sim, arrived punctually at 5 P.M., when the proceedings were opened by the Sheriff, Dewan Bahadur P. Ramasawmy Chettiar, reading the notice convening the meeting.

On the motion of the Hon'ble Chief Justice, seconded by Rajah Sir Ramasawmy Moodelliar, His Excellency the Governor was unanimously voted to the chair.

His Excellency the Governor made the following opening remarks:—

MY LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, MY LORD ARCHBISHOP AND GENTLEMEN,—While deeply gratified to accept your invitation to take the chair at this meeting, the fact that three years only have passed since I filled the same place under like circumstances,—calls forth feelings of sorrow and disappointment that this country should, within the brief space of three years, be again visited with the dire calamity of famine,—and this time to a wider extent and perhaps in a more intense degree than on the former occasion,—is enough to strain to breaking point the patient heart of this much-enduring people. With an interval of less than a third of the cycle which theory and experience have suggested as a term of probable immunity from this terrible scourge, we are now again prostrated beneath its stroke. The present condition of this part of India, as compared with that of the vast area of unhappy regions over which famine now prevails, bears a resemblance to our condition when we joined in a similar Public Meeting in February 1897. Now as then the Madras Presidency, though in parts affected seriously by drought, is not suffering from distress in an acute degree. This circumstance did not then excuse us or prevent us from coming generously to the aid of our afflicted fellow-subjects in less fortunate parts of India. Let it not do so now. Let us rather be moved to greater liberality by the reflection that they are in far greater distress than we are at present. I appeal, in the first place, and I feel I do so with a certainty of success, to your generosity and to your feelings of sympathy with our sorely tried brethren; but, I appeal also to our sense of self-interest, to the charity which begins at home. For, even on the assumption that matters grow no worse in our own affected districts, it is certain that there will be ample scope for alleviating, in those districts, the distress which must inevitably be felt during the next few months. And if, as I fear is almost certain to be the case, the pinch becomes more severe within our own borders, there will be a loud call for succour. If we need a stimulating example of generosity, it is to be seen in Bengal, where His Excellency the Viceroy's appeal has been met by an enthusiastic reply, in the shape of munificent support. Such an example is also conspicuous in the ready response with which an appeal for help has been received by the British public, notwithstanding the earlier and cogent claims of the sufferers from the South African War. The perfection which has been attained in the Government organisation for the relief of sufferers from famine is one of the greatest triumphs of British Rule in India. The responsibility of dealing with famine has been recognised by the Government for about 25 years only. We need not go beyond the Madras Presidency to see the results. Contrast the famine of 1876-77 with that of 1897-98. The former counted its victims



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by millions; I know of no authenticated case of death from starvation during the latter. We may now say with just pride that no man need starve if he will accept the relief offered. But, the duty and function of the State end with the prevention of starvation; and at that point the scope of private charity begins; and many and important are the measures of alleviation which it should and can achieve. The supply of clothing to the naked, and of comforts to the weak and the sick; the distribution of seed for sowing, the provision of fodder for starving cattle, and help to start afresh those who have lost their all in the struggle,—these are examples of the forms of relief which can and should be given by private charity. The experience of our Provincial and Local Committees, who administered the Famine Fund in 1897-98 with such a marked degree of ability and success, prove amply and eloquently the vast amount of good which private efforts, supplementing those of Government, can effect. The organisation of the Famine Fund which we are now about to consider may, I suggest, with advantage be modelled on that adopted in 1897. A General Committee, of which I have the honour to be a Vice-President, has been formed in Calcutta, and representatives of our leading men have consented to serve on that Committee. The business of our meeting to-day is to open a local branch of the Indian Charitable Relief Fund, and to form a Provincial Committee to administer the Fund.

The Hon'ble Mr. G. G. ARBUTHNOT was then called upon to move the first resolution. In doing so he said:—

YOUR EXCELLENCY AND GENTLEMEN,—The resolution which I have the honour to propose is as follows:—"That a local branch of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund be opened in Madras for the collection of subscriptions and for the distribution of relief."

GENTLEMEN,—My first thought when I was asked to move this resolution to-night was that if not the "Absent-minded Beggar" of the song, I should much like to be in the position of an absent-bodied one, for I have begged so often of my kind friends in Madras,—begged them sometimes to open their purses, and sometimes their hearts,—that in truth I begin to feel ashamed. But any such feeling was very short-lived, for I knew full well that standing here to-night to plead for the many millions of our famine-stricken fellow-subjects, those toiling millions whose life at the best is such a hard and penurious one, and who are now suffering from so dire a calamity, I knew full well that I should appeal to a sympathetic audience and should not plead in vain. And of this, too, I am quite sure, that in the face of the grim foe with whom we have to fight, all considerations of creed and colour, of caste and race, must be swept away as in a moment, and we shall stand all together on the broad safe basis of a common humanity. I was much interested, only a few days ago, by reading a picturesque Pathan proverb. "The patience of the Sirkar," so it ran, "is long as the summer's day, but the arm of the Sirkar is long as the winter's night." To those familiar with the long long winter's night of Northern latitudes it is a striking metaphor, a very vivid word-picture, but long though the Sirkar's arm may be—long alike to protect and to punish—yet it is not long enough to deal effectually with so vast a task as is now before it, and therefore it is that I ask your aid to support and to strengthen it. To save life, that is the clear duty of the Government; to make the life that is saved a little happier, a little more worth living, that is the high privilege which all we who contribute to this Famine Fund may aspire to and claim. The lines on which private relief can do so much to assist and supplement public or Government relief have been very carefully studied and wisely laid down and defined, and from my own experience during the last great famine, alas less than three years ago, I am sure that you may rest satisfied that the private charitable fund will be well administered, and that it will bring substantial comfort and relief to thousands—I may almost say to hundreds of thousands of famine-stricken homes. I will not weary you with statistics of the vast—the appallingly vast—numbers now dependent on relief, nor will I harrow your feelings with grim reminiscences these terrible days more than 20 years ago when our whole Presidency seemed turned into one vast Famine camp, and here, this very city of Madras was literally pervaded with poor living skeletons. But let us remember the generous help that we received both at that terrible time in our hour of extreme need, and again three years ago in 1897, and now, when our own needs are less pressing, let us not refuse to be generous in return. To the rich, then, I appeal for their thousands, their wealth can be spent for no noble object and to the poor for their little mite which will perhaps deserve and earn even greater gratitude because it can be so hardly spared and yet is given cheerfully in so noble a cause—and thus it may well be that out of evil good will come. For we have been passing through a cycle of recurring war and pestilence and famine, but how many splendid examples these have brought us of noble generosity, of high courage, of patient self-sacrifice and of devotion to duty. It is these bright examples which will surely go far to bind together every portion of our vast Empire by a golden chain, the links of which shall never be broken and so I say again that good will come out of evil, and that these words will be found true that the deeper you plough the furrow the richer will be your harvest, and the greater hereafter your store of garnered grain. Gentlemen, I appeal to you, and not only to those in this hall, to-night, but to all Madras and this Presidency, to give cheerfully, to give generously in the full assurance that your giving will be blessed.

Mr. Justice Sir SUBRAMANIA IYER, in seconding the resolution, pointed out that they were not met there too soon. Many towns had taken steps for the purpose of collecting and distributing funds. Calcutta had liberally responded and Bombay had made its own contributions. In England also £120,000 had been already subscribed to the Famine Funds, notwithstanding the great demand upon their purse with reference to the Transvaal War. Such small Colonies as

Ceylon and Mauritius were also taking steps to collect subscriptions. It was impossible that the people of Southern India should not come forward liberally and speedily to do their duty to their suffering countrymen in Northern India. Though they had had an unfavourable season in a few districts to a degree unprecedented, yet comparing their condition with that of the affected people in the north, they must consider themselves very lucky; they must look upon it as fortunate that they were in a position to pay for the relief of their brethren in Northern India. It should be looked upon by every one in the Madras Presidency as a sacred duty to try and get as many subscriptions as possible for the relief of their fellow countrymen. With regard to the question of the administration or collection of funds they should try and avoid a sort of Provincial feeling and not restrict the collection to a particular purpose or a particular part of the country. The organisation for the distribution of famine relief was perfect, and it was better for people to entrust the distribution of funds to that Committee than to do it themselves. They should give money freely and without any qualifications. It was an important matter for the people in the mofussil to communicate to the people here the condition of things in the north, stimulate their sympathies and induce them to give as much as possible.

The Hon'ble Mr. A. T. ARUNDEL, in supporting the resolution, said that the story of famine was unfortunately too well known not only in this Presidency, but throughout India. He had been looking up some old records to see how far back he could trace any steps taken with regard to the relief of famine, or any history in regard to famine in this country in days gone by. With regard to India generally he had not been able to get particulars, but with regard to this Presidency he found that the first record of famine of any considerable extent had been in 1782. That was followed by a famine in 1791-92 and subsequently almost at an interval of ten years. The earliest records said little on the matter as the area under British control had been so limited then. It was in the famine of 1791-92 that the Government first of all introduced works for the relief of sufferers. At that time there had been no declaration of policy that the Government would do all in their power to save people from starvation; but works were actually started for the relief of sufferers in that time. Famines of a more or less severe type followed in 1802-5, 1806-7, 1812-13, 1824-25, 1833. The last-mentioned famine affected the Kistna district in particular when 200,000 died out of 500,000. Then famine visited the country in 1854, 1865 and 1866. Then came the great famine of 1876-78 to which the Hon'ble Mr. Arbuthnot had referred. During that famine no less than 700,000 tons of grain were imported in 18 months into Madras. The actual amount expended by Government in the course of those two years came up to Rs. 624½ lakhs, besides loss of revenue to the extent of 191 lakhs. The Mansion House fund reached £820,000. Then came the last famine of 1896-97. At present they might say, as regards this Presidency, the districts affected were Cuddapah, Kurnool and portions of Nellore, Bellary and Anantapur, so that they might regard themselves, as Sir Subramania Iyer had remarked, very fortunate. In fact they might say they were upon the edge of the great zone of famine which lay to the north of the Presidency. It was estimated that the expenditure on the famine in this Presidency would amount to Rs. 3 lakhs by the end of this month, and it was anticipated that Rs. 10 lakhs would have been expended before the next monsoon could give work to the labourers. He would give them an idea of the country now affected to the north of the Presidency. The area of this Presidency, including the States of Travancore, Cochin and Pudukkottai, was about 150,000 square miles. In the statement made by the Hon'ble Mr. Ibbetson in the Viceroy's Council on the 19th of January, he said that 300,000 square miles in British India and Native territories, with a population of 40 millions, had been affected and that to those figures must be added another area of 150,000 square miles with a population of 21 millions which was actually verging on it. In all the area affected was put down at 450,000 square miles and they could see what the extent of the famine must be when it spread over three times the area of this Presidency. To make another comparison, the area affected was nearly four times the extent of Great Britain and nearly a little more than twice the whole of France and the whole of the German Empire. It was also estimated by Mr. Ibbetson at that time, that the expenditure would probably amount, up to the end of this month, to between Rs. 300 and Rs. 400 lakhs. It was only right, therefore, that all classes of the community should join together in endeavouring to relieve the widespread distress, for whatever might be done by the State in the way of relief there was a boundless field for the exercise of private charity. Difficulties, trouble and suffering created a bond of union between classes and communities, no less than between individuals, in a way that prosperity could never do. Were an illustration needed of that, he would refer to the loyal enthusiasm of the unique meeting held only a few days ago in this city under the chairmanship of the Prince of Arcot, supported by the Hon'ble Sir Justice Subramania Iyer, in respect of British sufferers in the Transvaal War. Arguments were needless where all were convinced, and he felt that nothing more was required to be urged by him in support of the resolution before the meeting.

The Ven'ble Archdeacon ELWES, in supporting the motion, said that he had been very much struck by the working of the Executive Committee of the Famine Fund a few years ago and by the pains taken by the members of that Committee to obtain information to ask for help and to accept it from whatever source that came. He had been struck with the fact that if that Fund had not been formed and worked as it had been, although life might have been saved, there would have been far more suffering and trouble than there had actually been in that famine. Notwithstanding the demands made at Home on the people for help towards the relief of widows and orphans in connection with the present war, people at Home entirely rejected the idea that because

of the war they were not to help the Indian Famine Fund with subscriptions. He exhorted the public to give their best, however small it might be, for, as all people who were connected with societies and agencies for raising large funds knew perfectly well, while they were grateful for large gifts they really depended for sustained income on smaller gifts wrongly given.

The resolution was then put and carried with acclamation.

The Most Rev. Archbishop COLGAN next moved that the following gentlemen be invited to serve on the Provincial Committee with power to add to their number and to appoint an Executive Committee to administer the Fund:—

His Excellency Sir Arthur Havelock, G.C.I.E., G.C.M.G., the Maharajah of Travancore, G.C.S.I., the Maharajah of Jaipur, the Rajah of Cochin, K.C.I.E., the Rajah of Pudukkottai, the Prince of Arcot, the Nawab of Banganapalli, C.S.I., the Rajah of Venkatagiri, K.C.I.E., the Rajah of Bobbili, K.C.I.E., the Rajah of Kalahastri, the Rajah of Ramnad, the Rajah of Sundur, C.I.E., the Elia Rajah of Travancore, the Maharajah G. N. Gajapati Rao, C.I.E., the Zamindar of Punganuru, the Hon'ble Mr. P. Ananda Charlu, C.I.E., the Hon'ble Mr. G. G. Arbuthnot, the Hon'ble Mr. A. T. Arundel, C.S.I., Mr. J. Adam, M.A., Mr. M. Appalaraju, Mr. N. Appusundrum Pillay, Mr. N. Adipuranam Pillay, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Benson, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Boddam, the Hon'ble Sir V. Bhashyam Iyengar, Kt., C.I.E., Mr. H. Bradley, Mr. H. K. Beauchamp, Mr. Glyn Barlow, Mr. Kenworthy Brown, Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel W. R. Browne, Mr. Reddy Branson, Mr. R. V. Basava Pillay, Mr. Haji Mahomed Hadi Badsha Sahib, Mr. B. Baliah Naidu, Mr. S. Biligiri Iyengar, Mr. R. Balakrishna Chetty, Mr. M. Buchi Babu Naidu, Mr. Haji Mahomed Azeez Badsha Sahib, His Grace Archbishop J. Colgan, D.D., Brigadier-General J. T. Cummins, D.S.O., Major Carrie, Mr. B. H. Chester, M.A., Mr. P. Chentsal Row, C.I.E., Rai Bahadur, C. V. Cunniah Chetty, Mr. B. N. Chandik, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Davies, Mr. J. N. Davies, Mr. V. P. D'Rozario, Mr. V. C. Desika Chariar, the Ven'ble Archdeacon Elwes, Rajah Easwara Doss, Rai Bahadur M. Ethiraja Pillay, the Zamindar of Ettiapuram, Mr. E. H. Elliott, Mr. Ghansham Singh, Mr. Cowasjee Eduljee, Mr. C. Ethirajulu Chetty, Mr. E. S. Hensman, Mr. R. F. Grant, Mr. Salla Gurusawmy Chetty, Colonel Harvey-Kelly, Mr. M. Hammick, Mr. A. W. B. Higgins, Mr. Hussan Ali Khan Bahadur, Mr. C. Iyabsawmy Pillay, the Hon'ble Mr. C. Jambulingam Moodelliar, Mr. A. D. Jackson, Mr. O. R. Jones, the Hon'ble Mr. G. S. Forbes, Mr. G. D. Ker, Mr. H. C. King, Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. King, M.B., Mr. C. V. Kumarasawmy Sastriar, Mr. Dewan Bahadur V. Krishnama Charry, Mr. P. V. Krishnasawmy Chetty, Mr. B. Kistniah Naidu, Mr. V. Krishnasawmy Iyer, Mr. Kushal Doss, Chatterbute Doss, Mr. L. Kistna Doss Balamukundoss, Mr. Kurushed Hussain Sahib, Mr. N. Kristnasawmy Naidu, Mr. K. Kristnasawmy Chetty, Mr. Lodd Govindoss, Mr. M. K. Lakshmana Chariar, Mr. W. J. H. LeFauu, Mr. V. G. Lynn, the Hon'ble the Rev. Dr. W. Miller, C.I.E., Mr. J. Meredith, Mr. V. Mahomed Sheriff Khan Bahadur, Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel J. Maitland, the Right Rev. Bishop T. Mayer, D.D., Mr. L. S. Moss, Colonel Sir G. M. J. Moore, Kt., C.I.E., Rajah Moothookistnah Yachendra Bahadur, Mr. Mahomed Mahmood Khan Bahadur, Mr. Mahomed Ali Namaji, Mr. V. Masilamony Pillay, Mr. Murlidoss Ramdoss, Mr. C. Mukunda Naidu, Mr. P. Murugasa Moodelliar, Mr. C. Mutiukumarasawmy Moodelliar, Mr. B. Madava Chetty, Mr. Mirza Mehdy Hasham Ispahani, Sri Rajah of Mandasa, the Right Rev. Bishop of Mylapore, the Hon'ble Mr. F. A. Nicholson, the Hon'ble Mr. E. Norton, Dr. T. M. Nair, Mr. D. R. Nammalwar Chetty, Mr. T. Numberumal Chetty, Mr. G. Narayanasawmy Chetty, Mr. K. Narayana Rao, Mr. W. H. Oakes, Mr. E. P. Oakshott, Colonel H. S. Oleott, the Kumara Rajah of Pittapore, Dr. S. Palani Andii, Mr. C. R. Pattabirama Iyer, Mr. A. C. Parthasarathy Naidu, Mr. M. O. Parthasarathy Iyengar, Mr. M. Punithavelu Moodelliar, Mr. P. Periyathumbi Moodelliar, the Hon'ble Mr. J. D. Rees, C.I.E., Rajah Sir Ramasawmy Moodelliar, Kt., C.I.E., the Hon'ble Mr. P. Rajarathna Moodelliar, the Hon'ble Mr. P. Rathnasabapathy Pillai, Mr. S. V. Ramasawmy Moodelliar, Mr. F. Rowlandson, Mr. C. Ramachendra Rao Sahib, Mr. Rungiah Naidu, Rai Bahadur P. Ramasawmy Chettiar, Mr. V. Rajaruthnam Chetty, Mr. M. R. Ramakristna Iyer, Mr. T. Ramachendra Iyer, Mr. P. Rajagopala Chariar, Rai Bahadur V. Ragava Chariar, Mr. B. Rungiah Chetty, Mr. T. Runga Chariar, Mr. T. Ruthnasawmy Nadar, Mr. M. Ramakristniah Pantulu, Mr. T. Runganatha Tawker, Mr. Rama Subba Aiyar, Mr. V. Ryrn Nambiar, Mr. D. Rungamannar Chetty, Mr. C. S. Rajarathna Moodelliar, Mr. P. Rajarathna Moodelliar, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice H. H. Shephard, the Hon'ble Mr. G. H. Stuart, Mr. N. Subba Rao, the Hon'ble Sir S. Subramanya Iyer, K.C.I.E., the Hon'ble Mr. G. Stokes, Mr. C. Sankara Nayar, Surgeon-General J. Sinclair, Mr. H. Scott, Mr. H. A. Sim, Mr. A. Seshiah Sastriar, C.S.I., Mr. N. Subramanyam, Mr. C. Sowden, Mr. C. B. Simpson, Lieutenant-Colonel Sturmer, I.M.S., Mr. W. D. Smith, the Hon'ble Mr. F. J. E. Spring, Mr. J. G. Smith, the Hon'ble Nawab Syed Mahomed Khan Bahadur, Mr. S. Sathianathan, M.A., Mr. L. D. Swaminunoo Pillay, Mr. S. Sankara Subbier, C.I.E., Dewan Bahadur P. Sreenivasa Rao, Mr. V. Sultan Mohideen Sahib Bahadur, Mr. A. Sankariah, Mr. P. Subramanya Iyer, Mr. S. Subbaya Chetty, Mr. P. Soondaram Iyer, Mr. G. Subramanya Iyer, Rai Bahadur R. V. Sreenivasa Iyer, Mr. P. M. Sivagnanam Moodelliar, Mr. V. Subbaraman Chetty, Mr. P. Seetharama Chetty, Mr. P. Sivasawmy Iyer, Mr. V. T. Sesbadria Chariar, Mr. M. A. Singara Chari, the Hon'ble Mr. J. Thompson, Mr. E. Thurston, Rai Bahadur A. Thanakoti Moodelliar, Mr. P. Theagaroya Chetty, B.A., Mr. C. Thirumalai Naidu, Mr. C. S. Theagaroya Moodelliar, Mr. P. Theagaroya Chetty, Mr. M. Tirumala Chariar, the Hon'ble Mr. G. Vencataratnam, the Hon'ble Mr. C. Vijiaragava Charry, Rajah Venugopala Kistna Yechendra Bahadur, Dewan Bahadur T. Venkasawmy Rao, Mr. W. S. Venkataramanujam Naidu, Mr. M. Vecraraghava Charry, Mr. V.

Varadappa Naidu, Mr. P. Veloo Chetty, Mr. M. Venugopauloo Pillai, Mr. M. Varadarajulu Chetty, Mr. M. Venkataramiah Chetty, Mr. S. Vencatakrishnamah Chetty, Mr. T. Vythianatha Iyer, Mr. K. Vasudeva Iyer, Mr. Bathian Vencatarathna Chetty, Mr. Waljee Laljee Sait, the Hon'ble Mr. C. Arnold White, the Hon'ble Mr. H. M. Winterbotham, Sir George Wolseley, the Right Rev. Bishop Whitehead, Mr. C. Wrenn and Mr. C. Yethirajulo Naidu.

The Hon'ble Dr. MILLER, in seconding the resolution, said that he wished to direct the attention of the meeting to the other side of the question. Every one must remember that to every dark cloud there was a silver lining, and they should not forget that it was a part of the course of nature, or as some of them would perhaps prefer to call it, a part of the procedure of the Divine Providence, that there should be a soul of good even in things evil, and great calamities worked their way towards great and lasting benefits. In the midst of that calamity and distress there was a hope for the future. It was a part of the very laws of nature that through evil and suffering the very greatest lessons were often taught to mankind, and he trusted that time would show them that it was so in the present case. Amongst the lessons of high moral character was that of all races and sections of the community understanding one another better than they did and being knit together in closer sympathy to meet and feel heartily their common brotherhood in combating the great evil of famine. There was none who ventured to ask for such terrible and material suffering as a means towards moral and spiritual good; yet when the material and physical suffering was unavoidable, it was perfectly legitimate for them to draw from it a hope that it might be a means for lasting and ever increasing benefits. It was so in the case of the terrible war which was at present engaging their deepest attention day by day. It was a sad and terrible calamity, and, he was sure, there was no one who would not desire to stop it to-morrow, if they could only do so in consistence with claims of justice, honour and duty. It was a great calamity and yet had they not already had much to console them? Was not that dark cloud already showing a very broad silver lining behind it? They had seen that there was a drawing together of communities that had been separate in many ways, there was throbbing of one common life through every member of their vastly extended Empire; they saw the hope dawning before them of a nobler organisation and more powerful influence of good upon the generations that were to come. They saw the spirit of self-sacrifice awakened in every land over which floated the British flag. They, in India, were called upon to combat a foe that threatened to desolate a large part of the country. If they gained a victory, that victory need not be saddened by the thought of disappointment and sorrow caused to men who were noble and honourable, even though they might be misguided and misled. They were not called upon like those who had to plough the stern fields of war, to inflict suffering upon anyone. Their business was to alleviate suffering and not in any degree to cause it. They might well go forward to do with complete whole-heartedness and without hesitation, feeling certain that what they had to do if it be done energetically, steadily and resolutely would not only do immediate good but would leave behind it to generations a large and lasting harvest of moral benefit in the increased understanding between race and race, section and section of the community in their learning to work more harmoniously and sympathetically together, and in laying the broad foundations of the great edifice which would some time rise in this great land so that India would take her place in every sense as one member of the great and world-wide Empire and federation full of blessings and promise for ages that were unborn.

The Hon'ble Mr. P. RUNGIAH NAIDU next supported the motion in a short speech, after which it was put and carried unanimously.

HIS EXCELLENCY read, for the information of the meeting, a telegram from His Highness the Maharajah of Travancore expressing sympathy with the objects of the meeting and subscribing a sum of Rs. 10,000 towards the Fund.

The proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to His Excellency the Governor, proposed by the Hon'ble Nawab Mahomed Bahadur.

The following is the first list of subscriptions:—

| Names.                                    | General Fund.             | Provincial Fund. |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|
|                                           | RS.                       | RS.              |
| H.E. Sir Arthur Havelock .. .. .          | 1,000                     | ..               |
| H.H. the Maharajah of Travancore .. .. .  | 10,000                    | ..               |
| H.H. the Rajah of Cochin .. .. .          | 5,000                     | ..               |
| H.H. the Maharajah of Jeypore .. .. .     | 5,000                     | ..               |
| Mr. J. Kristnadoss Balamukundoss .. .. .  | 2,000                     | ..               |
| Messrs. Arbuthnot & Co. .. .. .           | 2,000                     | ..               |
| Rajah Sir S. Ramasawmy Moodelliar .. .. . | 1,000 (and 1,000 cloths). | ..               |
| Messrs. Best & Co. .. .. .                | 1,000                     | ..               |
| Messrs. Parry & Co. .. .. .               | 1,000                     | ..               |
| Messrs. Binny & Co. .. .. .               | 1,000                     | ..               |
| Messrs. T. A. Taylor & Co. .. .. .        | 1,000                     | ..               |
| The Hon'ble the Chief Justice .. .. .     | 750                       | ..               |
| Mr. B. Bauliah Naidu .. .. .              | 700                       | ..               |
| Sir S. Subramany Iyer .. .. .             | 500                       | ..               |

| Names.                                   | General Fund. |                    | Provincial Fund. |    |
|------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------|------------------|----|
|                                          | RS.           |                    | RS.              |    |
| Mr. N. Subramaniam .. ..                 | ..            | 500                | ..               | .. |
| Mr. G. Narayanasawmy Chetty .. ..        | ..            | 500                | ..               | .. |
| The Hon'ble Mr. A. T. Arundel .. ..      | ..            | 500                | ..               | .. |
| The Hon'ble Mr. H. M. Winterbotham .. .. | ..            | 500                | ..               | .. |
| Mr. Pattabhiram Iyer .. ..               | ..            | 500                | ..               | .. |
| The Prince of Arcot .. ..                | ..            | 500                | ..               | .. |
| The Hon'ble Mr. J. Thomson .. ..         | ..            | 250                | 250              | .. |
| The Rev. Dr. W. Miller .. ..             | ..            | 200                | ..               | .. |
| Mr. V. Krishnasawmy Iyer .. ..           | ..            | 200                | ..               | .. |
| Mr. P. E. Sundara Iyer .. ..             | ..            | 200 (1st instalt.) | ..               | .. |
| Dr. Castro, Bishop of Mylapore .. ..     | ..            | 150                | ..               | .. |
| Dewan Bahadur P. Ramasawmy Chetty .. ..  | ..            | 100                | ..               | .. |
| Archbishop J. Colgan .. ..               | ..            | 100                | ..               | .. |
| Mr. M. Thirumala Chariar .. ..           | ..            | 100 (1st instalt.) | ..               | .. |
| Mr. P. Theagaraya Chetty .. ..           | ..            | 100                | ..               | .. |
| Dr. S. Pulney Andy, M.D. .. ..           | ..            | 50                 | ..               | .. |
| Archdeacon W. Weston Elwes .. ..         | ..            | 50                 | ..               | .. |
| Mr. A. W. B. Higgins .. ..               | ..            | 25 (a month).      | ..               | .. |
| Mr. F. Nusserwanjee .. ..                | ..            | 25                 | ..               | .. |
| Bishop Mayer .. ..                       | ..            | 25                 | ..               | .. |
| Azum Hussain Sahib .. ..                 | ..            | 25                 | ..               | .. |

## APPENDIX II.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE COLLECTIONS BY THE VARIOUS DISTRICT  
COMMITTEES UP TO 30TH NOVEMBER 1900.

| Districts.         | General Fund. |    |    | Provincial Fund. |    |    | Total.    |    |    |
|--------------------|---------------|----|----|------------------|----|----|-----------|----|----|
|                    | RS.           | A. | P. | RS.              | A. | P. | RS.       | A. | P. |
| Anantapur .. ..    | 1,873         | 1  | 6  | .....            |    |    | 1,873     | 1  | 6  |
| North Arcot .. ..  | 1,484         | 3  | 3  | .....            |    |    | 1,484     | 3  | 3  |
| South Arcot .. ..  | 3,365         | 14 | 1  | 4,643            | 13 | 11 | 8,009     | 12 | 0  |
| Bellary .. ..      | 5,218         | 5  | 2  | .....            |    |    | 5,218     | 5  | 2  |
| South Canara .. .. | 4,854         | 13 | 9  | .....            |    |    | 4,854     | 13 | 9  |
| Chingleput .. ..   | 6,561         | 14 | 7  | .....            |    |    | 6,561     | 14 | 7  |
| Coimbatore .. ..   | 11,229        | 13 | 0  | .....            |    |    | 11,229    | 13 | 0  |
| Cuddapah .. ..     | 2,184         | 0  | 0  | .....            |    |    | 2,184     | 0  | 0  |
| Ganjām .. ..       | 6,481         | 0  | 9  | 692              | 0  | 0  | 7,173     | 0  | 9  |
| Godāvāri .. ..     | 6,132         | 10 | 6  | 206              | 0  | 0  | 6,338     | 10 | 6  |
| Kistna .. ..       | 8,859         | 10 | 0  | 697              | 8  | 0  | 9,557     | 2  | 0  |
| Kurnool .. ..      | 2,430         | 0  | 0  | .....            |    |    | 2,430     | 0  | 0  |
| Madura .. ..       | 17,880        | 9  | 2  | .....            |    |    | 17,880    | 9  | 2  |
| Nellore .. ..      | 1,347         | 8  | 0  | .....            |    |    | 1,347     | 8  | 0  |
| Salem .. ..        | 6,380         | 12 | 8  | 2,097            | 13 | 6  | 8,478     | 10 | 2  |
| Tanjore .. ..      | 6,724         | 14 | 0  | .....            |    |    | 6,724     | 14 | 0  |
| Tinnevely .. ..    | 7,445         | 13 | 2  | 402              | 8  | 0  | 7,848     | 5  | 2  |
| Trichinopoly .. .. | 3,924         | 12 | 0  | .....            |    |    | 3,924     | 12 | 0  |
| Vizagapatam .. ..  | 7,000         | 0  | 0  | .....            |    |    | 7,000     | 0  | 0  |
| Travancore .. ..   | 17,000        | 0  | 0  | .....            |    |    | 17,000    | 0  | 0  |
| Pudukkóttai .. ..  | 3,900         | 0  | 0  | .....            |    |    | 3,900     | 0  | 0  |
| Malabar* .. ..     | 1,320         | 0  | 0  | 11,491           | 8  | 10 | 12,811    | 8  | 10 |
| Total .. ..        | 1,33,599      | 11 | 7  | 20,230           | 15 | 3  | *1,53,830 | 10 | 10 |

\* To this amount must be added Rs. 2,000 being the collections made in Madras town and sums remitted to the Honorary Treasurers direct.

