

(1) Number of pages 40
(2) Date of repair _____
(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	225	(W)	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated	24	1	1877.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following papers :—

No. 437. Endorsement of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Fort St. George, 11th January 1877, No. 30-W.

From Major J. O. HASTED, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Kistna, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. MULLINS, R.E., Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Masulipatam, 6th January 1877, No. 131.

I HAVE the honor to request instructions regarding the rates to be paid on Famine Relief Works.

2. In the Public Works Code, Chapter XIII A, Sections 11 and 12, the rates of pay given on former occasions are thus stated :—

Adult man, $1\frac{1}{2}$ Annas daily.

Woman, 1 Anna „

Child, $\frac{1}{2}$ „ „

And it is laid down that more subsistence is to be allowed, and in any case a day's work is to be given in return of the full value of the wages paid; but it is evident that the rates must vary in proportion with the cost of food, those above quoted being now in many places insufficient to support life, and it appears impossible in all cases to secure the full value of the wages paid.

3. The rates on which I have started work here are, for task-work, the same as allowed in the estimates, 1 Anna per cubic yard for the first yard of excavation, 1 Anna 2 Pies for the second yard, and so on, the cost of sectioning the spoil banks being included in the rate paid for earthwork; and for daily pay, man 2 Annas, woman $1\frac{1}{2}$ Annas, boy or girl above seven 1 Anna. To this I have been obliged to add a scale of subsistence allowance for those persons who come to the work *unable or unwilling to do anything*, viz., man, 1 Anna 8 Pies, woman 1 Anna 4 Pies, boy or girl 1 Anna. These rates are now, however, proving insufficient, and I have been obliged to allow a slight increase, on the understanding that it is to be given to those who work well and willingly without regard to the out-turn of work.

4. I have endeavoured to find out what proportion the rates should bear to the price of food, and I believe the following statement may be accepted as a guide.

The amount of food necessary for a man to enable him to do any work at all is $\frac{3}{4}$ seer rice daily, together with condiments, &c., to the value of 6 Pies; therefore—

When rice is 8 seers per Rupee, daily pay will be 2 Annas.

„ 7 „ „ „ 2 „ „ 2 Pies 26 say 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ Annas.

„ 6 „ „ „ 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ „ „

The amount of food necessary for a hardworking man is 1 seer rice daily together with condiments, &c., to the value of 6 Pies; therefore—

When rice is 8 seers per Rupee, pay will be 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ Annas.

„ 7 „ „ „ 2 „ „ 9-4 Pies say 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ Annas.

„ 6 „ „ „ 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ „ „

The pay of men, women and children to be in the proportion of 2, $1\frac{1}{2}$ and 1.

5. The difference between daily pay and the amount to be earned by task-work has also to be taken into account, and as the one is increased the other must rise also; at present on the Commamore canal rice is 8 seers per Rupee, and therefore, according to the above figures, a hardworking man should receive 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ Annas; the task-work rate is 1 Anna per cubic yard, and a man accustomed to this sort of work can, we find, earn from 2 to 3 Annas daily; unless he can earn more than 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ Annas he will of course

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
24th January 1877. No. 225.*

give up task-work and claim daily pay, and therefore it will be advisable to increase the rate for task-work by 1 or 2 Pies per cubic yard according to the class of men employed; for instance, tank-diggers would probably be satisfied with an increase of 1 Pie per cubic yard.

6. I have been informed (not officially) that on the East Coast Canal work being carried out by Lieutenant Rawson, R.E., the rate of first yard earthwork has been fixed at 1 Anna 3 Pies per cubic yard, with an additional 2 Pies per cubic yard for sectioning spoil banks, and I learn it is probable that the rice landed on the Coast will sell on the work at 10 seers per Rupee. As this work is only 10 miles distant from the work in this district, it seems desirable that the rates should be somewhat similar, and if any instructions have been issued on the subject, to the District Engineer, Nellore, I would suggest that a copy should be sent to me.

7. The Commamore canal relief work is now, I think, well in hand; but about 800 men have left it. There is however plenty of work for the Delta population at present in harvesting operations, and when the harvest is over no doubt the people will come to our work. From the dry taluqs, coolies are continually coming in, some in a distressed condition, and it has been found necessary to serve out cooked food to those who come in almost prostrate and unfit for work; the latest report shows fifty in this free list. The camps in the first 3 miles are nearly completed, tool and store sheds built, and a considerable reserve of grain stored. Police have been sent down, and I hope a Dresser is now on the spot. Sanitary arrangements have been attended to; but we have had two fatal cases of cholera on the work, which have caused a decrease in the numbers of work-people.

8. The work in the Eastern Delta is progressing well, and the hutting, hospital, &c., arrangements are approaching completion, a Dresser is on the spot and Police, and a considerable quantity of grain has been provided. Many of the coolies who were on the work have gone away for harvest in the Delta and will probably return; but we are employing over 700 tank-diggers of this district, 400 and odd from Hyderabad and a few distressed coolies who have come in from the Nellore District.

9. We have, I hope, now got our works well in hand, and are establishing a system which will enable us to extend our operations without confusion, whatever numbers we may have to provide for.

SUBMITTED to Government for orders.

It does not appear that any instructions fixing the rates to be paid for task-work have been issued with reference to the East Coast Canal. The principles on which Major Hasted proposes to settle rates in the Kistna whether for subsistence or task-work are, it is thought, perfectly correct. The former must necessarily vary with the price of grain, and the latter must follow suit in order that the task-workers may reap the fair advantage of their willingness to exert themselves.

Lieutenant Rawson should, it is considered, be directed to consult the Superintending Engineer, Kistna, as to the rates to be given by him on his section of the East Coast Canal, and the regulation of those in the Kistna might be left to the judgment of the Superintending Engineer.

(Signed) A. DEC. SCOTT, Major, R.E.,
Dy. Chief Engineer for Irrigation,
for Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
24th January 1877. No. 225.*

No. 437-A. Endorsement of the Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated Fort St. George, 15th January 1877, No. 181.

From Brigadier-General H. O'CONNELL, Quartermaster-General, to Colonel J. MICHAEL, c.s.i., Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated Fort St. George, 13th January 1877, No. 284.

I HAVE the honor, by order, to forward for submission to Government letter in original from Colonel Prendergast, v.c., c.b., Commandant Queen's Own Sappers and Miners, reporting on his inspection of the I Company Sappers and Miners employed at the relief works in the Nellore District.

2. The report is full and satisfactory. The Sappers are legitimately employed and will materially assist in successfully carrying out the wishes of Government to employ the distressed population in a work of utility to the country.

3. With reference to the concluding paragraph of Colonel Prendergast's letter, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief will be happy to give the services of some European Non-Commissioned Officers of Sappers as Superintendents, if so required, but in doing so he would request that the comfort of these men may be considered by the department employing them. Tents will be provided by this department, but arrangements should be made for their obtaining good food and other necessaries.

From Colonel H. N. D. PRENDERGAST, Commandant, Queen's Own Sappers and Miners, to Brigadier-General H. O'CONNELL, Quartermaster-General, Madras, dated Camp at Ramapatam, 7th January 1877.

WITH reference to your letter No. 8,207, dated 27th November 1876, I have the honor to report that I have visited the I Company of the Queen's Own Sappers and Miners which is employed on work connected with the Eastern Coast Canal, and to state, for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, that the head-quarters of the Company* are now at Iskapully, rather more than a mile to the north of the Pydero, and the left half Company under the Subadar is at Ramathirtham, about 8 miles south of Iskapully and 3 miles north of the river Pennair.

* Under Lieutenant Digby, R.E.

2. The Sappers at Ramathirtham on the 3rd January were employed as follows:—

- 1 Naigue, 13 Privates, superintending construction of cooly camps.
- 1 Havildar, 12 Privates, superintending hospital, out-houses and police station.
- 1 Havildar, 14 Privates, constructing stone bench-marks for canal.
- 1 Private, cutting stone bench-marks for canal.
- 1 Naigue, 6 Privates, making well rings.

The men are employed on suitable work that has enabled the Engineers to receive coolies from a distance and to commence canal work.

3. The Sappers at Ramathirtham have constructed a hospital for nineteen patients and three sheds for cholera and small-pox, a police station, a store for tools, and a grain store; they sunk three wells and the walls for their own barracks have been raised to full height.

4. *The Sappers at Iskapully have constructed a hospital* and two sheds for the cooly camp; they have laid out the camp and dug three wells for the same, but materials for the construction of the huts have not yet arrived; the men are erecting a police station, a store-room and barrack, and are lockspitting the line of canal

* 60 feet by 16 feet, walls and roof of Palmyra leaves, good ventilation.

5. Both half Companies are in tents, on good sites near the sea, with wholesome water and all sanitary precautions are observed. The Sappers are well fed and in excellent health (only one Sapper on the sick list suffering from asthma) and spirits, the only anxiety expressed by the Native Officer was that they should lose an opportunity of field service in consequence of being absent from head-quarters.

6. It is proposed to detach a section to Toomoolapenta almost immediately, to be employed in laying out the line and marking out the tasks for gangs of workmen.

7. The canal will be 30 feet wide at bottom, and the slope of the sides will be $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 1, the excavation commences at the river Pennair, and about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles have been dug to a depth of about 3 feet, north of Ramathirtham, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles, has been dug to a similar depth.

8. At a distance of about 2 miles to the north of the Pennair is the southern camp, which is intended for about 1,000 coolies; the huts are made of sticks and palmyra leaves, they are in regular streets, laid out according to the wishes of Dr. Ratton. Water is good. Latrines are marked out, and considerable care has been taken in planning the camp, but police are required to enforce sanitary rules.

It is proposed to place a permanent grain store in this camp and to locate an Overseer there, and perhaps a party of Sappers under a Non-Commissioned Officer.

9. All the coolies from a distance are at present received at Ramathirtham, a mile north of the southern camp; to each on arrival a measure of rice and a small sum of money to buy condiments is given before settling down in his place in camp. An Assistant Engineer, two Overseers, and a Police guard, besides the half Company of Sappers are stationed at Ramathirtham; the camp is far from the village, but close to its temple and grove of trees; it has the sea on the east and a backwater on the south, beyond the backwater, on an excellent site, is the hospital, its walls are of matted reeds and the roof is thatched; it is well ventilated, 40 feet long by 15 feet broad, divided into wards one for twelve men the other for seven women; on the 3rd January the patients were two women suffering from dysentery; in the cholera sheds I found three men and three women suffering from cholera, and it was necessary that day to build a shed for a small-pox patient.

More hospital accommodation will be made as soon as possible, and a separate shed for sick Sappers.

10. A mile to the north of Ramathirtham is the north camp intended for 1,000 coolies, but not nearly fully occupied; on the 4th January two cases of cholera in this camp were reported as I rode through it; it is not yet thoroughly organized, but it was laid out in accordance with the views of the medical officer, and orders calculated to improve its sanitary condition were given in my presence.

11. A third camp is in course of construction about a mile north-west of the north camp; it is intended for about 1,000 inhabitants. Sappers were sinking wells for it and superintending the erection and disposition of the huts on the 4th instant.

12. The District Engineer intends to establish camps for 1,000 coolies, at intervals of two miles, all along the line, and if requisite intermediate camps can be interposed half-way between these; in that case 40,000 people will be sheltered on 40 miles of the division of the canal.

13. As time had not been allowed to lay out much work for the coolies before they arrived, all laborers that have arrived hitherto have been employed on the part of the line that was first set out, and are excavating within 5 miles of Ramathirtham. On the 5th January 7,000 coolies were at work, of whom it is estimated that 1,000 were lodged in the Engineers' camps. Two thousand were in bivouacs behind hedges and in woods, and 4,000 resided or lodged in adjacent villages.

14. The occupants of the Engineers' camps are principally immigrants from Cuddapah and Bellary, the people in bivouac and the lodgers in villages are principally dwellers in various parts of the Nellore District.

15. In order to prevent so far as possible loss of life among the multitudes whom it is proposed to employ on the work, it seems desirable that sanitary conservancy shall be established throughout the line of country through which the canal will pass.

16. The Engineers fully appreciate their responsibility in laying out camps. Water supply, direction of the prevailing winds, sites for latrines and burial grounds are considered; but arrangements are not yet perfect for the large number of coolies that are expected.

17. The Engineers hope when more camps have been completed and police to enforce regulations have arrived, that the coolies now in bivouac will be induced to live in camps and be compelled to obey sanitary rules.

18. Arrangements for the preservation of health in the adjacent villages should be made by the Collector of the district; so I have asked Mr. Sharpe to enforce sanitary rules in the villages, and have recommended him to cause graves to be dug beforehand near all villages for the burial of Mussalmans, and firewood to be provided for burning the corpses of all other natives.

19. Cholera seems to be prevalent in many villages near the coast, and I observed, on the 5th January, several human corpses thrown on the ground close to a hamlet of Iskapully; the bodies were lying about a quarter of a mile to windward of the hospital that the Sappers had completed the day before. As no coolies have been employed at Iskapully the bodies were evidently those of residents in the village.

20. The necessity for sanitary arrangements is extraordinarily urgent in these deltas, as the soil consists of a shallow layer of sand overlying an impervious bed of alluvium impregnated with salt so that the water-supply depends upon surface drainage and wells about 6 or 8 feet deep, hence a comparatively small quantity of deleterious matter is sufficient to poison the water of a large area of ground, on this account I specially recommend burning corpses in preference to burying them.

21. The Medical Officer appointed to the medical charge of the canal works, who is expected in about a week, will doubtless assist the Engineers in enforcing the necessary sanitary arrangements, and will, I should suppose, ask for an increased hospital establishment.

22. The hospitals will be about 10 miles apart, and the establishment at each will consist of—

- 1 Hospital Assistant.
- 1 Hospital cooly.
- 1 Cook.
- 2 Sweepers.

Although the number of sick at Ramathirtham was only eight, or little more than one in a thousand, yet considering the gravity of the disorders, the establishment seemed to be insufficient, and it appears advisable to provide a reserve force of medical attendants who could be employed at any hospital where attacks of cholera may demand their presence.

23. The Police force at the disposal of the Canal officers on the Iskapully Division, 40 miles in length, is not more than twelve or fourteen men, this is not sufficient to guard the grain and treasure, repress crime, keep order and perform the other duties of Constables, and to cause the coolies who now live in detached camps and in the woods to live decently and in order in regular lines.

24. Coolies are paid at the following rates daily without reference to the amount of work done:—

Each man	...	...	...	1 measure of rice and 6 Pies.
„ woman	...	...	...	do. do. 4 „
„ child above ten years of age	...	...	...	do. do. 3 „

The work executed having been measured, those who earn more than the cost of their rations receive the difference in money, sometimes 4 and 5 annas a day. Bazaars are established at Ramathirtham at which condiments are sold.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
24th January 1877. No. 225.*

25. I am marching along the proposed line of canal towards the head-quarters of the B Company; the line is not marked out. I shall have the honor to submit a report about the B Company hereafter and to reach Nellore about the 15th in returning to Madras.

26. If application be made for the services of European Non-Commissioned Officers for the Canal work, I think that the work would be very instructive to them as a preparation either for active service or for employment in the Department of Public Works; but there is no shelter for them, so I would suggest that the Non-Commissioned Officers shall leave their families at head-quarters and be provided with hill tents under your orders by the Commissariat Department. Each Non-Commissioned Officer would require a hill tent, as he might probably be placed in charge of a detached camp for 1,000 coolies.

TRANSFERRED to the Public Works Department.

(By order,)

(Signed) J. MICHAEL, Colonel,
Secretary to Government.

No. 438. ORDER THEREON, 24th January 1877, No. 225.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 25.

THE papers above recorded relate to the Famine Relief Works undertaken in the Kistna and Nellore Districts under the agency of Public Works Officers. And it is of importance that a uniform system of affording relief and paying for work done shall prevail throughout the work taken up; which consists mainly of the East Coast Canal; operations in extension of which are also in hand at Madras.

2. The principle laid down by Government is—

- 1st,—a minimum money wage wherever it will buy food;
- 2nd,—where the minimum wage will not buy food a grain wage should be substituted with a small money dole for condiments;
- 3rd,—in work, such as the canal, provision should be made for earning beyond the minimum wage for piece-work.

3. It is not quite clear from the use of the terms "seer" and "measure" in these papers what is the actual allowance of grain to each individual. The following rule has been adopted by the Revenue Department, and will be made applicable to relief coolies employed by the Public Works Department also.

4. Wages paid in money are not to exceed 2 Annas for a man, Annas 1-4 for a woman or boy between twelve and fifteen years, and 10 Pies for a boy or a girl between seven and twelve years old. Boys over fifteen are to be paid as men, and girls over twelve as women. Children under seven are not to be employed on relief works. When local prices rise so high that Annas 1-9 will not purchase 1½ lbs. of second-sort rice (38-98 tolahs = 1 lb.), arrangements are to be made to pay in grain and money on the following scale:—

Men	...	1½ lbs. + 3 Pies.
Women and grown boys	...	1 " + 2 "
Children	...	0¾ " + 1 "

And in return for such payments care shall be taken, as far as possible, to exact from those who can work a fair amount of work proportioned to their physical powers.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
24th January 1877. No. 225.*

5. But as it is most desirable to push forward the canal works, and to encourage willing and skilled labor, any one shall be allowed to earn by task-work, at the rates that have been found sufficient on the canal south of the Pennair, as much as he can, over and above, the subsistence allowance above mentioned.

6. Colonel Prendergast goes very fully into all details of the arrangements necessary for the preservation of health in the camp along the line of canal; and his suggestions will be communicated through the Judicial and Revenue Departments to the Inspector-General of Police and Collector, who will report the action they propose to take thereon. They will also be communicated to the Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department.

7. Application has already been made for the services of as many more European Non-Commissioned Officers of Engineers as can be spared; and on their joining the works the District Engineer and Executive Officers will see that every assistance is given them to obtain good food and other necessities.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Nellore.

- " " " Kistna.
- " Judicial Department.
- " Revenue Department.
- " Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department.
- " Military Department.

" Chief Eng. Insp.
206

Exd. E. C. Sh...

Spare Copies

No 131
From
Supt. Engineer's Office
Manipal, 6 January 1877

Major J. O. Hasted M.E.
Superintending Engineer Mysore.
To, Lieut. Col. John Mullins M.E.
Chief Engineer for Irrigation

Sir
I have the honor to request instructions regarding the rates to be paid on Famine Relief Works. In the Public Works Code, Chapter XIII A, sections 11 and 12, the rates of pay given on former occasions are thus stated.
Adult man $1\frac{1}{2}$ annas daily.
Woman 1 anna
Child $\frac{1}{2}$ anna

and it is laid down that more subsistence is to be allowed, and in any case, a day's work is to be given in return of the full value of the wages paid, but it is evident that the rates must vary in proportion with the cost of food, those above quoted being from many places, insufficient to support life, and it appears impossible in all cases, to secure the full value of the wages paid.

3. The rates on which I have started work here are for Task work, the same as allowed in the estimates, 1 anna per cubic yard for the first yard of excavation, 1 anna 2 pies for the second yard, and so on, the cost of sectioning the spoil banks being included in the rate paid for earthwork, and for daily pay, man 2 annas, woman $1\frac{1}{2}$ annas, boy or girl above 7, 1 anna. To this, I have been obliged to add a scale of subsistence allowance for those persons who come to the work, unable or unwilling to do anything, vizt. man 1 anna 8 pies, woman 1 anna 4 pies, boy or girl 1 anna. These rates are now however proving insufficient, and I have been obliged to allow a slight increase, on the understanding that it is to be given to those who work well and willingly, without regard to the outturn of work.

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and I believe the following statement may be accepted as a guide.

The amount of food necessary for a man to enable him to do any work at all is $\frac{3}{4}$ Seer rice daily, together with condiments $\frac{1}{2}$ to the value of 6 pies. therefore
 If rice is 8 Seers per Rupee, daily pay will be
 $\frac{3}{4}$ Seer $\times$ 8 Seers per Rupee = 2 Seers $\times$ 2 annas = 4 annas
 $\frac{1}{2}$ Seer $\times$ 8 Seers per Rupee = 4 Seers $\times$ 2 annas = 8 annas
 Total = 12 annas = 1 Rupee 2 annas

The amount of food necessary for a handworking man is 1 Seer rice daily, together with condiments $\frac{1}{2}$ to the value of 6 pies. therefore
 If rice is 8 Seers per Rupee, daily pay will be
 1 Seer $\times$ 8 Seers per Rupee = 8 Seers $\times$ 2 annas = 16 annas
 $\frac{1}{2}$ Seer $\times$ 8 Seers per Rupee = 4 Seers $\times$ 2 annas = 8 annas
 Total = 24 annas = 2 Rupees 8 annas

The pay of men, women and children to be in the proportion of 2 : $1\frac{1}{2}$: 1.
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b. I have been informed (not officially) that on the East Coast Canal, work being carried out by Lieut. Rawdon &c. the rate of first yard earthwork has been fixed at 1 Anna 3 pies per Cubic yard, with an additional 2 pies per Cubic yard for sectioning spoil banks, and I learn it is probable that the rice landed on the Coast will sell on the work at 10 Seers per Rupee. As this work is only 10 miles distant from the work in the District, it seems desirable that the rates should be somewhat similar, and if any instructions

Indy

2. 13-10
instructions have been issued on the subject, to the District Engineer Bellone, I would suggest that a copy should be sent to me.

7. The Cominamore Canal relief work is now, I think, well in hand, but about 800 men have left it. There is however plenty of work for the Delta population at present in harvesting operations, and when the harvest is over, no doubt the people will come to our work. From the dry Taluzs, Coolies are continually coming in, some in a distressed condition, and it has been found necessary to serve out cooked food to those who come in, almost prostrate, and unfit for work. the latest report shows 50 on this free list. The camps in the first 3 miles are nearly completed, tool and store sheds built, and a considerable reserve of grain stored. Police have been sent down, and I hope, a dresser is now on the spot. Sanitary arrangements have been attended to, but we have had 2 fatal cases of cholera on the work, which have caused a decrease in the numbers of workpeople.

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I have the honor to be

Sir

Yours most Obedt Servt.

Asst Major R. B.
Supt Engineer, Madras.



P.W.D.
11 JAN 77
NR. 263

Reports on the
expenditure of
the year on — in
which with and
regards instructions
regarding rates of
payment & labor.

Received
Dated 6 January 1877
No 131.

From
The Deputy Engineer
The Chief Engineer
for Irrigation

No 30 W.

Letter from the Superintending Engi-
-neer Kistna No 131 dated 6th January
1877.

Submitted to Government for
Orders.

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to the rates to be given by him on
his section of the East Coast Canal
and the regulation of those in the
Hista might be left to the judge-
ment of the Superintending Engineer.

Fort St. George
11 January 1877

Ans. Scott.

Major R.E.

Dy. Chief Engineer for Irrigation
for Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

To,
The Secretary to Government
P. W. D.

1877
 From
 The Chief Surg. for Imp.
 P.W.D.
 11 JAN 77
 No. 268—

Dates. 11 } Jan. 77
 Despatch 11 }
 End of
 No. 30-W.
 For Orders
 11.1.

Rate of pay - Submits with
 remarks, letter from the S.E. Kistna
 reporting instructions regarding
 — to famine Relief Labours.

No. 437
 12-12-77
 12-1-77

14/1

Quarter Master General's Office
 Fort Saint George - 13 January 1877

1: 284.

From, Brigadier General H. O'Connell
 Quarter Master General
 To, Colonel J. Michael C.S.I.
 Secretary to Government
 Military Department

Sir, I have the honor, by order, to for-
 ward for submission to Government, letter
 in original from Colonel Prendergast V.C.C.B.
 Commandant Queen's Own Sappers & Miners,
 reporting on his inspection of the S Company
 Sappers and Miners employed at the Relief
 Works in the Nellore District.

2. The report is full and satisfactory - The
 Sappers are legitimately employed and will
 materially assist in successfully carrying
 out the wishes of Government to employ
 the distressed population in a work
 of utility to the country -

3. With reference to the concluding para-
 graph of Colonel Prendergast's letter, His
 Excellency the Commander-in-Chief will
 be happy to give the services of some
 European Nav. Commissioned Officers
 of

of Sappers as Superintendents, if so re-
quired, but in doing so he would request
that the comfort of these men may be
considered by the Department employing
them. Rats will be provided by this
Department, but arrangements should be
made for their obtaining good food and
other necessaries.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your obedient Servant

J. T. Cornwell Brevet General

Quarter Master General

11

14

Public Works Department.

No 225

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 24 Jan 77
Read the following:—

Enclosurement by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation
No 308 of 11th January 1877.
Enclosurement of the Military Department
No 181 of 15th January 1877.

The papers above
recorded relate to the
Famine Relief Works
undertaken in the
Kistna and Nellore
districts under the
regency of Public Works
officers. And it is of
importance that a
uniform system of
affording relief and
paying for work done,
shall

To the Secy. to Govt.
15th January 1877
P.W.D.
18 JAN 77
No 469

To the Secy. to Govt.
13th Jan 77

To the Secy. to Govt.
13th Jan 77

1877 1877

To the Secy. to Govt.

To the Secy. to Govt.

To the Secy. to Govt.

To the Secy. to Govt.
13th Jan 77

No 437a

16-05-77 24-1-77
16-05-77 24-1-77

shall prevail throughout
the work taken up; which
consists mainly of the
East Coast Canal; and
operations in extension
of which are also in
hand at Madras.

A general and correct
principle seems to be
acted on, viz: that of
giving a minimum
ration of grain sufficient
for maintenance of life
to each man, woman,
and child, applying
for relief; or its equi-
valent in money;
besides a small al-
lowance in money for
purchase of condiments.

But from the words
Less and Increase being

This requires working
the principle laid down
by first is —

1. A minimum money
wage wherever it will
buy food.

2. Where the minimum
money wage won't buy
food - a grain wage

(vide B.D. circular) with
a small money dole for
condiments.

3. In work such as
in Canal, provision to be
made for earning beyond
the minimum wage for
piece work in case of

22/5

The principle laid
down by Government is

1. a minimum money wage
wherever it will buy
food.

2. Where the minimum
wage will not buy
food a grain wage
should be substituted,
with a small money
dole for condiments.

3. In work such as the
Canal provision
should be made
for earning beyond
the minimum wage
for piece work.

It is not quite clear
from the use of the
terms "less" and "increase"
in these papers what
is the actual allowance
of

of grain to each indi-
vidual. The following
rule has been adopted
by the Revenue De-
partment and will
be made applicable
to relief workers em-
ployed by the Public
Works Department
also.

Rations paid in money
are not to exceed 2 annas
for a man, Anna 1-4
for a woman or boy
between twelve and
fifteen years, and 10 pice
for a boy or a girl
between seven and
twelve

31/16
twelve years old.
Boys over fifteen
are to be paid as
men, and girls
over twelve as
women. Children
under seven are
not to be employed
as relief workers.
When local prices
rise so high that
Anna 1-9 will
not

not purchase $1\frac{1}{3}$ lbs
 of second sort rice
 (38.98 to laho = 1 lb.),
 arrangements are to
 be made to pay
 in grain and money
 on the following
 scale:-

Men $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs + 3 Pies
 Women and grown
 boys } 1 " + 2 "
 Children $0\frac{3}{4}$ " + 1 Pie."

[Signature]

The work considered
 equivalent to minimum
 wage - MM

33 17
 used it is not quite
 clear what is the actual
 number of pounds
 of grain allowed to
 each individual. It
 will be understood
 therefore that Grain
 Rations are to be
 per man $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs
 " woman 1 - "
 " child $\frac{3}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ "
 according to age.
 or the equivalent in
 money at the pre-
 vailing rate. In
 addition to which
 9 pie, 6 pie, and 3
 to 1 pie will be al-
 lowed for condiments.
 and in return for
 such

such payments case
shall be taken as
far as possible, to
exact from those who
can work, a fair
amount of work pro-
-portioned to their
physical powers.

But as it is most
desirable to push
forward the Canal
work, and to en-
-courage willing and
skilled labour, any
one shall be allowed
to earn by task work
at the rates that have
been found sufficient
on the Canal south
of the Peruvian, as
much as he can, over
and

18
and above, the sub-
sistence allowance
above mentioned.

Colonel Prendergast
goes very fully into
all details of the
arrangements necessary
for the preservation
of health in the
Camp along the line
of Canal; and his
suggestions will be
communicated
through the Judicial
and Revenue Depart-
-ments to the Inspector
General of Police, and
Collector, who will
report the action
they

they propose to take
thereon - They will also
be communicated to
the Surgeon General
Indian Medical
Department.

Application has
already been made
for the services of as
^{more} many European and
Commissioned Officers
of Engineers as can be
spared; and on their
joining the works,
the District Engineer
and Executive Officers
will see that every
assistance is given
them to obtain good
food.

35/19.
food, and other
necessaries.

G.M.V.

over by given to the Indian Secretary
9-2-77

Dr. Kellner ✓

Thickner ✓

pro sept ✓

Rev sept ✓

Surgeon General ✓

Medical ✓

Chief Clerk ✓

X. O. O.

Dec 27-1-77

Answer

~~Received of Mr. J. H. [illegible]
the sum of [illegible]
for [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]~~

[Faint handwritten notes, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

PC 22-1-77

100-20625-1

S. O. 2440/3059 J. P. 1919

169 263 
Govt. of 1877 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

The D. C. Officer.

Dated

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 27th Decr 1877, No. 225

Nos. 437-438

Lammie Relief Works,
under taken in the village
Kallur Sub under the
agency of D. C. officers -

Instructions issued for the
adoption of a uniform
system of affording relief
and paying for work done

Sent in Reg.