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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 30	Press
56-54.	~~Mis.~~
Dated 6 . 1 .	1868

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
6th January 1868.

No. 56. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the
Revenue Department:—

Deputing Mr. Robinson, Member of the Board
of Revenue, to the North Arcot District, for
the purpose of devising measures for the
relief of the suffering poor. } (Here enter 2nd January 1863, No. 1.)

No. 57. ORDER THEREON, 6th January 1868, No. 30.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 6.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
2nd January 1868.*

Dated 2nd January 1868, No. 1.

No. 1.

Miscellaneous.

1. The Governor in Council is of opinion that the failure of the North-East Monsoon renders it desirable that a Member of the Board of Revenue should proceed into the Districts of Madras, North Arcot, and South Arcot, in order to obtain, by local inquiry, and furnish to the Government and to his colleagues in the Board detailed information as to the present condition and prospects of those districts, as well as to promote the energetic application of any measures for the relief of the poorer classes, which investigation may suggest. His Excellency, consequently, resolves to entrust this duty to Mr. W. Robinson, and to desire that he will proceed at once to the North Arcot District, in which, at present, appearances are most threatening.

2. In his capacity of Acting Member of the Board of Revenue, Mr. Robinson, as their immediate superior, will be able to instruct the Collectors directly to adopt all such measures as he may deem immediately necessary, and will have at his command the Revenue Establishments of the districts.

3. In order, however, to obviate as much as possible any disturbance of the ordinary administration, the Government resolve to place the following gentlemen on special duty under Mr. Robinson's personal direction:—

North Arcot. { Mr. Lee Warner.
R. Gibson.
D. Maclean.

South Arcot. { " L. G. Turner.
" A. L. Lister, Acting Head Assistant.
" W. H. Glenny.

4. Mr. Comyn, the Acting Sub-Collector of North Arcot, will resume charge of the ordinary duties of the Sub-Division of North Arcot, and Mr. Wilkinson will revert to the Acting Head Assistantship of the district.

5. Mr. Gribble will be appointed, as an Assistant, to the South Arcot District, and will relieve Mr. Lister of his ordinary duties.

6. The Governor in Council need not indicate to an Officer of Mr. Robinson's experience the particular points to which his attention should be turned, nor need His Excellency dwell upon the importance on the one hand of avoiding the premature adoption of special measures for relief in the absence of a real and pressing necessity, and on the other hand of promptly and vigorously carrying out such measures when the necessity has become manifest. There can be no doubt, however, that if serious distress exists or should arise, it will be immediately caused by the absence of the usual demand for agricultural labour, resulting from the failure of the periodical rains. The Government accordingly authorize Mr. Robinson to adopt, in anticipation of sanction, any measures for providing local employment to relieve immediate distress which may commend themselves to his judgment, and the Collectors of the districts will attend to his requisitions for the necessary funds for this purpose.

7. The Superintending Engineers of the Divisions concerned will place themselves in immediate communication with Mr. Robinson, and will instruct all their subordinates to afford him any information he may require as to the progress of works, the demand for labor, and the funds available for its employment in the Department Public Works. The appropriation of the local funds will be open to

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
2nd January 1868.*

Mr. Robinson's immediate direction as a Member of the Board, so far as surplus funds exist; and a special sum of Rupees 50,000 having been already sanctioned for each of the Districts of Madras and North Arcot, the Government trust that ample means will be available for the employment of all able-bodied laborers who may have been thrown out of work.

8. The Governor in Council hopes that it may not be necessary to supplement the efforts of local charity for the relief of the aged and infirm poor; but in case such a necessity should arise, as it is understood that there is still a considerable sum at the disposal of the Famine Relief Committee, these Proceedings will be communicated to that Committee, in order that should they deem it expedient they may place themselves in communication with Mr. Robinson.

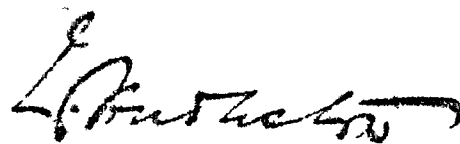
9. Mr. Robinson will furnish the Government and his colleagues of the Board with full and constant information of the condition of the three districts and of the measures which he may find it necessary to adopt to mitigate distress consequent on the failure of the monsoon.

10. The Inspector General Indian Medical Department has been already requested to direct an Apothecary, with a sufficient supply of medicines, to accompany Mr. Robinson on this special duty, and with reference to paragraph 2 of G. O. No. 3,005, Revenue Department, dated 17th December 1867, Dr. Mackenzie will take the necessary steps to provide, in the three districts named, a sufficient supply of medicines for distribution, with the usual printed instructions for their use; the event of any outbreak of epidemic disease, for recognition from the Collectors.

11. In conclusion, the Governor in Council wishes it to be understood that his object in deputing Mr. Robinson to the districts in question is to ensure that their present condition, prospects, and requirements shall be fully investigated, and that any measures to which it may be necessary to resort for the relief of distress, should it now exist or hereafter arise, shall be carried out with the utmost promptitude and vigour under the direction of an Officer invested with ample powers.

12. Should Mr. Robinson have reason to believe that for purposes connected with this inquiry his presence is desirable in the talooks of the Salem District adjoining to North Arcot, the Government desire that he will understand he is at liberty to proceed there and apply to them also the instructions contained in this Order.

(True Extract)


Secretary to Government.

To W Robinson, Esq., Acting Member Board of Revenue
,, the Board of Revenue
,, the Accountant General
,, the Inspector General Indian Medical Department
,, the Public Works Department
,, the Superintending Engineer, Madras and North Arcot Districts.
,, the do. South Arcot District.
,, the Collector of Madras
,, the do of North Arcot.
,, the do of South Arcot.
,, the do of Salem
,, the do of Trichinopoly, } for information.
,, the do of Malabar, }
,, the Famine Relief Committee.

Exd F. R. Bantleman.

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Fort St George }
6th Jan'y 1868 }

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(True Extract.)

L. P. Hutchins
Secretary to Government.

To W Robinson, Esq., Acting Member, Board of Revenue
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" the Inspector General Indian Medical Department
" the Public Works Department
" the Superintending Engineer, Madras and North Arcot Districts.
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27th Dec 1868
 No of Govt for January
 No 2
 From the Madras
 Revenue Dept

27th Dec 1868
 No 3

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1866-57

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L. P. Bantleman
 Secretary to Government.

- To W Robinson, Esq., Acting Member Board of Revenue
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- „ the Accountant General
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Exd F. R. Bantleman.