

(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.	3100	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
	337-338	
Dated	20-11	195
		6876

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
20th November 1876. No. 3,100.*

No. 337. Read the following letter from Colonel J. F. FISCHER, R.E., District Engineer, Madura, to Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madura, 13th November 1876, No. 3,017 :—

I HAVE the honor to forward, for submission to the Government, the accompanying list showing prevailing prices at Dindigul and Madura, from which it will be seen that there must be great distress amongst the laboring and poorer classes.

2. The Acting Collector has applied to the Government for funds to be placed at his disposal for relief works for roads principally, and I beg to solicit an addition of at least Rupees 20,000 be made to the irrigation repair allotment of the district to enable us to put in hand as many banks as we can for earthwork chiefly. This measure will afford great relief in the present distress over very large areas of the district at the very doors almost of the people, and will prevent the necessity of their being collected in great numbers.

3. These works will not be of a reproductive nature, as the principles on which the banks of this district have been originally constructed are radically wrong both scientifically and economically, and I could never recommend their maintenance as a professional officer on my own judgment and experience; but there is no doubt now the prospects of this district this season are nearly as bad as they well can be, as I feared they would be in the want of any failure of the rains, the population in it is very large and consists chiefly of the ordinary agricultural classes, there are no trades or manufactures of any importance to take off surplus population, and the standard of living amongst such a class is of course very low; they multiply then at the greatest rate possible under the circumstances existing here, and their wages are constantly being reduced by competition from amongst themselves; every census will of course show a greater and greater increase of the numbers with a constantly diminishing wage fund for their support; as nothing has been done to establish large works or industries in the district, any failure of the crops then in such a locality must at once create very great and widespread distress, and as the Government always desire to afford relief as much as possible under such circumstances, I have ventured to submit the suggestion contained in this letter for their favorable consideration and orders.

No. 338. ORDER THEREON, 20th November 1876, No. 3,100.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 22.

THE District Engineer will be informed that whatever funds may be required for Famine Relief Works will be placed at the Collector's disposal, and the population needing relief can be employed on any works which may be considered desirable.

2. It is not intended to supplement Public Works grants for the purpose of relieving distress.

(True Extract.)

Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Madura.
Ed. E. C. Shunker.
Spare Copies

*all other 22 engs except Presidency
Chief for engs of relief*

Madura

Memo shewing the prices of grain on the 9th November

	Present prices	Average	per rupee
Ordinary paddy	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	18	Do
Do Rice	4	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	Do
Coarse Do	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	9	Do
2 sort — Do	5	10	Do
Raggy	10	20	Do
Kumbho	11	22	Do
Khalum	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	17	Do
Kpam	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	16	Do
Naragoo	10	20	

Dindigul

Memo shewing the prices of grain on the 9th November

	Present prices	Average	per rupee
1 st sort Rice	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	Do
2 nd Do	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	9	Do
3 rd Do	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	Do
Raggy	9	20	Do
Kumbho	10	20	Do
Khalum	7	18	

Madura
13.11.76

W. T. Tucker Colonel R.E.
District Engineer of
Madura

P.W.D.
15 NOV 76
No 8258

Recd

Encd 1. dtd as letter
from the District
Engineer with a return
to the Secretary
No 3017 dated
13 November 1896

Enclosure 1
Dist

No 3017
District Engineer's Office
Madura 13 November 1896
From
Colonel J. Fischer R.E.
District Engineer,

To
Major General G. W. Walker
Secretary to Government

Sir, I have the honor to
forward for submission to the
Government the accompanying
list showing prevailing prices
at Dindigul and Madura
from which it will be seen
that there must be great distress
amongst the laboring and
poor classes.

The Dy. Collector has
applied to the Government for
funds to be placed at his
disposal for relief works for
roads principally and I beg
to solicit an addition of
at least Rupees 20000 be made
to the irrigation repair

allotment of the District to enable
us to put in hand as many
tanks as we can for earthwork
chiefly, this measure will afford
great relief in the present distress
over very large areas of the District
at the very doors almost of the
people and will prevent the
necessity of their being collected
in great numbers

3. These works will not
be of a reproductive nature
as the principles on which
the tanks of this District have
been originally constructed
are radically wrong both
scientifically and economically and
I could never recommend
their maintenance as a
professional Officer on my own
judgment and experience but
there is no doubt now that
prospects of this District this
season are nearly as bad as
they well can be as I feared
they would be in the event

13
of any failure of the rains, the
population in it is very large
and consists chiefly of the ordinary
agricultural classes, there are
no trades or manufactures of
any importance to take off
surplus population and the
standard of living amongst
such a class is of course very
low, they multiply then at the
greatest rate possible under
the circumstances existing
here, and their wages are
constantly being reduced
by competition from amongst
themselves, every census will
of course show a greater and
greater increase of the numbers
with a constantly diminishing
wage-fund for their support as
nothing has been done to establish
large works or industries in
the District, any failure of the
crops then in such a locality
must at once create very great
and wide-spread distress and

as the Government always desire
to afford relief as much as possible
under such circumstances, I have
ventured to submit the suggestion
contained in this letter for
their favorable consideration
and orders.

I have the honor, Sir,
to be
Your Most Obedt Servant
Wm. T. Tucker Colonel R.E.
District Engineer

P.W.D.
14 NOV 76
8258

E. I. Form No. 24.

No 3400

Public Works Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the 20th Nov 1906

Read the following:—

From the St Eng Madras (H.E. No 3017 of 13 Nov 06

The District Engineer will
be informed that whatever
funds may be required for
Famine relief works will be
placed at the collector's disposal
and the population needing
relief can be employed on any
works which may be consider-
ed desirable.

2. It is not intended to
supplement Public Works
grants for the purpose of
relieving distress.

Chief Eng for Insp.
All other St Engrs
except Presidency
Killore
St. Madras
Dated - 29.11.06

Wm. T. Tucker
16/11

No 337

Lin: 17-11-06

about the relief
suggestions to afford
relief to the distressed
during the emergency
of famine

Stale 13 November 06
Dated 13 November 06
No 3017
Serial 1. Col.
Presiding Justice at
the District Engineer's
office
to the Secretary to Govt.
P.W.D.
Madras

900/55

all for road

Govt. of Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To

The R. G. Madras

21-11-76

Dated

Issued

Recd

Lot

G. O. No. 3100

3100

No. 337-238

Famine Relief Committee

Madras Dist.

Regarding order on letter for

the Dist. Eng. & Agriculture

2. Supplemental grant of

Rs. 10000 for

Dist. Eng. & Ag.

21-11-76