M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages

(2) Date of repair

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 102 Press / Mis.

212-13

Dated 11 1 1867.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
11th January 1867.

No. 212. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Revenue Department:—

Stating that the grants sanctioned with a view of affording relief to the poor in the Bellary District were intended to be "specific," and that the Collector's views regarding remuneration for famine works are correct. } (Here enter 7th January 1867, No. 36.)

No. 213. ORDER THEREON, 11th January 1867, No. 102.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 47.

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer, 3rd Division.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 3rd Division.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 7th January 1867.

No. 70. Read the following letter from the Collector of Bellary, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Camp, Anantapur, 14th December 1866, No. 89 :—

1. With reference to the Proceedings of the Madras Government, No. 3,293, dated 5th December 1866, paragraph 1, authorizing me, in anticipation of sanction, to advance from Famine Funds Rupees 15,000, which, it is observed, will be supplemented on receipt of estimates for future probable relief, I have the honor to request information as to whether a specific grant is to be made of these and other similar sums on demand for the repair of breached works, which may be sent in by the Department Public Works, (I observe that estimates are not yet submitted,) or whether merely employment, at famine rates, is to be held out to the unemployed to engage in these works. In the first case, if the works are to be repaired on estimate, and under the control of the Department Public Works, the specified allotment will have to be made to that department, who will carry out the work as per estimate, making their own selection of qualified persons to perform it. If, on the other hand, the work is to be done by persons employed by the Revenue Department, under the rules for famine work relief, excluding none who are able to work, and paying them a subsistence rather than a remuneration wage, it is doubtful whether the scheme will answer, as irrigation works to be properly done must not be subject to the fluctuation of persons taking or leaving work, according to their necessities; and if the work is done on the famine relief principle, it is [illegible] whether the result will be satisfactory. I do not think that this is the time to undertake irrigation works for famine relief, now that cultivation is resuming its normal condition, nor do I think the famine relief system is that adapted for works which, if begun, should be completed.

2. I hope ere soon to close the extraneous relief which was efficacious in the months of August and September, and has become gradually less necessary, as the season since October has improved. In consequence of fuller, in fact, I may say, of normal employment being, if not immediately, at least very soon available, and of the fall of prices to a former level, I am now looking forward to closing famine works; and the commencement at this time of famine work in irrigation repairs will tend to postpone the closing of accounts of expenditure.

3. It is desirable that the time of the Revenue servants should not longer than necessary be taken up with the employment and payment of large bodies of laborers.

4. Already four months, nearly five, and, before done, perhaps six months, will have passed in the performance of these extra duties imposed on them by the necessity of the case; but so soon as that necessity is over, I think that estimates for the repair of irrigation works should be prepared, and these works undertaken in the usual manner.

5. The road work, which was the work undertaken, existed everywhere; and many or few, according to the number offering, could be employed.

6. The repair of irrigation works limits the relief to particular spots, where tanks may have breached; and these may not be the places where relief is wanted. The question referred for solution is, whether the sums in the letter

adverted to are to be specific grants from the Relief Fund to the Department Public Works, or problematical expenditure in the case of requirement.

7. Copy of a letter to the Superintending Engineer, on the payment of famine coolies on trunk roads, is enclosed.

No. 71. ORDER THEREON, 7th January 1867, No. 36.

Land Revenue.

1. The grants in question were intended to be "specific," it being of consequence that the repairs should be executed without delay, as they would both afford employment and increase cultivation.

2. The Collector's views regarding remuneration for famine works are correct, the wages of such labor should be so fixed as to afford subsistence only. As distress passes away and employment in their ordinary avocations becomes available, the number of persons requiring employment on public works and willing to accept it on subsistence wages, will steadily diminish, and the works originally commenced solely to afford relief to this class must then be completed by means of ordinary labor at ordinary wages.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of Bellary.
,, the Board of Revenue.
,, the Accountant General.
,, the Public Works Department.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

F. W. 1867. Despa
Pro: of Govt. Bo[illegible] January
Pro: of the Madras Gove
in the Revenue Depa

Dy 7 } Jany 67
Recd 9 }

No 36.

Stating that the
grants sanctioned with
a view of affording re
"lief to the poor in the
Bellary Dt were in
"tended to be "specific
and that the Collector
views regarding remu
"neration for famine
works are Correct.
No. 102 - 11th Jany 1867.

William Eden

No 212-213.