(1) பக்கங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை 50

(2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள் 9/91

(3) ஆதாரங்குறிப்பவர் சுருக்கொப்பம்

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

(REVENUE SETTLEMENT, LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE).

MR. CLOGSTOUN.

READ—the following G.O., dated 8th April 1892, Mis. No. 1890, Revenue :—

Read—the following Resolution from the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department, dated 17th March 1892, Circular No. 6—44 :—

Read—

Government of India Resolution No. 44 F., dated 9th June 1883.
" " " " 25 F., " 10th September 1891.

Read also—

Government of India Resolution No. 5 F., dated the 2nd March 1892.

Resolution—The Government of India have found indications in reports on famine relief received during recent years from various provinces that the policy of the Famine Commissioners, which was endorsed both by the Government of India and Her Majesty's Secretary of State, on the subject of wages on relief-works, has not always been fully appreciated. In view of the probability that there may be, during the next few months, a material expansion of relief-works in some parts of the country, and of the possibility that, in the event of the failure of the next monsoon, considerable demands may be made on the Government of India for funds to relieve distress, the Governor-General in Council considers it advisable that the subject should be carefully considered, in view of the fact that in the case of widespread and severe famine any material departure from the principles of the Famine Commissioners' report may lead to financial embarrassment.

2. The views of the Famine Commissioners on questions relating to the employment of labour on relief-works are embodied in paragraphs 110 and 111, and again in paragraphs 126 to 136 of Part I of the report. In the first place it should be noted that a distinction is made in these paragraphs between various classes of labourers. Although the different classes are not brought under any close definition, it is clear from the wording of paragraph 131 that labourers were to be classified according to their capabilities and that a broad line was intended to be drawn between able-bodied labourers doing accustomed work and able-bodied labourers doing unaccustomed work, and it may be noticed that in paragraph 132 the first class appear to be distinguished under the term "both able-bodied and skilful." "One or more piece-work gangs might," it is said, "be attached to each large relief work, in which all who are both able-bodied and skilful labourers should be classed and to which those who are improving in strength and skill may, if they wish it, be transferred. The rates should be so fixed (with reference to the price of food-grain) as to give a little more than the ordinary daily wage in return for the quantity of work likely to be performed."

3. The ordinary daily wage alluded to in this passage is not the daily wage which may be earned by a labourer on a public work in ordinary times, but the ordinary daily wage dealt with in the preceding paragraph (131), which is to be "adjusted from time to time so as to provide sufficient food for the labourer's support, allowing him one day's rest in the week." It is clear, therefore, that the intention of the Famine Commissioners was that skilled able-bodied labourers should not be permitted to perform an unlimited or indefinite amount of piece-work on a famine relief-work. The opposite view has been sometimes held. But it is obvious that any material

those who work, and restrict its amount to a liberal money equivalent of the subsistence ration to which the worker is in each case entitled. Any relaxation of the rule must lead to irregularity and wasteful expenditure. A margin adequate for the support of sick or infirm dependents in cases where they exist cannot, if given without discrimination to all able-bodied labourers, be otherwise than sufficiently large to prove unduly attractive to those who are free from such encumbrances. The provision, therefore, of any such margin must tend to destroy the value of the test which it was one of the main objects of the Famine Code scheme that relief-works should provide.

Recent experience in the Madras Presidency has tended to confirm the view that the system of famine kitchens and poor-houses for the support of the young and infirm is sound. In the event of serious famine the Government of India would be sorry to see it abandoned. But they are not prepared to insist absolutely on its adoption, especially in the earlier stages of distress, in those provinces where the proper relief of dependents by their guardians can be guaranteed; and if it is the wish of any Local Government or Administration that the original prohibition of relieving children and others through their parents and guardians should be modified or withdrawn, a separate communication on the subject may be submitted to the Government of India. But it must be distinctly understood that any allowance made for the support of dependents can only be permitted to those labourers who actually undertake the relief of their children or dependents; that it must be based upon a precise scale regulated in accordance with the number of dependents; and that all payments made for the purpose indicated should be shown in the accounts under the head of gratuitous relief.

10. Turning now to the subject of the division of labourers into classes, the Government of India find that much variety of practice exists in different provinces. This is partly due to a difference in the scale of famine rations and wages assigned to each class, and partly to a difference of opinion as to the quality of the labour of those admitted to relief-works. The work most frequently given for purposes of relief is earthwork. It is argued by some of the authorities who deal with famine-relief that all agricultural labourers, including ordinary cultivators—men, women and children—are skilled and able-bodied; or, in the words of the Provisional Code, that they are able-bodied labourers accustomed to labour of the kind required at the works. The bulk of the labourers are thus brought into the highest class, *i.e.*, class A of the Provisional Code. If this view be adopted and acted on, it is evident that the margin above a subsistence wage, or to use the words of the Famine Commissioners, the "little more than the ordinary daily wage," must be kept within narrow limits, and that wages should be carefully revised with every fluctuation of prices. If, on the other hand, as is the case in some provinces, only a very small percentage of labourers, such as old public works employés or others who have had professional experience, are admitted into class A, a more liberal margin may be permissible for that class, provided that, on the other hand, the wage of the B class is kept in closer approximation to the level of the subsistence wage of the Famine Code. In order that some general uniformity may be secured in the administration of famine-relief in different provinces, it is necessary that the Government of India should be provided with precise information as to the system on which classification of labourers is based, and as to the relation between the money wage actually given and the money equivalent of the famine ration at current prices. Rules under which such information is to be periodically submitted are prescribed in Resolution No. 5, dated 2nd March 1892, on famine reports.

11. To sum up. Following the Famine Commissioners' recommendations labourers on relief-works may be classified according to their capability for work. The classes adopted in the Provisional Code are A, skilful and able-bodied accustomed to the kind of work required; B, able-bodied accustomed to work; C, able-bodied not accustomed to work; D, others. Classes A and B may receive a full wage, *i.e.*, a wage equivalent to a ration sufficient to keep an able-bodied labourer in health and strength, together with a margin. The margin may be more liberal for class A when it contains a small percentage than when it is allowed to include a large percentage of able-bodied labourers accustomed to work. The wage of class C will not exceed the

full wage, and should be determined in general accordance with the principles of sections 133 and 134 of the Provisional Code. The wage may be given wholly in cash or partly in grain and partly in cash, but cash payments must be adjusted from time to time in accordance with prices of food. So much of a relief-work as requires to be pushed on for urgent reasons at a rapid rate should be removed from the list of relief works and treated as an ordinary public work.

Govt. of Madras.	Chief Commr., Central Provinces.
Do. of Bombay.	Do. Burma.
Do. of Bengal.	Do. Assam.
Do. of N.-W.P. and Oudh.	Do. Coorg.
Do. of Punjab.	Do. Ajmere-Merwara.

Secretary for Berar to the Resident at Hyderabad.

Order.—Ordered that a copy be forwarded to the Local Governments and Administrations noted in the margin for information and guidance.

Ordered also that a copy be forwarded to the Foreign Department for information and communication to Political officers in Native States, and to the Finance and Public Works Departments for information.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) E. C. BUCK,
Secretary to the Government of India.

Read—the following letter from Sir E. C. BUCK, *Kt.*, Secretary to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department (Famine), to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Calcutta, the 17th March 1892, No. 498-44:—

In communicating Circular Resolution, No. 6-44, dated the 17th instant, relating to wages on famine relief works, I am directed to convey the following remarks on the provisions of the Madras Famine Code dealing with the same subject.

2. The classification of labourers in the Madras Code appears to be somewhat indefinite. Class I of section 19 could, if the views of many authorities are accepted, be made to include the bulk of the agricultural population who are said to be accustomed, in the prosecution of the ordinary business of their life, to manual labour of the kind required at works where digging and carrying earth is the chief employment offered. The Government of India do not wish to lay down any rule on this question, but merely to point out that section 19 of the Madras Code is open to an interpretation which would make it difficult to decide that the wage of class I could not be awarded to the majority of labourers on relief works. They are aware that this is not done in practice and believe that a large number of labourers on the relief works opened in the Madras Presidency are brought under the third class. On this point information has not yet been definitely received, but has been called for in connection with the monthly report for February.

3. Turning now to the scale of wages, I am to ask that the desirability of allowing any part of the wage to be estimated in money may be very carefully considered. The schedule of wages framed in section 185 of the Code was drawn up in anticipation of a condition of prices which does not now prevail, and which, in view of the improvement of railway communications, is not perhaps likely again to occur. The rates of wages permissible under the Madras Code for classes I, II and III of section 185 are compared below with the highest wage allowed in Bombay, when prices are respectively 12 seers a rupee (about the present rate) and 6 seers a rupee (a severe famine rate).

Price of grain ruling.	Wages estimated wholly in cash.				Wages estimated wholly in grain.			
	Madras.			Bombay.	Madras.			Bombay.
	Class I.	Class II.	Class III.	All classes.	Class I.	Class II.	Class III.	All classes.
	A. P.	A. P.	A. P.	A. P.	LB.	LB.	LB.	LB.
12 seers a rupee	2 6	2 0	1 7	1 6	2½	2	2½	2½
6 seers a rupee	3 6	3 0	2 4	3 0	3½	2½	1⅓	2½

The above figures show that the Bombay wage becomes equivalent to the Madras second-class wage when famine prices are ruling, and in view of the facts that very few laborers are in Madras placed in the first class, and that in Bombay the highest wage (*i.e.*, the equivalent of 2½ lb. jowari) is payable to all able-bodied laborers of whatever class, it may be said generally that, under severe famine conditions which were contemplated when the Codes were framed, the actual wages given to the bulk of famine laborers in Bombay and Madras would become almost the same.

4. The explanation which in the resolution referred to in paragraph 1 is given of the Famine Commissioners' policy indicates that, prices being the same, there should be no essential difference at any time between the famine wage of one province and the famine wage of another, or, prices being different, between the famine ration of one province and the famine ration of another. Nor, again, should there be any material difference within the same province between the famine ration of one period and that of another. Discrepancies will be completely avoided by adherence to the Famine Commissioners' principle. The full wage must never exceed by more than a small margin, the money equivalent of a full subsistence ration sufficient to keep an able-bodied laborer in health and strength. In this view the most convenient plan would appear to be that adopted in the Provisional Code, *i.e.*, first to decide what is the full ration sufficient to keep an able-bodied laborer in health and strength, and then to deduce the money equivalent from it as the basis of the full wage.

5. If there is reason to believe that, as a rule, the prices of condiments vary *pari passu* with the price of grain, the Bombay system of adopting a single grain as the basis of calculation is fair enough. If, however, the price of condiments has any recognised tendency to remain more constant than that of food-grains, it would seem desirable to set out a ration in terms of grain and condiments which should be converted with every material change of prices into a new money wage.

6. I am to add that nothing in the resolution on wages or in this letter is intended to convey any objection to the payment of the wage wholly or partly in cash.

Read—also telegram from the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department, dated 25th March 1892, issuing errata to letter No. 498-F., dated 17th instant.

Order—dated 8th April 1892, Mis. No. 1890, Revenue.

Referred to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture, for very early report.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. H. CAMPBELL,
Ag. Assistant Secretary.

To the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture.
Copy to the Public Works Department.

Read—the following G.O., dated 28th April 1892, Mis. No. 2177, Revenue:—

Read—Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 16th April 1892, Mis. No. 3614.

Abstract.—Calling on Collectors of affected districts for information as to the number of coolies earning other than 1st and 2nd class wages.

Order—dated 28th April 1892, Mis. No. 2177, Revenue.

The four classes of laborers to be shown in columns 6 to 9 of statement A are described in paragraph 5 of the Government of India Resolution, dated 17th March 1892, No. 6–44, communicated with G.O., dated 8th April 1892, No. 1890. Of these the lowest or class IV corresponds to the third-class laborers of the Madras Famine Code which groups laborers under only three classes, while classes II and III correspond to the second class of the Madras Code; it is therefore incorrect and misleading to show second and third class laborers on Madras works under columns 7 and 8 of the Government of India statement. The Government is of opinion that Madras laborers should be classified on the principles laid down in the Government of India Resolution referred to above; this will necessitate a new scale of wages. The Commissioner of Revenue Settlement will submit a scale for approval as soon as possible with a view to the adoption of the classification followed in the returns prescribed by the Government of India.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture.

Resolution—dated 27th May 1892, No. 396.

In its Circular Resolution No. 6–44 of the 17th March on the subject of wages on relief works, the Government of India discusses the wages which are admissible under the Provisional Famine Code of the Government of India, and in view of the fact that the Code, as interpreted in some provinces, admits of the payment as wages, of sums largely in excess of what was contemplated by the Famine Commissioners or intended by the Government of India, it directs such modifications of the Provisional Code and of the codes based on it, as will bring them into strict conformity with the policy of the Famine Commissioners. That policy briefly is that laborers shall be divided into suitable classes and tasked according to their ability; that their remuneration shall not materially exceed the amount necessary to maintain them in health and strength, but that, in view to encourage a spirit of industry among them which would be beneficial to all, they should be encouraged by the formation of piece-work gangs to earn a little more than the ordinary daily wage.

The modifications ordered in the Government of India Provisional Famine Code are two—one makes a reduction in the wages admissible to all those falling in the first class (class A)—a reduction which now limits them to a sum "a little in excess of the full wage"; the second modification extends to the laborers in the second class or class B the privilege of being allowed to earn a little more than the full wage. Under the Provisional Code prior to the carrying out of the above modification, laborers of the first class (class A) were allowed to earn wages at the rates in force in the Public Works Department, and it was further provided that the sum which a laborer could ordinarily be expected to earn by a fair day's labour should in no case be less than the "full wage." Laborers below the first class (class A), on the other hand, were not allowed to earn anything in excess of the full wage.

Principles of classification of famine laborers and tasks laid down and wages prescribed for each class.

Classification.				Tasks and wages.						
				India.	Bombay.			Madras.		
Class.	Government of India proposal in Resolution of 17th March 1892.	Bombay system.	Madras system.					*Task.*	*Wages.*	
I.	Able-bodied persons accustomed to labour of the kind required on Professional Agency works.	The ordinary "laborers of the Public Works Department, skilled laborers and those who are accustomed to manual labour of the kind demanded and who have not suffered from famine.		*Task.*—The normal rates, provided that the sum which a laborer could ordinarily be expected to earn should in no case be less than the "full wage of the Code."	*Task.* A full day's ordinary work.	*Wage.*	Laborers of classes I to III will, as a rule, be employed on task work, but piece-work gangs may be formed for able-bodied and skilled laborers if they prefer it. The prices per piece-work shall be so fixed that the laborers may be able to earn slightly more than the maximum wages.	Full day's task for able-bodied laborers.	1st class ..	The Madras Code presumes that classes I and II shall contain only the able-bodied members of families to the exclusion of children, and it provides (section 19, note) that, when the Collector may consider it indispensable to keep the families belonging to laborers in classes I and II together with their relatives, light labour shall be provided for them with reference to their strength and capacity, such persons being paid the wages of class III.—
II.	Able-bodied laborers accustomed to labour, but not to labour of the kind required on D. P. W. works.	All able-bodied and healthy persons whose strength is not impaired by age and infirmity who are not accustomed to work of the kind offered but who are capable of doing 75 per cent. of the task commonly performed by the laborers of class I at such work.	The same as in Bombay.	*Task.*—To be treated ordinarily under the rules for Civil Agency works as far as such rules can be applied, but to be transferred to class I whenever fit to fulfil the conditions therein involved. Payment by results or piece-work to be introduced where practicable and the payment to be so arranged that the sum which able-bodied laborers can ordinarily be expected to earn shall be as nearly as possible equal to the "full wage."	75 per cent. of a full day's ordinary work.	The maximum wage.		75 per cent. of ditto.	2nd class ..	
III.	Able-bodied persons not accustomed to labour.	All others who, though not fit for classes I and II, are yet able to do 50 per cent. of a full day's work of class I.	The same as in Bombay, save that the task to be performed is from 50 to 75 per cent. of a full day's work of class I.		50 per cent. of a full day's ordinary work.			50 to 75 per cent. of ditto.	3rd class ..	
IV.	Persons not able-bodied but fit for light employment on Civil Agency works.	The aged, decrepit and others whose incapacity is not a temporary one due to famine. These are not liable to be transferred to a higher class as they are not capable of improvement in strength.	A separate class for weakly women, children or other members of the families belonging to the foregoing classes whom it is indispensable to keep together with their male relations, but who are not able to perform the prescribed tasks without suffering, who, it is provided, "may be given some light employment and paid the wages of class III."	*Task.*—Persons unaccustomed to labour, or weakly persons, shall as far as possible be separated from able-bodied laborers accustomed to labour and provided with suitable work, a task being given, but remuneration not to be greater than 75 per cent. of full wage (75 per cent. for men = 1·69 lb.) not less than the minimum wage.	None.	Minimum ..	Laborers of classes IV and V if able, will perform light labour fitted to their strength and capacity. To them neither piece nor task work will be assigned.	....	Do. ..	....
V.	....	Laborers of classes I to III temporarily incapacitated through slight illness from performing their usual work yet not fit for hospital, and convalescents from hospitals or poor-houses and all others whose powers have been much reduced by want or illness.				Maximum ..				

21/101
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members of the families, the nursing mothers, the young children, and the old to separation from their able-bodied relatives has resulted in their being all ganged and classed together. All gangs have been given the class III task and where the task was executed the class III pay; but they have been allowed for a proportionate increase of work to earn a proportionate increase of pay. It happens, therefore, that several class III gangs have earned class II pay, or have earned rates of pay between class III and II rates. An arbitrary division of the people into classes even where it involves separation among families is of course defensible when its object is to adjust the task to the individual, but it is unpopular, and where fair work can be obtained from gangs where the strong and the weakly are mixed up, it seems unnecessary to forcibly separate the weakly from the strong. It is always possible even now to adjust the task to meet the composition of the gang, and if the proposals to be hereafter made for reducing the wages of classes II and III to a sum very slightly in excess of the class III wage are approved, there will be the less difficulty inasmuch as the imposition of a perhaps too lenient task will not enable the gang to earn the largely increased sum it could now earn where for a double task, a double (or nearly double) rate of pay is admissible.

The question as to the best principle of classifying laborers will be reverted to when the rates of wages appropriate to the different classes as they at present stand, has been discussed.

9. The remarks of the Government of India quoted in paragraph 3 above that, prices being the same, there should be no essential difference at any time between the famine wage of one province and the famine wage of another, must meet with general assent. The value of the famine wage of this Presidency when converted into grain has varied very largely during the past 18 months owing to the great rise in prices which has occurred, and the class I wage of a man, which at the beginning of the distress, when prices in Chingleput were 20 seers of grain per rupee, would purchase 5·40 lb, will now in Nellore, where prices are 12½ seers per rupee, purchase only 3·93 lb. Similarly, the class III wage of a man, which at 20 seers per rupee would purchase 3·20 lb., will, with prices at 12½ seers per rupee, purchase only 2·46 lb. The great variation in the purchasing power of the famine wage in Madras is due of course to the fact that so large a portion is fixed in money. The money portion of the wage is intended for the purchase of condiments, but the Commissioner considers that, not only in the case of the class I wage where it is 1½ anna but in the case of the class III wage where it is three-quarters of an anna, the amount is considerably in excess of the amount usually spent on condiments. The bulk of the wage is always spent on grain. This being so and assuming that a sum of 6 pies will purchase all the condiments necessary—the usual cost in kitchens is about 3 to 4 pies—the laborer when prices are approaching famine rates is not benefited, but on the contrary seriously prejudiced by having an unnecessarily large part of his ration reckoned in money. His class III wage, which at 20 seers per rupee gave him 3·20 lb., will, at 6 seers per rupee (and in the last famine the prices in Kurnool were as high as 4 seers per rupee), give him only 1·83 lb. At 12 seers per rupee it will give him less than 2½ lb.

10. In the Draft Famine Code drawn up by the Secretary to the Famine Commission the wages proposed were as follows for laborers corresponding to classes II and III of the Madras Code. Laborers in class I should, it was intended, be paid at the normal rates for piece-work :—

	Class II.	Class III.
Men	1½ lb. flour + ½ anna	1½ lb. + ¼ anna.
Women	1¼ „ „ + ¼ „	1 „ + ¼ „
Children	¾ „ „ + ¼ „	½ „ + ¼ „

The proposed scale of wages was referred by the Madras Government for the opinion of Dr. Cornish, the Surgeon-General, and his opinion, which is recorded in G.O., dated 13th August 1881, Nos. 1188-1189, Revenue, was that the scales of grain wages proposed appeared to be generally sufficient, but that it was very doubtful whether the money rates attached to the several scales would be sufficient in famine times to purchase the pulse, condiments, salt and vegetables which would be essential to the support of the laborers. The rate of money allowance, he thought, for the usual

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14. In the Bombay Presidency, the wages in which are compared by the Government of India with those allowed in this Presidency, the famine ration is the equivalent in money of a fixed grain ration, and in view of the difficulty pointed out by Dr. Cornish to have been felt by the Madras Famine Code Committee in putting an actual money value on the part of the ration other than grain, the Commissioner considers that the plan adopted in Bombay of giving to the laborers, in lieu of a fixed sum of money, the equivalent of a certain additional amount of grain, has many advantages. It has, as compared with the system adopted in Madras, decided advantages to the laborers when prices are high, the additional one lb. of grain allowed to the class III laboring man in Bombay, as compared with the portion of the Madras wage calculated in grain being of more value than the Madras fixed money allowance of $\frac{3}{4}$ anna in all cases where grain is dearer than $10\frac{1}{2}$ seers per rupee. If, as the Commissioner would propose, the quantity representing the full grain ration for Madras be fixed at not less than $2\frac{1}{2}$ lb., the ration so calculated will be better than the present Madras class III ration for a man in all cases where prices are higher than 13 seers per rupee. At 13 seers per rupee the rations would be about equal.

In the case of female laborers of class III, the Bombay wage of 2 lb. of grain is equal to the Madras wage when prices are at $13\frac{1}{2}$ seers, and better than the Madras wage in all cases where prices are higher. With prices at 6 seers per rupee the Bombay wage gives 2 lb. instead of 1·51 lb. admissible under the Madras Code.

In the case of children the Bombay Code gives two rates according to age, size and condition of children, one being $1\frac{3}{4}$ lb. and the other $1\frac{1}{4}$ lb. The former rate is, for children in class III, better than the Madras rate at all prices likely to be ruling in times of distress, the second is about equal to the Madras rate when prices are at 13 seers per rupee and better whenever prices are higher. When prices are at 6 seers per rupee, the Madras rate is only 0·92 lb.

In the case of class II laborers, by which the Commissioner would understand not those only who may be entered in class II but all those, however classed, who may, on any particular occasion, do the class II task, a wage at $2\frac{1}{2}$ lb. per man is less than that admissible under the Madras Code in all cases where the prices are cheaper than 8 seers per rupee, and more when they are higher.

A ration of $2\frac{3}{4}$ lb. is less than is admissible now for class II in all cases where grain is cheaper than $9\frac{1}{2}$ seers per rupee. A ration of 3 lb. is about equivalent to the present class II wage when prices are at $11\frac{1}{2}$ seers per rupee.

15. The prices of staple grains in the affected tracts have, during the past five months, ranged between $12\frac{1}{2}$ and $15\frac{1}{2}$ seers per rupee, and the II and III class wages for men, women and children estimated wholly in grain, have ranged as shown below :—

Men.		Women.		Children.	
Class II.	Class III.	Class II.	Class III.	Class II.	Class III.
LB. 3·12 to 3·51	LB. 2·46 to 2·75	LB. 2·46 to 2·75	LB. 1·94 to 2·13	LB. 1·56 to 1·76	LB. 1·24 to 1·38

The Commissioner has had every reason to be satisfied that the rates earned, which on the average have not, among the great bulk of the laborers, exceeded the class III wage, have been sufficient not only for the laborers themselves but also for the children of their families below the age of 7 years, for the number of these children which have resorted to the kitchens is quite insignificant. The introduction of a wage of the money equivalent of $2\frac{1}{2}$ lb. for a man, 2 lb. for a woman and $1\frac{3}{4}$ to $1\frac{1}{4}$ lb. for a child would, except in the case of children, mean in some cases a slight reduction in the wages now being earned, and in some cases a slight increase, but, bearing in mind the benefit to the laborer from the revised scale should prices rise materially higher than they are at present and having regard also to the undesirableness of holding out a higher wage than that now earned should prices fall, the Commissioner would recommend the adoption of a fixed standard wage of $2\frac{1}{2}$ lb. for a man, 2 lb. for a woman

and 1¾ or 1¼ lb. (according to age) for a child. This ration is the same as that in force in Bombay with the exception that the man's is ¼ lb. higher. Laborers in classes I and II might be allowed to earn up to 3 lb. per man and 2½ lb. per woman, those in class III being allowed to earn up to 2¾ lb. per man and 2¼ lb. per woman. No increase seems necessary to the children's wage. The slight addition of ¼ lb. to the man's ration is proposed by the Commissioner under the impression that the Bombay ration for a man (2½ lb.) as compared with that for a woman (2 lb.) is somewhat low, and further because it compares somewhat unfavorably with the present Madras class III wage which the Commissioner considers is at present prices not too high.

16. A set of tables is appended showing the wages under the Madras and Bombay Codes estimated wholly in grain and wholly in money for all prices ranging between 6 seers and 20 seers per rupee, as also a statement showing the value of the Temple wage estimated wholly in grain and wholly in money. As during the year 1877 prices varied between 4 seers per rupee and 10 seers per rupee, it will be seen that the Bombay ration will give a wage far larger than any paid during the height of the last famine.

17. Apart from the question as to the manner in which the wage shall be calculated so that its purchasing power in actual food shall vary as little as possible with the rise and fall of prices, is the question whether there should be any very material difference between the class I wage of a laborer of the class who ordinarily works under the Public Works Department and that of a man of class III under the Bombay and Madras Codes who does a day's work, but a day's work largely below that of the first-class laborer. The Madras Code goes on the principle that up to the limit of the class I wage the man who does the full task, for an able-bodied man, should receive double the wage of him who as a class III man does only 50 per cent. of the full able-bodied task. The Commissioner considers that the determination at which the Government of India has arrived that the wage of the class I laborer shall be limited to a sum sufficient to maintain himself with a slight margin is the correct one. In that case it will exceed the third-class wage by a trifle only. Having every reason to believe that the third-class wage is sufficient to keep laborers in health and strength, it has always appeared to the Commissioner that the class I wage was excessive. From the quotations made in paragraph 12 above from the letter of the Madras Government it will be seen that it was never contemplated that the numbers in class I would ever be large. It may at the same time, however, be noted that as the Code requires that for the class I wage, which at 13½ seers per rupee is only As. 2-4 per day, a task double the class III rate and equivalent to the full day's work of an able-bodied laborer shall be done, the numbers who earn the class I rate are generally small. With reference to the remarks of the Government of India, in paragraph 2 of its letter to Government, dated 17th March, that class I of section 19 could, if the views of many authorities are accepted, be made to include the bulk of the agricultural population who are said to be accustomed in the prosecution of the ordinary business of their life to manual labour of the kind required at works where digging and carrying earth is the chief employment offered, it may be admitted that the fact is so, but, as the task for class I gangs is based on the work that would be performed by people actually accustomed to the particular work, any inefficiency on the part of those included in the class would lead to a corresponding decrease in the wage earned, and any error in classification would thus correct itself.

18. While considering that it is contrary to the principles of famine administration laid down by the Famine Commission that class I laborers should be permitted to earn wages so largely in excess of what is sufficient for the purpose of their maintenance, the Commissioner considers that, with the reduction in the class I wage, there should be a reduction in the class I task. A task at 75 per cent. of the working powers would with the reduced wage be quite sufficient to deter any but the really needy from resorting to the works, and with the reduced task the reduced wage would doubtless be found adequate.

19. A reduction in the class I wage would of course necessitate a reduction in the class II wage. The class III wage, supposing the existing classification in Madras to be continued, would be the standard wage representing a sum sufficient to keep in health and strength a laborer doing 50 per cent. of the work that would be turned out

by an ordinary laborer of the Public Works Department in ordinary times. With so slight a margin allowable over the class III wage proposed in paragraph 15 above for laborers doing a task in excess of the class III task, a margin limited to half a pound of flour or one-fifth of the standard wage, it is perhaps doubtful whether there need be more than one class above the present III. The Commissioner would do away with the present class I and would have but three classes of laborers on the work. Class I—All able-bodied laborers capable of doing 75 per cent. of a full task and to be paid for doing that task 2½ lb., 2 lb., and 1¾ to 1½ lb. for each man, woman and child, but with liberty to earn a further ½ lb. each per man and woman for a full day's ordinary work of a Public Works Department laborer. Class II—Laborers capable of doing 50 per cent. of the full task to be paid the same standard wage as those in class I, but to be allowed to earn up to 2¾ lb. for a man and 2¼ lb. for a woman for performing a task equal to 60 per cent. of the full day's ordinary work of a Public Works Department laborer. Class III would be formed of the weakly gangs to whom the standard wage would be paid. They should be given a light task one which they are capable of performing with a reasonable amount of exertion, but their performance of this light task should be insisted on. They would not be in a position to earn anything above the standard wage.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government Revenue Department.
Copy to all Collectors.

APPENDIX A.

Prices of grain ruling.	Wages estimated wholly in cash.				Wages estimated wholly in grain.			
	Madras.			Bombay.	Madras.			Bombay.
	Class I, 1½ lb. + 1½ annas.	Class II, 1½ lb. + 1 anna.	Class III, 1½ lb. + ¾ anna.	All classes. 2½ lb.	Class I, 1½ lb. + 1½ annas.	Class II, 1½ lb. + 1 anna.	Class III, 1½ lb. + ¾ anna.	All classes.
				Men.				
	A. P.	A. P.	A. P.	A. P.	LB.	LB.	LB.	LB.
6 seers a rupee	3 5	2 11	2 4	2 10	2·67	2·28	1·83	
6½ do.	3 3	2 9	2 3	2 8	2·76	2·34	1·88	
7 do.	3 2	2 8	2 1	2 6	2·86	2·40	1·93	
7½ do.	3 0	2 6	2 0	2 4	2·93	2·47	1·98	
8 do.	2 11	2 5	1 11	2 2	3·03	2·54	2·03	
8½ do.	2 10	2 4	1 10	2 0	3·16	2·61	2·08	
9 do.	2 9	2 3	1 10	1 11	3·25	2·67	2·12	
9½ do.	2 9	2 3	1 9	1 10	3·34	2·73	2·17	
10 do.	2 8	2 2	1 9	1 9	3·45	2·80	2·22	
10½ do.	2 7	2 1	1 8	1 8	3·54	2·86	2·27	
11 do.	2 7	2 1	1 7	1 7	3·63	2·92	2·31	
11½ do.	2 6	2 0	1 7	1 6	3·74	2·99	2·37	
12 do.	2 6	2 0	1 7	1 5	3·84	3·06	2·42	
12½ do.	2 5	1 11	1 6	1 5	3·93	3·12	2·46	
13 do.	2 5	1 11	1 6	1 4	4·03	3·18	2·51	2·25
13½ do.	2 4	1 10	1 5	1 3	4·13	3·25	2·56	
14 do.	2 4	1 10	1 5	1 3	4·22	3·31	2·61	
14½ do.	2 4	1 10	1 5	1 2	4·33	3·38	2·66	
15 do.	2 3	1 9	1 5	1 2	4·42	3·45	2·71	
15½ do.	2 3	1 9	1 4	1 1	4·51	3·51	2·75	
16 do.	2 3	1 9	1 4	1 1	4·62	3·58	2·81	
16½ do.	2 3	1 9	1 4	1 1	4·71	3·64	2·85	
17 do.	2 2	1 8	1 4	1 0	4·81	3·71	2·90	
17½ do.	2 2	1 8	1 4	1 0	4·91	3·77	2·95	
18 do.	2 2	1 8	1 3	1 0	5·01	3·84	3·00	
18½ do.	2 1	1 7	1 3	0 11	5·10	3·90	3·05	
19 do.	2 1	1 7	1 3	0 11	5·20	3·96	3·10	
19½ do.	2 1	1 7	1 3	0 11	5·30	4·03	3·15	
20 do.	2 1	1 7	1 3	0 10	5·40	4·10	3·20	

APPENDIX B.

Prices of grain ruling.	Wages estimated wholly in cash.				Wages estimated wholly in grain.			
	Madras.			Bombay.	Madras.			Bombay.
	Class I, ¾ lb. + ¾ anna.	Class II, ¾ lb. + ½ anna.	Class III, ⅝ lb. + ⅜ anna.	All classes 1½ lb.	Class I, ¾ lb. + ¾ anna.	Class II, ¾ lb. + ½ anna.	Class III, ⅝ lb. + ⅜ anna.	All classes.
	Women.							
	A. P.	A. P.	A. P.	A. P.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
6 seers a rupee	1 9	1 6	1 2	1 7	1·34	1·14	0·92	2
6½ do.	1 8	1 5	1 1	1 6	1·38	1·17	0·94	
7 do.	1 7	1 4	1 1	1 4	1·43	1·21	0·97	
7½ do.	1 6	1 3	1 0	1 3	1·48	1·24	0·99	
8 do.	1 6	1 3	1 0	1 2	1·53	1·27	1·02	
8½ do.	1 5	1 2	0 11	1 2	1·58	1·30	1·04	
9 do.	1 5	1 2	0 11	1 1	1·63	1·34	1·06	
9½ do.	1 4	1 1	0 11	1 0	1·68	1·37	1·09	
10 do.	1 4	1 1	0 10	1 0	1·73	1·40	1·11	
10½ do.	1 4	1 1	0 10	0 11	1·78	1·43	1·14	
11 do.	1 3	1 0	0 10	0 11	1·82	1·47	1·16	
11½ do.	1 3	1 0	0 10	0 10	1·87	1·50	1·19	
12 do.	1 3	1 0	0 9	0 10	1·92	1·53	1·21	
12½ do.	1 3	1 0	0 9	0 9	1·97	1·56	1·24	
13 do.	1 2	0 11	0 9	0 9	2·02	1·60	1·26	1·25
13½ do.	1 2	0 11	0 9	0 9	2·07	1·63	1·28	
14 do.	1 2	0 11	0 9	0 8	2·12	1·66	1·31	
14½ do.	1 2	0 11	0 8	0 8	2·17	1·69	1·33	
15 do.	1 2	0 11	0 8	0 8	2·21	1·73	1·36	
15½ do.	1 1	0 10	0 8	0 7	2·26	1·76	1·38	
16 do.	1 1	0 10	0 8	0 7	2·31	1·79	1·41	
16½ do.	1 1	0 10	0 8	0 7	2·36	1·82	1·43	
17 do.	1 1	0 10	0 8	0 7	2·41	1·85	1·46	
17½ do.	1 1	0 10	0 8	0 7	2·46	1·89	1·48	
18 do.	1 1	0 10	0 8	0 6	2·51	1·92	1·50	
18½ do.	1 1	0 10	0 8	0 6	2·56	1·95	1·53	
19 do.	1 1	0 10	0 8	0 6	2·61	1·99	1·55	
19½ do.	1 1	0 10	0 7	0 6	2·65	2·02	1·58	
20 do.	1 0	0 9	0 7	0 6	2·70	2·05	1·60	

APPENDIX C.

Prices of grain ruling.	Wages estimated wholly in cash.				Wages estimated wholly in grain.			
	Madras.			Bombay.	Madras.			Bombay.
	Class I, ¾ lb. + ¾ anna.	Class II, ¾ lb. + ½ anna.	Class III, ⅝ lb. + ⅜ anna.	All classes 1½ lb.	Class I, ¾ lb. + ¾ anna.	Class II, ¾ lb. + ½ anna.	Class III, ⅝ lb. + ⅜ anna.	All classes.
	Children.							
	A. P.	A. P.	A. P.	A. P.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
6 seers a rupee	1 9	1 6	1 2	1 7	1·34	1·14	0·92	1·25
6½ do.	1 8	1 5	1 1	1 6	1·38	1·17	0·94	
7 do.	1 7	1 4	1 1	1 4	1·43	1·21	0·97	
7½ do.	1 6	1 3	1 0	1 3	1·48	1·24	0·99	
8 do.	1 6	1 3	1 0	1 2	1·53	1·27	1·02	
8½ do.	1 5	1 2	0 11	1 2	1·58	1·30	1·04	
9 do.	1 5	1 2	0 11	1 1	1·63	1·34	1·06	
9½ do.	1 4	1 1	0 11	1 0	1·68	1·37	1·09	
10 do.	1 4	1 1	0 10	1 0	1·73	1·40	1·11	
10½ do.	1 4	1 1	0 10	0 11	1·78	1·43	1·14	
11 do.	1 3	1 0	0 10	0 11	1·82	1·47	1·16	
11½ do.	1 3	1 0	0 10	0 10	1·87	1·50	1·19	
12 do.	1 3	1 0	0 9	0 10	1·92	1·53	1·21	
12½ do.	1 3	1 0	0 9	0 9	1·97	1·56	1·24	
13 do.	1 2	0 11	0 9	0 9	2·02	1·60	1·26	
13½ do.	1 2	0 11	0 9	0 9	2·07	1·63	1·28	
14 do.	1 2	0 11	0 9	0 8	2·12	1·66	1·31	
14½ do.	1 2	0 11	0 8	0 8	2·17	1·69	1·33	
15 do.	1 2	0 11	0 8	0 8	2·21	1·73	1·36	
15½ do.	1 1	0 10	0 8	0 7	2·26	1·76	1·38	
16 do.	1 1	0 10	0 8	0 7	2·31	1·79	1·41	
16½ do.	1 1	0 10	0 8	0 7	2·36	1·82	1·43	
17 do.	1 1	0 10	0 8	0 7	2·41	1·85	1·46	
17½ do.	1 1	0 10	0 8	0 7	2·46	1·89	1·48	
18 do.	1 1	0 10	0 8	0 6	2·51	1·92	1·50	
18½ do.	1 1	0 10	0 8	0 6	2·56	1·95	1·53	
19 do.	1 1	0 10	0 8	0 6	2·61	1·99	1·55	
19½ do.	1 1	0 10	0 7	0 6	2·65	2·02	1·58	
20 do.	1 0	0 9	0 7	0 6	2·70	2·05	1·60	

APPENDIX D.

TEMPLE wage—Last famine.

Prices of grain ruling.	Wages estimated wholly in cash.		Wages estimated wholly in grain.	
	Class I.	Class II.	Class I.	Class II.
Man.	1 lb.+1 anna.	1 lb.+½ anna.	1 lb.+1 anna.	1 lb.+½ anna.
	AS. P.	AS. P.	LB.	LB.
6 seers a rupee ..	2 3	1 9	1·78	1·39
6½ do. ..	2 2	1 8	1·86	1·43
7 do. ..	2 1	1 7	1·91	1·46
7½ do. ..	2 1	1 6	1·96	1·49
8 do. ..	2 0	1 6	2·04	1·52
8½ do. ..	1 11	1 5	2·10	1·56
9 do. ..	1 10	1 4	2·17	1·59
9½ do. ..	1 10	1 4	2·24	1·62
10 do. ..	1 9	1 3	2·30	1·65
10½ do. ..	1 9	1 3	2·37	1·68
11 do. ..	1 8	1 2	2·43	1·72
11½ do. ..	1 8	1 2	2·50	1·75
12 do. ..	1 8	1 2	2·56	1·78
Woman.	1 lb.+½ anna.	1 lb.+¼ anna.	1 lb.+½ anna.	1 lb.+¼ anna.
6 seers a rupee ..	1 9	1 6	1·39	1·20
6½ do. ..	1 8	1 6	1·42	1·21
7 do. ..	1 7	1 5	1·45	1·23
7½ do. ..	1 6	1 5	1·49	1·24
8 do. ..	1 6	1 4	1·52	1·26
8½ do. ..	1 5	1 3	1·56	1·28
9 do. ..	1 4	1 2	1·59	1·29
9½ do. ..	1 4	1 1	1·62	1·31
10 do. ..	1 3	1 1	1·65	1·32
10½ do. ..	1 3	1 0	1·68	1·34
11 do. ..	1 2	0 11	1·72	1·36
11½ do. ..	1 2	0 11	1·75	1·37
12 do. ..	1 1	0 11	1·78	1·39
Child.	½ lb.+½ anna.	½ lb.+¼ anna.	½ lb.+½ anna.	½ lb.+¼ anna.
6 seers a rupee ..	1 2	0 11	·88	·70
6½ do. ..	1 1	0 10	·93	·71
7 do. ..	1 1	0 10	·96	·73
7½ do. ..	1 0	0 9	·99	·74
8 do. ..	1 0	0 9	1·02	·76
8½ do. ..	1 0	0 9	1·06	·78
9 do. ..	0 11	0 8	1·09	·79
9½ do. ..	0 11	0 8	1·12	·81
10 do. ..	0 11	0 8	1·15	·83
10½ do. ..	0 11	0 8	1·18	·84
11 do. ..	0 10	0 7	1·22	·86
11½ do. ..	0 10	0 7	1·25	·87
12 do. ..	0 10	0 7	1·28	·89

Exd. C. A. Muniswami.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1892.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Printed June th.

Proceedings, 27th May 1892, No. 896.

Submitting to Government, special report called for, regarding the wages and classification of famine laborers, under the Madras Famine Code.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following G.O., dated 28th April 1892, Mis. No. 2177, Revenue :—

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 16th April 1892, Mis. No. 3644 :—

MR. CLOGSTOUN.

Read—G.O., dated 8th April 1892, No. 1894, Revenue.

Resolution—dated 16th April 1892, Mis. No. 3644.

The following telegram will be despatched to the Collectors of districts in which relief works are in progress :—

"Wire number coolies not earning 1st or 2nd class wage week ending April 2nd."

2. The information required by the Government of India is not recorded in the relief returns prescribed in the Madras Famine Code. These returns show only the standard wage fixed on each work, but not any additional wages for week over and above the 3rd-class tasks. The report for March is already in the Press, but if the information now called for is received in time, it will be incorporated. Under any circumstances, the proportion of the number of persons employed on 3rd-class works who earn 2nd-class wages will be very small.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Order—dated 28th April 1892, Mis. No. 2177, Revenue.

The four classes of labourers to be shown in columns 6 to 9 of statement A are described in paragraph 5 of the Government of India Resolution No. 6—44, dated 17th March 1892, communicated with G.O., dated 8th April 1892, No. 1890. Of these the lowest or class IV corresponds to the third-class labourers of the Madras Famine Code which groups labourers under only three classes, while classes II and III correspond to the second class of the Madras Code; it is therefore incorrect and misleading to show second and third class labourers on Madras works under columns 7 and 8 of the Government of India statement. The Government is of opinion that Madras labourers should be classified on the principles laid down in the Government of India Resolution referred to above; this will necessitate a new scale of wages. The Commissioner of

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1892.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Printed June th.

Proceedings, 27*th May* 1892, *No.* 396.

Submitting to Government, special report called for, regarding the wages and classification of famine laborers, under the Madras Famine Code.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—again the following G.O., dated 28th April 1892, Mis. No. 2177, Revenue :—

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 16th April 1892, Mis. No. 3644 :—

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Revenue Settlement will submit a scale for approval as soon as possible with a view to the adoption of the classification followed in the returns prescribed by the Government of India.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture.

READ—again the following G.O., dated 29th July 1892, Mis. No. 3431, Revenue:—

Read—the following demi-official letter from J. MUIR MACKENZIE, Esq., Under Secretary to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department, to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department, dated Simla, the 13th July 1892, No. 1577—44:—

In the course of correspondence with the Burma authorities regarding the rates of wage given by them on their relief works, there has arisen the question whether in calculating the "full wage" under the Code, a margin should be allowed for rest on one day in the week. The authors of the Provisional Famine Code, which was circulated by the Government of India in 1883, appear to have considered the arrangement unnecessary, notwithstanding that the Famine Commission recommended it in paragraph 131 of part I of their report. I am desired to say that the Government of India will be glad to be favored with the opinion of His Excellency on the question after the experience recently gained in Madras.

Order—dated 29th July 1892, Mis. No. 3431, Revenue.

Referred to the Commissioner of Settlement for very early remarks.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 27th May 1892, No. 396:—

MR. CLOGSTOUN.

Read—the following G.O., dated 8th April 1892, Mis. No. 1890, Revenue:—

Read—the following Resolution from the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department, dated 17th March 1892, Circular No. 6—44:—

Read—

Government of India Resolution No. 41 F., dated 9th June 1883.
" " " " 25 F., " 10th September 1891.

2501/12

Read also—

Government of India Resolution No. 5 F., dated the 2nd March 1892.

Resolution—The Government of India have found indications in reports on famine relief received during recent years from various provinces that the policy of the Famine Commissioners, which was endorsed both by the Government of India and Her Majesty's Secretary of State, on the subject of wages on relief-works, has not always been fully appreciated. In view of the probability that there may be, during the next few months, a material expansion of relief-works in some parts of the country, and of the possibility that, in the event of the failure of the next monsoon, considerable demands may be made on the Government of India for funds to relieve distress, the Governor-General in Council considers it advisable that the subject should be carefully considered, in view of the fact that in the case of widespread and severe famine any material departure from the principles of the Famine Commissioners' report may lead to financial embarrassment.

2. The views of the Famine Commissioners on questions relating to the employment of labour on relief-works are embodied in paragraphs 110 and 111, and again in paragraphs 126 to 136 of Part I of the report. In the first place it should be noted that a distinction is made in these paragraphs between various classes of laborers. Although the different classes are not brought under any close definition, it is clear from the wording of paragraph 131 that laborers were to be classified according to their capabilities and that a broad line was intended to be drawn between able-bodied laborers doing accustomed work and able-bodied laborers doing unaccustomed work, and it may be noticed that in paragraph 132 the first class appear to be distinguished under the term "both able-bodied and skilful." "One or more piece-work gangs might," it is said, "be attached to each large relief work, in which all who are both able-bodied and skilful laborers should be classed and to which those who are improving in strength and skill may, if they wish it, be transferred. The rates should be so fixed (with reference to the price of food-grain) as to give a little more than the ordinary daily wage in return for the quantity of work likely to be performed."

3. The ordinary daily wage alluded to in this passage is not the daily wage which may be earned by a laborer on a public work in ordinary times, but the ordinary daily wage dealt with in the preceding paragraph (131), which is to be "adjusted from time to time so as to provide sufficient food for the laborer's support, allowing him one day's rest in the week." It is clear, therefore, that the intention of the Famine Commissioners was that skilled able-bodied labourers should not be permitted to perform an unlimited or indefinite amount of piece-work on a famine relief-work. The opposite view has been sometimes held. But it is obvious that any material departure from the Famine Commissioners' rule would result in unnecessary expenditure, and a rapid exhaustion of the programme of works available, for not only would greater numbers of laborers be attracted to the relief-works by a prospect of the high profits which unlimited piece-work would offer, but also the work performed by each laborer would be greater. The object of the Famine Commissioners, viz., to restrict the admission on relief-works to those who are compelled by necessity to come to them, would in fact be frustrated.

"Some safeguards," they urge in paragraph 110, "are essential in the interests of the destitute people no less than of the public treasury; and they are best found in laying down certain broad, self-acting tests by which necessity may be proved and which may, independently of any other rule of selection, entitle to relief the person who submits to them."

"The chief of these tests," they continue in paragraph 111, "and the only one which in our opinion it is ordinarily desirable to enforce, is the demand of labour commensurate in each case with the laborer's powers in return for a wage sufficient

for the purposes of maintenance but not more;" and they point out again (in paragraph 132) that "it is not expedient to add to the outlay on relief or to the consumption of food beyond what is essential, and that no object is to be gained by the early completion of any work put in hand."

And again, in paragraph 127, it is intimated that, although State employment should be offered promptly, yet care must be taken "that the cost to which the community as a whole is put by the employment of persons in want is no more than the case strictly requires."

4. On the 9th of June 1883 the Government of India, after consulting Local Governments, circulated with an explanatory Resolution a Provisional Famine Code, based upon the recommendations of the Famine Commissioners, for the guidance of Local Governments and Administrations in the preparation of the Provincial Codes which they were invited to frame. It was explained that the scheme of the Famine Commissioners for the provision of employment of labour on relief-works was accepted by the Imperial Government, and the principles which they laid down were generally embodied in the Provisional Code.

5. Relief-works were in this Code required to be distinguished as—

(I) Civil Agency works; and
(II) Professional Agency works;

the former whether professionally managed or not being under the control of the district authority, and the latter under the control of the Public Works Department. Labourers were, reading sections 39 and 71 together, divided into four classes—

A.—Able-bodied persons accustomed to labour of the kind required at works coming under class II.
B.—Able-bodied persons accustomed to labour but not to labour of the kind required on works under class II.
C.—Able-bodied persons not accustomed to labour.
D.—Persons not able-bodied but fit for light employment of the kind required at works of class I.

Labourers of class A were (sections 71 and 72 of the Code) eligible for employment on Professional Agency works and for treatment as ordinary able-bodied laborers in public works. All others were to be dealt with under the rules for Civil Agency works.

6. Chapter X of the Provisional Code, which dealt with wages and rations on relief-works, prescribed a "full ration" sufficient to keep able-bodied laborers in health and strength, leaving it to Local Governments to suggest such modifications as might be required by the circumstances of each province. The "full wage" was defined as the amount of money which at the current prices is sufficient to purchase a "full ration." Section 132 laid down that payment for labour on Professional Agency works might be made at the rate ordinarily given under the rules in force in the Public Works Department, provided that the sum which a labourer can ordinarily be expected to earn by a fair day's labour shall in no case be less than the "full wage." This rule applied to laborers of class A only, since all other laborers were brought by section 72 of the Code under the rules for Civil Agency Works. It will be observed, however, that the wording of the rule prescribed the "full wage" as a minimum only, and placed no restriction on the amount which might be earned by a class A laborer at departmental rates for piece-work. An opening was thus left for a departure from the intention of the Famine Commissioners, that even skilful and able-bodied laborers should only receive "a little more than the ordinary wage," which would, in the terms of the Provisional Famine Code, mean "a little more than the full wage." The object of the framers of the Code was, however, not to controvert the principles laid down by the Famine Commissioners and accepted by

the Government of India, but to prevent undue restriction being placed on the progress of public works, of which, for special reasons, the early completion might be desirable. This has not been generally understood. Consequently, the result of the absence of any positive restriction on the wages of class A labourers has sometimes been that on earthwork, which is, wherever it can be provided, the most usual as it is the most appropriate relief-work, ordinary agricultural laborers have been considered to be sufficiently accustomed to the kind of labour required at the work to entitle them to be brought under class A, and to be given any amount of piece-work that the Public Works officer in charge of the work might deem to be desirable to secure the rapid and effective progress of the work itself. The principles laid down by the Famine Commissioners have thus been transgressed.

7. It has, on the other hand, occurred that the intention of the Famine Commissioners, that all skilful and able-bodied laborers should, for the reasons given in the passage quoted in paragraph 2 of this Resolution, receive a small margin above the full famine wage, has not been sufficiently appreciated; nor was this intention explained with sufficient distinctness in the Provisional Famine Code. The opportunity is now taken to give clear expression to the opinion of the Government of India that this consideration should be applied to all labourers of class A, and, subject to the remarks regarding the classification of ordinary cultivators which are made below in paragraph 10 of this Resolution, also to laborers of class B; money wages and tasks being so adjusted from time to time as to admit of the laborers receiving "a little more than" the equivalent of the "full ration" of the Code.

8. In order, on the one hand, to secure the object which the framers of the Code had in view of preventing any undue restriction on the progress of a public work which is required as such independently of its use as a relief-work, and on the other, to prevent any transgression of the principles of the Code, which requires that no remuneration should be given to a laborer on a relief-work materially in excess of the amount sufficient to maintain health and strength, it is desirable that, where this has not already been done, a rule to the following effect should be incorporated in the Provincial Code:

"When a public work for which provision had already been made in the ordinary Public Works Budget of the year is included in the sanctioned list of Professional Agency works, the Local Government shall decide, in the event of its being utilised as a relief-work, whether any portion of it is of such a character, or requires to be executed with such urgency, as to demand the employment of ordinary public works labour at full piece-work rates: Such portion shall be separated from the portion utilised as a relief-work and shall not be opened to labourers admitted on the work simply for purposes of relief. On the portion retained as a relief-work the wages of able-bodied laborers, however skilled, shall not exceed the amount in money which is equivalent to a little more than the full famine wage.

9. Another direction in which a departure has been, in some cases, permitted from the principles laid down in the Provisional Famine Code, is in the expansion of money wages for the purpose of providing a margin from which relief may be given to children and infirm dependents by their able-bodied parents or guardians who labour on relief-works. This was prohibited in the Provisional Code on the ground that experience had shown that starving parents cannot in times of severe famine safely be entrusted with the feeding of their children. The Government of India are not disposed to admit any modification of the principle which confines payment of a wage to those who work, and restricts its amount to a liberal money equivalent of the subsistence ration to which the worker is in each case entitled. Any relaxation of the rule must lead to irregularity and wasteful expenditure. A margin adequate for the support of sick or infirm dependents in cases where they exist cannot, if given without discrimination to all able-bodied labourers, be otherwise than sufficiently large to prove unduly attractive to those who are free from such encumbrances. The provision, therefore, of any such margin must tend to destroy the value of the test which it was one of the main objects of the Famine Code scheme that relief-works should provide.

Recent experience in the Madras Presidency has tended to confirm the view that the system of famine kitchens and poor-houses for the support of the young and infirm is sound. In the event of serious famine the Government of India would be sorry to see it abandoned. But they are not prepared to insist absolutely on its adoption, especially in the earlier stages of distress, in those provinces where the proper relief of dependents by their guardians can be guaranteed; and if it is the wish of any Local Government or Administration that the original prohibition of relieving children and others through their parents and guardians should be modified or withdrawn, a separate communication on the subject may be submitted to the Government of India. But it must be distinctly understood that any allowance made for the support of dependents can only be permitted to those laborers who actually undertake the relief of their children or dependents; that it must be based upon a precise scale regulated in accordance with the number of dependents; and that all payments made for the purpose indicated should be shown in the accounts under the head of gratuitous relief.

10. Turning now to the subject of the division of labourers into classes, the Government of India find that much variety of practice exists in different provinces. This is partly due to a difference in the scale of famine rations and wages assigned to each class, and partly to a difference of opinion as to the quality of the labour of those admitted to relief-works. The work most frequently given for purposes of relief is earthwork. It is argued by some of the authorities who deal with famine-relief that all agricultural laborers, including ordinary cultivators—men, women and children—are skilled and able-bodied; or, in the words of the Provisional Code, that they are able-bodied laborers accustomed to labour of the kind required at the works. The bulk of the laborers are thus brought into the highest class, *i.e.*, class A of the Provisional Code. If this view be adopted and acted on, it is evident that the margin above a subsistence wage, or to use the words of the Famine Commissioners, the "little more than the ordinary daily wage," must be kept within narrow limits, and that wages should be carefully revised with every fluctuation of prices. If, on the other hand, as is the case in some provinces, only a very small percentage of laborers, such as old public works employés or others who have had professional experience, are admitted into class A, a more liberal margin may be permissible for that class, provided that, on the other hand, the wage of the B class is kept in closer approximation to the level of the subsistence wage of the Famine Code. In order that some general uniformity may be secured in the administration of famine-relief in different provinces, it is necessary that the Government of India should be provided with precise information as to the system on which classification of laborers is based, and as to the relation between the money wage actually given and the money equivalent of the famine ration at current prices. Rules under which such information is to be periodically submitted are prescribed in Resolution No. 5, dated 2nd March 1892, on famine reports.

11. To sum up. Following the Famine Commissioners' recommendations labourers on relief-works may be classified according to their capability for work. The classes adopted in the Provisional Code are A, skilful and able-bodied accustomed to the kind of work required; B, able-bodied accustomed to work; C, able-bodied not accustomed to work; D, others. Classes A and B may receive a full wage, *i.e.*, a wage equivalent to a ration sufficient to keep an able-bodied labourer in health and strength, together with a margin. The margin may be more liberal for class A when it contains a small percentage than when it is allowed to include a large percentage of able-bodied laborers accustomed to work. The wage of class C will not exceed the full wage, and should be determined in general accordance with the principles of sections 133 and 134 of the Provisional Code. The wage may be given wholly in cash or partly in grain and partly in cash, but cash payments must be adjusted from time to time in accordance with prices of food. So much of a relief-work as requires to be pushed on for urgent reasons at a rapid rate should be removed from the list of relief works and treated as an ordinary public work.

Govt. of Madras.	Chief Commr.,	Central Provinces.	
Do. of Bombay.	Do.	Burma.	
Do. of Bengal.	Do.	Assam.	
Do. of N.-W.P. and Oudh.	Do.	Coorg.	
Do. of Punjab.	Do.	Ajmere-Merwara.	
Secretary for Berar to the Resident at Hyderabad.			

ORDER.—Ordered that a copy be forwarded to the Local Governments and Administrations noted in the margin for information and guidance.

Ordered also that a copy be forwarded to the Foreign Department for information and communication to Political officers in Native States, and to the Finance and Public Works Departments for information.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) E. C. BUCK,
Secretary to the Government of India.

Read—the following letter from Sir E. C. BUCK, *Kt.*, Secretary to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department (Famine), to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Calcutta, the 17th March 1892, No. 498-44:—

In communicating Circular Resolution, No. 6-44, dated the 17th instant, relating to wages on famine relief works, I am directed to convey the following remarks on the provisions of the Madras Famine Code dealing with the same subject.

2. The classification of laborers in the Madras Code appears to be somewhat indefinite. Class I of section 19 could, if the views of many authorities are accepted, be made to include the bulk of the agricultural population who are said to be accustomed, in the prosecution of the ordinary business of their life, to manual labour of the kind required at works where digging and carrying earth is the chief employment offered. The Government of India do not wish to lay down any rule on this question, but merely to point out that section 19 of the Madras Code is open to an interpretation which would make it difficult to decide that the wage of class I could not be awarded to the majority of labourers on relief works. They are aware that this is not done in practice and believe that a large number of laborers on the relief works opened in the Madras Presidency are brought under the third class. On this point information has not yet been definitely received, but has been called for in connection with the monthly report for February.

3. Turning now to the scale of wages, I am to ask that the desirability of allowing any part of the wage to be estimated in money may be very carefully considered. The schedule of wages framed in section 185 of the Code was drawn up in anticipation of a condition of prices which does not now prevail, and which, in view of the improvement of railway communications, is not perhaps likely again to occur. The rates of wages permissible under the Madras Code for classes I, II and III of section 185 are compared below with the highest wage allowed in Bombay, when prices are respectively 12 seers a rupee (about the present rate) and 6 seers a rupee (a severe famine rate).

Price of grain ruling.	Wages estimated wholly in cash.				Wages estimated wholly in grain.			
	Madras.			Bombay.	Madras.			Bombay.
	Class I.	Class II.	Class III.	All classes.	Class I.	Class II.	Class III.	All classes.
	A. P.	A. P.	A. P.	A. P.	LB.	LB.	LB.	LB.
12 seers a rupee	2 6	2 0	1 7	1 6	3¾	3	2⅔	2¼
6 seers a rupee	3 6	3 0	2 5	3 0	2¼	2¼	1⅔	2¼

The above figures show that the Bombay wage becomes equivalent to the Madras second-class wage when famine prices are ruling, and in view of the facts that very few laborers are in Madras placed in the first class, and that in Bombay the highest wage (*i.e.*, the equivalent of 2¼ lb. jowari) is payable to all able-bodied laborers of whatever class, it may be said generally that, under severe famine conditions which were contemplated when the Codes were framed, the actual wages given to the bulk of famine laborers in Bombay and Madras would become almost the same.

4. The explanation which in the resolution referred to in paragraph 1 is given of the Famine Commissioners' policy indicates that, prices being the same, there should be no essential difference at any time between the famine wage of one province and the famine wage of another, or, prices being different, between the famine ration of one province and the famine ration of another. Nor, again, should there be any material difference within the same province between the famine ration of one period and that of another. Discrepancies will be completely avoided by adherence to the Famine Commissioners' principle. The full wage must never exceed by more than a small margin, the money equivalent of a full subsistence ration sufficient to keep an able-bodied laborer in health and strength. In this view the most convenient plan would appear to be that adopted in the Provisional Code, *i.e.*, first to decide what is the full ration sufficient to keep an able-bodied laborer in health and strength, and then to deduce the money equivalent from it as the basis of the full wage.

5. If there is reason to believe that, as a rule, the prices of condiments vary *pari passu* with the price of grain, the Bombay system of adopting a single grain as the basis of calculation is fair enough. If, however, the price of condiments has any recognised tendency to remain more constant than that of food-grains, it would seem desirable to set out a ration in terms of grain and condiments which should be converted with every material change of prices into a new money wage.

6. I am to add that nothing in the resolution on wages or in this letter is intended to convey any objection to the payment of the wage wholly or partly in cash.

Read—also telegram from the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department, dated 25th March 1892, issuing errata to letter, No. 498-F., dated 17th instant.

Order—dated 8th April 1892, Mis. No. 1890, Revenue.

Referred to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture, for very early report.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. H. CAMPBELL,
Ag. Assistant Secretary.

To the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture.
Copy to the Public Works Department.

Read—G.O., dated 28th April 1892, Mis. No. 2177, Revenue.

Resolution—dated 27th May 1892, No. 396.

In its Circular Resolution No. 6–44 of the 17th March on the subject of wages on relief works, the Government of India discusses the wages which are admissible under the Provisional Famine Code of the Government of India, and in view of the fact that the

Code, as interpreted in some provinces, admits of the payment as wages, of sums largely in excess of what was contemplated by the Famine Commissioners or intended by the Government of India, it directs such modifications of the Provisional Code and of the codes based on it, as will bring them into strict conformity with the policy of the Famine Commissioners. That policy briefly is that laborers shall be divided into suitable classes and tasked according to their ability; that their remuneration shall not materially exceed the amount necessary to maintain them in health and strength, but that, in view to encourage a spirit of industry among them which would be beneficial to all, they should be encouraged by the formation of piece-work gangs to earn a little more than the ordinary daily wage.

The modifications ordered in the Government of India Provisional Famine Code are two—one makes a reduction in the wages admissible to all those falling in the first class (class A)—a reduction which now limits them to a sum "a little in excess of the full wage"; the second modification extends to the laborers in the second class or class B, the privilege of being allowed to earn a little more than the full wage. Under the Provisional Code prior to the carrying out of the above modification, laborers of the first class (class A) were allowed to earn wages at the rates in force in the Public Works Department, and it was further provided that the sum which a laborer could ordinarily be expected to earn by a fair day's labour should in no case be less than the "full wage." Laborers below the first class (class A), on the other hand, were not allowed to earn anything in excess of the full wage.

2. In reviewing the classification of the laborers in view to deciding on a suitable wage for each class, the Government of India points out the great variety of practice which exists in different provinces in regard to classification—a variety partly due, it is stated, to a difference in the scale of famine rations and wages assigned to each class and partly to a difference of opinion as to the quality of the labour of those admitted to relief works, and though it does not require that the Government of India classification should be adopted in all provinces, it refers to the necessity that it should be furnished with precise information as to the system on which classification of laborers is based and as to the relation between the money wage actually given and the money equivalent of the famine ration at current prices.

3. In forwarding to the Government a copy of its Circular Resolution above referred to, the Government of India in its letter of the 17th March read above refers to the classification of laborers in the Madras Code as being "somewhat indefinite," and it points out that, if the views of many authorities are accepted, class I,* which is allowed to earn the maximum wages admissible under the Code, might be made to include the bulk of the agricultural population.

* The ordinary laborers of the Public Works Department, skilled laborers and those who are accustomed to manual labour of the kind demanded and who have not suffered from famine.

It also deals with the wage admissible under the Madras Famine Code, and in regard to this, it asks that the desirability of allowing any portion of the wage to be estimated in money may be very carefully considered. It points out that the schedule of wages was drawn up in anticipation of a condition of prices which does not now prevail and which in view of the improvement of railway communications is not perhaps likely again to occur. It compares the wages admissible under the Madras Code for classes I, II and III when prices range from 12 to 6 seers per rupee with the highest wage allowed in Bombay and shows that while the Madras class I wage is always considerably and sometimes largely in excess of the Bombay highest wage, yet that the Bombay wage, when prices rise materially above 12 Indian seers per rupee, is better than the Madras class III wage—the wage under which the bulk of the Madras laborers work—and when prices are 6 seers per rupee, is as good as the Madras class II wage.

It urges that the Famine Commissioners' policy indicates that, prices being the same, there should be no essential difference at any time between the famine wage of one province and the famine wage of another, or prices being different, between the

famine ration of one province and the famine ration of another. Nor again should there be any material difference within the same province between the famine ration of one period and that of another.

4. To take first the system of classification of laborers. The system adopted in this Presidency is shown below as compared with that in force under the Government of India Provisional Code and that in force in the Bombay Presidency. The task demandable from each class is also shown, as well as the scale of wages which each class is presumably able to earn :—

PRINCIPLES of classification of famine laborers and tasks laid down and wages prescribed for each class.

CLASSIFICATION.				TASKS AND WAGES.						
				India.	Bombay.			Madras.		
Class.	Government of India proposal in Resolution of 17th March 1892.	Bombay system.	Madras system.		*Task.*	*Wage.*		*Task.*	*Wages.*	
I.	Able-bodied persons accustomed to labour of the kind required on Professional Agency works.	The ordinary 'laborers of the Public Works Department, skilled laborers and those who are accustomed to manual labour of the kind demanded and who have not suffered from famine.		*Task.*—The normal rates, provided that the sum which a laborer could ordinarily be expected to earn should in no case be less than the "full wage of the Code."	A full day's ordinary work.			Full day's task for able-bodied laborers.	1st class ..	The Madras Code presumes that classes I and II shall contain only the able-bodied members of families to the exclusion of children, and it provides (section 19, note) that, when the Collector may consider it indispensable to keep the families belonging to laborers in classes I and II together with their relatives, light labour shall be provided for them with reference to their strength and capacity, such persons being paid the wages of class III.—
II.	Able-bodied laborers accustomed to labour, but not to labour of the kind required on D. P. W. works.	All able-bodied and healthy persons whose strength is not impaired by age and infirmity who are not accustomed to work of the kind offered but who are capable of doing 75 per cent. of the task commonly performed by the laborers of class I at such work.	The same as in Bombay.	*Task.*—To be treated ordinarily under the rules for Civil Agency works as far as such rules can be applied, but to be transferred to class I whenever fit to fulfil the conditions therein involved. Payment by results or piece-work to be introduced where practicable and the payment to be so arranged that the sum which able-bodied laborers can ordinarily be expected to earn shall be as nearly as possible equal to the "full wage."	75 per cent. of a full day's ordinary work.	The maximum wage.	Laborers of classes I to III will, as a rule, be employed on task work, but piece-work gangs may be formed for able-bodied and skilful laborers if they prefer it. The rates per piece-work shall be so fixed that the laborers may be able to earn slightly more than the maximum wages.	75 per cent. of ditto.	2nd class ..	
III.	Able-bodied persons not accustomed to labour.	All others who, though not fit for classes I and II, are yet able to do 50 per cent. of a full day's work of class I.	The same as in Bombay, save that the task to be performed is from 50 to 75 per cent. of a full day's work of class I.		50 per cent. of a full day's ordinary work.			50 to 75 per cent. of ditto.	3rd class ..	
IV.	Persons not able-bodied but fit for light employment on Civil Agency works.	The aged, decrepit and others whose incapacity is not a temporary one due to famine. These are not liable to be transferred to a higher class as they are not capable of improvement in strength.	A separate class for weakly women, children or other members of the families belonging to the foregoing classes whom it is indispensable to keep together with their male relations, but who are not able to perform the prescribed tasks without suffering, who, it is provided, "may be given some light employment and paid the wages of class III."	*Task.*—Persons unaccustomed to labour, or weakly persons, shall as far as possible be separated from able-bodied laborers accustomed to labour and provided with suitable work, a task being given, but remuneration not to be greater than 75 per cent. of full wage (75 per cent. for men = 1·69 lb.) not less than the minimum wage.	None.	Minimum ..	Laborers of classes IV and V, if able, will perform light labour fitted to their strength and capacity. To them neither piece nor task work will be assigned.	....		....
V.	....	Laborers of classes I to III temporarily incapacitated through slight illness from performing their usual work yet not fit for hospital, and convalescents from hospitals or poor-houses and all others whose powers have been much reduced by want or illness.				Maximum ..			Do.	

5. Class I, called in the Provisional Code class A, is, it will be seen, the same under the Provisional Code and under the Bombay and Madras Codes. It includes all able-bodied persons of the kind required on the works of the Public Works Department.

There is also a common classification under all the three Codes for the weaker laborers, those, that is to say, who are not able-bodied, but who are fit for light employment. These are placed by the Provisional Code in its class IV, *i.e.*, class D. The Madras Code also classes them separately, but its Code gives no special number to the class though it allots to them the class III wage. They are the weakly gangs shown against class IV in the statement.

If the Madras classification is retained, this class should be called class IV.

The Bombay Code divides these weakly laborers into two classes. Those who are only temporarily incapacitated by weakness it places in its class V, while those who are aged and decrepit and therefore permanently incapacitated, it places in its class IV. The object of the difference in classification is to provide for the grant to class V of a slightly higher wage than to class IV on the ground that the increased wage is necessary to bring the temporarily indisposed into a condition to labour.

6. The classification under the three codes, so far as has been noted above, shows no material differences. In the classification of the second and third classes however the Provisional Code proceeds on principles distinct from those followed in the Bombay and Madras Codes.

In the Provisional Code, the second class (class B) contains all able-bodied persons accustomed to labour, but not to labour of the kind required on Public Works Department works, all laborers, that is to say, with the exception of class A laborers, while the third class (class C) contains all able-bodied persons who are not accustomed to labour. In the Bombay and Madras Codes, class II comprises all able-bodied persons capable of doing 75 per cent. of the full day's task required from class I, and class III all able-bodied laborers able to do 50 per cent. of the full day's task required from class I. Classes II and III of the Bombay and Madras Codes are therefore co-extensive with the second and third classes (classes B and C) of the Provisional Code, though the line of division between them is different.

There seems no special reason for modifying the Madras or Bombay classifications in view to showing separately those unaccustomed to labour. An able-bodied man, however unaccustomed to labour, can always do a class III task and would probably be given a class III or 50 per cent. task even under the Provisional Code. His restriction, moreover, to the full wage, while all other laborers are allowed to earn a little over it, seems invidious and is really unnecessary where labour is fairly tasked. If unable to do anything over the task of the class, he will earn nothing over the standard wage and should get nothing over it under any system of classification; if, however, he actually does work in excess of the task, or rather if his gang does, for any attempt to deal with individuals is absolutely out of the question where large bodies of men have to be dealt with, it seems illiberal to refuse him the slightly increased wage.

7. The object of the classification of laborers, if it be the determination of suitable tasks for each class, is better attained by the Bombay and Madras classifications than in that of the Government of India Provisional Code, inasmuch as in the former codes the classification is based on the ability to do a particular task.

The Madras and Bombay classification, it may be further observed, is that recommended by the Secretary to the Famine Commissioners, in the draft Code circulated in 1880. It is also the classification adopted in the Famine Code recommended for adoption in Native States.

8. In practice it should be stated that it has been found very difficult to enforce any classification of laborers, owing to the unwillingness of families to be separated. Very few laborers of class I have resorted to the works. The present distress has not been severe enough to touch that class, and the digging of wells, which has been so greatly furthered by State loans, has tended to throw an unusually large amount of lucrative employment into their hands. Those resorting to the works have been laborers of classes II and III and weakly laborers who, under ordinary circumstances, would have formed a separate class of weakly gangs. The disinclination of the weaker

members of the families, the nursing mothers, the young children, and the old to separation from their able-bodied relatives has resulted in their being all ganged and classed together. All gangs have been given the class III task and where the task was executed, the class III pay; but they have been allowed for a proportionate increase of work to earn a proportionate increase of pay. It happens, therefore, that several class III gangs have earned class II pay, or have earned rates of pay between class III and II rates. An arbitrary division of the people into classes even where it involves separation among families is of course defensible when its object is to adjust the task to the individual, but it is unpopular, and where fair work can be obtained from gangs where the strong and the weakly are mixed up, it seems unnecessary to forcibly separate the weakly from the strong. It is always possible even now to adjust the task to meet the composition of the gang, and if the proposals to be hereafter made for reducing the wages of classes II and III to a sum very slightly in excess of the class III wage are approved, there will be the less difficulty inasmuch as the imposition of a perhaps too lenient task will not enable the gang to earn the largely increased sum it could now earn where for a double task, a double (or nearly double) rate of pay is admissible.

The question as to the best principle of classifying laborers will be reverted to when the rates of wages appropriate to the different classes as they at present stand, has been discussed.

9. The remarks of the Government of India quoted in paragraph 3 above that, prices being the same, there should be no essential difference at any time between the famine wage of one province and the famine wage of another, must meet with general assent. The value of the famine wage of this Presidency, when converted into grain, has varied very largely during the past 18 months owing to the great rise in prices which has occurred, and the class I wage of a man, which at the beginning of the distress, when prices in Chingleput were 20 seers of grain per rupee, would purchase 5·40 lb., will now in Nellore, where prices are 12½ seers per rupee, purchase only 3·93 lb. Similarly, the class III wage of a man, which at 20 seers per rupee would purchase 3·20 lb., will, with prices at 12½ seers per rupee, purchase only 2·46 lb. The great variation in the purchasing power of the famine wage in Madras is due of course to the fact that so large a portion is fixed in money. The money portion of the wage is intended for the purchase of condiments, but the Commissioner considers that, not only in the case of the class I wage where it is 1½ anna but in the case of the class III wage where it is three-quarters of an anna, the amount is considerably in excess of the amount usually spent on condiments. The bulk of the wage is always spent on grain. This being so and assuming that a sum of 6 pies will purchase all the condiments necessary—the usual cost in kitchens is about 3 to 4 pies—the laborer when prices are approaching famine rates is not benefited, but on the contrary seriously prejudiced by having an unnecessarily large part of his ration reckoned in money. His class III wage, which at 20 seers per rupee gave him 3·20 lb., will, at 6 seers per rupee (and in the last famine the prices in Kurnool were as high as 4 seers per rupee), give him only 1·83 lb. At 12 seers per rupee it will give him less than 2½ lb.

10. In the Draft Famine Code drawn up by the Secretary to the Famine Commissioners the wages proposed were as follows, for laborers corresponding to classes II and III of the Madras Code. Laborers in class I should, it was intended, be paid at the normal rates for piece-work:—

	Class II.	Class III.
Men	1½ lb. flour + ½ anna	1½ lb. + ½ anna.
Women	1¼ ,, ,, + ½ ,,	1 ,, + ¼ ,,
Children	¾ ,, ,, + ¼ ,,	½ ,, + ¼ ,,

The proposed scale of wages was referred by the Madras Government for the opinion of Dr. Cornish, the Surgeon-General, and his opinion, which is recorded in G.O., dated 13th August 1881, Nos. 1188-1189, Revenue, was that the scales of grain wages proposed appeared to be generally sufficient, but that it was very doubtful whether the money rates attached to the several scales would be sufficient in famine times to purchase the pulse, condiments, salt and vegetables which would be essential to the support of the laborers. The rate of money allowance, he thought, for the usual

adjuncts of a grain dietary would have to be considered in reference to ruling prices in each district or locality in which famine might appear. He added "besides the grain allowance, a working adult man in famine times would require at the least 4 ounces of pulse, ½ an ounce of salt, ½ an ounce of pepper or condiment, 1 ounce of ghee or oil and a daily *modicum* of green herbs or vegetables with corresponding quantities for women and children."

11. In the Famine Code for the Madras Presidency which was drawn up by a Committee on which Dr. Cornish sat, the wages finally proposed for classes I, II and III were as follows:—

—	I class.	II class.	III class.
Men	1½ lb. grain + 1½ annas	1½ lb. + 1 anna.	
Women	1½ lb. .. + 1 anna.	1½ lb. + ½ ..	
Children	½ lb. .. + ½ ..	½ lb. + ½ ..	

12. The Code was sanctioned by the Government of India in its letter to Government, dated 11th June 1883, No. 91-F, but Government was requested to reconsider the famine wage. It seemed, the Government of India observed, that the fixed money portion of the Madras scale somewhat exceeded the margin which the Famine Commission recommended for the purpose of condiments, firewood, &c., and that there was a fear lest the wage should prove unduly attractive. The question of the wage was forwarded to Dr. Cornish for his opinion, which is recorded in his letter printed in G.O., dated 18th August 1883, No. 1006, Revenue. "The Committee," he reported, "which drew up the Madras Famine Code, felt that it was impossible to put an actual money value on those necessaries of life which are not named as a part of the daily ration, inasmuch as prices would fluctuate with the severity of scarcity, but they had all experienced that in the late famine the money allowance was too small." In replying to the Government of India, Government observed in its order referred to above—

"According to the Provisional Code, the wage is to be a sum of money capable at current prices of purchasing the rations therein prescribed, and the *rates* of wage are to be altered every time there is a fluctuation of not less than 10 per cent. in prices. The Madras Code Committee considered it desirable to fix the equivalent of condiments in money once for all, in view to leaving as little room for peculation as possible and avoiding frequent changes in the rates of wage and consequent uncertainty. Surgeon-General Cornish, whose opinion, owing to his wide experience of the late famine in Madras, is entitled to great weight, strongly deprecates any reduction of the rate recommended by the Committee. The bulk of the famine laborers will come under the II and III classes, and the wage fixed for them is by no means in excess of that prescribed in the Provisional Code. The slightly higher rate allowed in the case of the I class laborers is intended to leave them a small margin for the maintenance of temporarily disabled relatives who cannot be safely separated from them and is also fixed in consideration of the fact that a full task is exacted from them. There is certainly, in the opinion of His Excellency in Council, no reason to apprehend that the proposed famine wage will prove unduly attractive or will induce the agricultural population to cling to the relief-works after the advent of rain makes cultivation possible. The Government accordingly resolve to adhere to the rates provided in the draft code."

13. The rates in the Provisional Code, it should be observed, differed somewhat from those proposed in the draft code drawn up by the Secretary to the Famine Commissioners and were as under :—

—	Classes II and III.		
	Man.	Woman.	Child.
	lb. oz.	lb. oz.	
Flour	1 8	1 4	½, ¼ and ⅛ rations according to age and requirements.
Pulse	0 4	0 4	
Salt	0 ½	0 ½	
Ghee or oil	0 ½	0 ½	
Condiments and vegetables	0 1	0 1	

14. In the Bombay Presidency, the wages in which are compared by the Government of India with those allowed in this Presidency, the famine ration is the equivalent in money of a fixed grain ration, and in view of the difficulty pointed out by Dr. Cornish to have been felt by the Madras Famine Code Committee in putting an actual money value on the part of the ration other than grain, the Commissioner considers that the plan adopted in Bombay of giving to the laborers, in lieu of a fixed sum of money, the equivalent of a certain additional amount of grain, has many advantages. It has, as compared with the system adopted in Madras, decided advantages to the laborers when prices are high, the additional one lb. of grain allowed to the class III laboring man in Bombay, as compared with the portion of the Madras wage calculated in grain being of more value than the Madras fixed money allowance of ¾ anna in all cases where grain is dearer than 10½ seers per rupee. If, as the Commissioner would propose, the quantity representing the full grain ration for Madras be fixed at not less than 2½ lb., the ration so calculated will be better than the present Madras class III ration for a man in all cases where prices are higher than 13 seers per rupee. At 13 seers per rupee the rations would be about equal.

In the case of female laborers of class III, the Bombay wage of 2 lb. of grain is equal to the Madras wage when prices are at 13½ seers, and better than the Madras wage in all cases where prices are higher. With prices at 6 seers per rupee the Bombay wage gives 2 lb. instead of 1·51 lb. admissible under the Madras Code.

In the case of children the Bombay Code gives two rates according to age, size and condition of children, one being 1¾ lb. and the other 1½ lb. The former rate is, for children in class III, better than the Madras rate at all prices likely to be ruling in times of distress, the second is about equal to the Madras rate when prices are at 13 seers per rupee and better whenever prices are higher. When prices are at 6 seers per rupee, the Madras rate is only 0·92 lb.

In the case of class II laborers, by which the Commissioner would understand not those only who may be entered in class II but all those, however classed, who may, on any particular occasion, do the class II task, a wage at 2½ lb. per man is less than that admissible under the Madras Code in all cases where the prices are cheaper than 8 seers per rupee, and more when they are higher.

A ration of 2¾ lb. is less than is admissible now for class II in all cases where grain is cheaper than 9½ seers per rupee. A ration of 3 lb. is about equivalent to the present class II wage when prices are at 11½ seers per rupee.

15. The prices of staple grains in the affected tracts have, during the past five months, ranged between 12½ and 15½ seers per rupee, and the II and III class wages for men, women and children estimated wholly in grain, have ranged as shown below :—

Men.		Women.		Children.	
Class II.	Class III.	Class II.	Class III.	Class II.	Class III.
lb. 3·12 to 3·51	lb. 2·46 to 2·75	lb. 2·56 to 2·79	lb. 1·34 to 2·13	lb. 1·56 to 1·76	lb. 1·24 to 1·38

The Commissioner has had every reason to be satisfied that the rates earned, which on the average have not, among the great bulk of the laborers, exceeded the class III wage, have been sufficient not only for the laborers themselves but also for the children of their families below the age of 7 years, for the number of these children which have resorted to the kitchens is quite insignificant. The introduction of a wage of the money equivalent of 2½ lb. for a man, 2 lb. for a woman and 1¾ to 1¼ lb. for a child would, except in the case of children, mean in some cases a slight reduction in the wages now being earned, and in some cases a slight increase, but, bearing in mind the benefit to the laborer from the revised scale should prices rise materially higher than they are at present and having regard also to the undesirableness of holding out a higher wage than that now earned should prices fall, the Commissioner would recommend the adoption of a fixed standard wage of 2½ lb. for a man, 2 lb. for a woman

and 1½ or 1¼ lb. (according to age) for a child. This ration is the same as that in force in Bombay with the exception that the man's is ½ lb. higher. Laborers in classes I and II might be allowed to earn up to 3 lb. per man and 2½ lb. per woman, those in class III being allowed to earn up to 2¾ lb. per man and 2¼ lb. per woman. No increase seems necessary to the children's wage. The slight addition of ½ lb. to the man's ration is proposed by the Commissioner under the impression that the Bombay ration for a man (2½ lb.) as compared with that for a woman (2 lb.) is somewhat low, and further because it compares somewhat unfavorably with the present Madras class III wage, which the Commissioner considers is at present prices, not too high.

16. A set of tables is appended showing the wages under the Madras and Bombay Codes estimated wholly in grain and wholly in money for all prices ranging between 6 seers and 20 seers per rupee, as also a statement showing the value of the Temple wage estimated wholly in grain and wholly in money. As during the year 1877 prices varied between 4 seers per rupee and 10 seers per rupee, it will be seen that the Bombay ration will give a wage far larger than any paid during the height of the last famine.

17. Apart from the question as to the manner in which the wage shall be calculated so that its purchasing power in actual food shall vary as little as possible with the rise and fall of prices, is the question whether there should be any very material difference between the class I wage of a laborer of the class who ordinarily works under the Public Works Department, and that of a man of class III under the Bombay and Madras Codes who does a day's work, but a day's work largely below that of the first-class laborer. The Madras Code goes on the principle that up to the limit of the class I wage the man who does the full task, for an able-bodied man, should receive double the wage of him who as a class III man does only 50 per cent. of the full able-bodied task. The Commissioner considers that the determination at which the Government of India has arrived that the wage of the class I laborer shall be limited to a sum sufficient to maintain himself with a slight margin is the correct one. In that case it will exceed the third-class wage by a trifle only. Having every reason to believe that the third-class wage is sufficient to keep laborers in health and strength, it has always appeared to the Commissioner that the class I wage was excessive. From the quotations made in paragraph 12 above from the letter of the Madras Government it will be seen that it was never contemplated that the numbers in class I would ever be large. It may at the same time, however, be noted that as the Code requires that for the class I wage, which at 13½ seers per rupee is only As. 2–4 per day, a task double the class III rate and equivalent to the full day's work of an able-bodied laborer shall be done, the numbers who earn the class I rate are generally small. With reference to the remarks of the Government of India, in paragraph 2 of its letter to Government, dated 17th March, that class I of section 19 could, if the views of many authorities are accepted, be made to include the bulk of the agricultural population who are said to be accustomed in the prosecution of the ordinary business of their life to manual labour of the kind required at works where digging and carrying earth is the chief employment offered, it may be admitted that the fact is so, but, as the task for class I gangs is based on the work that would be performed by people actually accustomed to the particular work, any inefficiency on the part of those included in the class would lead to a corresponding decrease in the wage earned, and any error in classification would thus correct itself.

18. While considering that it is contrary to the principles of famine administration laid down by the Famine Commission that class I laborers should be permitted to earn wages so largely in excess of what is sufficient for the purpose of their maintenance, the Commissioner considers that, with the reduction in the class I wage, there should be a reduction in the class I task. A task at 75 per cent. of the working powers would with the reduced wage, be quite sufficient to deter any but the really needy from resorting to the works, and with the reduced task the reduced wage would doubtless be found adequate.

19. A reduction in the class I wage would of course necessitate a reduction in the class II wage. The class III wage, supposing the existing classification in Madras to be continued, would be the standard wage representing a sum sufficient to keep in health and strength a laborer doing 50 per cent. of the work that would be turned out

by an ordinary laborer of the Public Works Department in ordinary times. With so slight a margin allowable over the class III wage proposed in paragraph 15 above, for laborers doing a task in excess of the class III task, a margin limited to half a pound of flour or one-fifth of the standard wage, it is perhaps doubtful whether there need be more than one class above the present III. The Commissioner would do away with the present class I and would have but three classes of laborers on the work. Class I—All able-bodied laborers capable of doing 75 per cent. of a full task and to be paid for doing that task 2½ lb., 2 lb., and 1½ to 1¼ lb. for each man, woman and child, but with liberty to earn a further ½ lb. each per man and woman for a full day's ordinary work of a Public Works Department laborer. Class II—Laborers capable of doing 50 per cent. of the full task to be paid the same standard wage as those in class I, but to be allowed to earn up to 2¾ lb. for a man and 2¼ lb. for a woman for performing a task equal to 50 per cent. of the full day's ordinary work of a Public Works Department laborer. Class III would be formed of the weakly gangs to whom the standard wage would be paid. They should be given a light task, one which they are capable of performing with a reasonable amount of exertion, but their performance of this light task should be insisted on. They would not be in a position to earn anything above the standard wage.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government Revenue Department.
Copy to all Collectors.

APPENDIX A.

Prices of grain ruling.	Wages estimated wholly in cash.				Wages estimated wholly in grain.				
	Madras.			Bombay.	Madras.				Bombay.
	Class I. 1¼ lb. + 1½ annas.	Class II. 1¼ lb. + 1 anna.	Class III. 1¼ lb. + ½ anna.	All classes. 2½ lb.	Class I. 1¼ lb. + 1½ annas.	Class II. 1¼ lb. + 1 anna.	Class III. 1¼ lb. + ½ anna.		All classes.
	A. P.	A. P.	A. P.		Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	
6 seers a rupee ..	2 6	2 11	3 4	2 10	2·67	2·28	1·83		
6½ do.	2 3	2 8	3 1	2 8	2·75	2·34	1·88		
7 do.	2 2	2 6	2 11	2 6	2·86	2·40	1·93		
7½ do.	2 0	2 4	2 8	2 4	2·96	2·47	1·98		
8 do.	1 11	2 3	2 6	2 2	3·05	2·56	2·03		
8½ do.	1 10	2 1	2 4	2 0	3·14	2·61	2·08		
9 do.	1 9	1 11	2 3	1 10	3·23	2·67	2·12		
9½ do.	1 8	1 10	2 1	1 8	3·33	2·70	2·17		
10 do.	1 7	1 9	2 0	1 6	3·42	2·80	2·22		
10½ do.	1 6	1 8	1 11	1 4	3·51	2·86	2·27		
11 do.	1 5	1 7	1 10	1 2	3·60	2·92	2·31		
11½ do.	1 4	1 6	1 9	1 0	3·69	2·99	2·37		
12 do.	1 3	1 5	1 8	0 14	3·78	3·06	2·42		
12½ do.	1 2	1 4	1 7	0 12	3·84	3·12	2·46		
13 do.	1 1	1 3	1 6	0 10	3·93	3·18	2·51	2·25	
13½ do.	1 0	1 2	1 5	0 8	4·03	3·25	2·56		
14 do.	0 15	1 1	1 4	0 6	4·13	3·31	2·61		
14½ do.	0 14	1 0	1 3	0 4	4·22	3·38	2·66		
15 do.	0 13	0 15	1 2	0 2	4·32	3·45	2·71		
15½ do.	0 12	0 14	1 1	0 0	4·42	3·51	2·75		
16 do.	0 11	0 13	1 0	0 0	4·51	3·58	2·81		
16½ do.	0 10	0 12	0 15	0 0	4·62	3·64	2·85		
17 do.	0 9	0 11	0 14	0 0	4·71	3·71	2·90		
17½ do.	0 8	0 10	0 13	0 0	4·81	3·77	2·95		
18 do.	0 7	0 9	0 12	0 0	4·91	3·84	3·00		
18½ do.	0 6	0 8	0 11	0 0	5·01	3·90	3·05		
19 do.	0 5	0 7	0 10	0 0	5·10	3·96	3·10		
19½ do.	0 4	0 6	0 9	0 0	5·20	4·03	3·15		
20 do.	0 3	0 5	0 8	0 0	5·30	4·10	3·20		

APPENDIX B.

Prices of grain ruling.	Wages estimated wholly in cash.				Wages estimated wholly in grain.			
	Madras.			Bombay.	Madras.			Bombay.
	Class I, 1½ lb. + 1 anna.	Class II, 1½ lb. + ½ anna.	Class III, 1½ lb. + ½ anna.	All classes. 2 lb.	Class I, 1½ lb. + ½ anna.	Class II, 1½ lb. + ½ anna.	Class III, 1½ lb. + ½ anna.	All classes.
	Women.							
	A. P.	A. P.	A. P.	A. P.	LB.	LB.	LB.	LB.
5 seers a rupee	2 7	2 4	1 11	2 7	2·03	1·83	1·61	
5½ do.	2 6	2 3	1 10	2 4	2·10	1·88	1·55	
6 do.	2 4	2 1	1 9	2 2	2·16	1·93	1·58	
6½ do.	2 3	2 0	1 8	2 1	2·23	1·98	1·61	
7 do.	2 2	1 11	1 7	1 11	2·29	2·03	1·65	
7½ do.	2 2	1 11	1 6	1 10	2·36	2·08	1·68	
8 do.	2 1	1 10	1 6	1 8	2·42	2·12	1·71	
8½ do.	2 0	1 9	1 5	1 7	2·49	2·17	1·74	
9 do.	2 0	1 9	1 4	1 6	2·55	2·22	1·78	
9½ do.	1 11	1 8	1 4	1 6	2·62	2·27	1·81	
10 do.	1 10	1 7	1 3	1 5	2·68	2·33	1·85	
10½ do.	1 10	1 7	1 3	1 4	2·75	2·37	1·87	
11 do.	1 10	1 7	1 3	1 3	2·81	2·42	1·91	
11½ do.	1 9	1 6	1 2	1 3	2·88	2·46	1·94	
12 do.	1 9	1 6	1 2	1 2	2·94	2·51	1·97	
12½ do.	1 9	1 6	1 2	1 2	3·01	2·56	2·00	
13 do.	1 8	1 5	1 1	1 1	3·07	2·61	2·04	
13½ do.	1 8	1 5	1 1	1 1	3·14	2·66	2·07	
14 do.	1 8	1 5	1 1	1 1	3·20	2·71	2·13	
14½ do.	1 7	1 4	1 1	1 0	3·27	2·79	2·18	
15 do.	1 7	1 4	1 0	1 0	3·33	2·83	2·17	
15½ do.	1 7	1 4	1 0	1 0	3·40	2·86	2·29	
16 do.	1 7	1 4	1 0	0 11	3·46	2·90	2·23	
16½ do.	1 7	1 4	1 0	0 11	3·53	2·95	2·26	
17 do.	1 6	1 3	1 0	0 10	3·59	3·00	2·30	
17½ do.	1 6	1 3	1 0	0 10	3·66	3·05	2·33	
18 do.	1 6	1 3	0 11	0 10	3·72	3·10	2·36	
18½ do.	1 6	1 3	0 11	0 9	3·79	3·15	2·39	
19 do.	1 6	1 3	0 11	0 9	3·85	3·20	2·42	

APPENDIX C.

Prices of grain ruling.	Wages estimated wholly in cash.				Wages estimated wholly in grain.			
	Madras.			Bombay.	Madras.			Bombay.
	Class I, ½ lb. + 1 anna.	Class II, ½ lb. + ½ anna.	Class III, ½ lb. + ½ anna.	All classes 1½ lb.	Class I, ½ lb. + ½ anna.	Class II, ½ lb. + ½ anna.	Class III, ½ lb. + ½ anna.	All classes.
	Children.							
	A. P.	A. P.	A. P.	A. P.	LB.	LB.	LB.	LB.
6 seers a rupee	1 0	1 6	1 2	1 7	1·34	1·14	0·92	
6½ do.	1 8	1 5	1 1	1 6	1·38	1·17	0·94	
7 do.	1 7	1 4	1 1	1 4	1·43	1·21	0·97	
7½ do.	1 6	1 3	1 0	1 3	1·48	1·24	0·99	
8 do.	1 6	1 3	1 0	1 2	1·53	1·27	1·02	
8½ do.	1 5	1 2	0 11	1 2	1·58	1·30	1·04	
9 do.	1 5	1 2	0 11	1 1	1·63	1·34	1·06	
9½ do.	1 4	1 1	0 11	1 0	1·68	1·37	1·09	
10 do.	1 4	1 1	0 10	1 0	1·73	1·40	1·11	
10½ do.	1 4	1 1	0 10	0 11	1·78	1·43	1·14	
11 do.	1 3	1 0	0 10	0 11	1·82	1·47	1·16	
11½ do.	1 3	1 0	0 10	0 10	1·87	1·50	1·19	
12 do.	1 3	1 0	0 9	0 10	1·92	1·53	1·21	
12½ do.	1 3	1 0	0 9	0 9	1·97	1·56	1·24	
13 do.	1 2	0 11	0 9	0 9	2·02	1·60	1·26	1·25
13½ do.	1 2	0 11	0 9	0 9	2·07	1·63	1·28	
14 do.	1 2	0 11	0 9	0 8	2·12	1·66	1·31	
14½ do.	1 2	0 11	0 8	0 8	2·17	1·69	1·33	
15 do.	1 2	0 11	0 8	0 8	2·21	1·73	1·36	
15½ do.	1 1	0 10	0 8	0 7	2·26	1·76	1·38	
16 do.	1 1	0 10	0 8	0 7	2·31	1·79	1·41	
16½ do.	1 1	0 10	0 8	0 7	2·36	1·82	1·43	
17 do.	1 1	0 10	0 8	0 7	2·41	1·86	1·46	
17½ do.	1 1	0 10	0 8	0 7	2·46	1·89	1·48	
18 do.	1 1	0 10	0 8	0 6	2·51	1·92	1·50	
18½ do.	1 1	0 10	0 8	0 6	2·56	1·95	1·53	
19 do.	1 1	0 10	0 8	0 6	2·61	1·99	1·55	
19½ do.	1 1	0 10	0 7	0 6	2·65	2·02	1·58	
20 do.	1 0	0 9	0 7	0 6	2·70	2·05	1·60	

APPENDIX D.

TEMPLE wage—Last famine.

Prices of grain ruling.	Wages estimated wholly in cash.		Wages estimated wholly in grain.	
	Class I.	Class II.	Class I.	Class II.
Man.	1 lb.+1 anna.	1 lb.+½ anna.	1 lb.+1 anna.	1 lb.+½ anna.
	As. P.	As. P.	lb.	lb.
6 seers a rupee ..	2 3	1 9	1·73	1·39
6½ do. ..	2 2	1 8	1·83	1·43
7 do. ..	2 1	1 7	1·91	1·45
7½ do. ..	2 0	1 6	1·95	1·49
8 do. ..	2 0	1 6	2·04	1·52
8½ do. ..	1 11	1 5	2·11	1·56
9 do. ..	1 10	1 4	2·17	1·59
9½ do. ..	1 10	1 4	2·24	1·62
10 do. ..	1 9	1 3	2·30	1·65
10½ do. ..	1 9	1 3	2·37	1·68
11 do. ..	1 8	1 2	2·45	1·72
11½ do. ..	1 8	1 2	2·50	1·75
12 do. ..	1 8	1 2	2·56	1·78
Woman.	1 lb.+¾ anna.	1 lb.+½ anna.	1 lb.+¾ anna.	1 lb.+½ anna.
6 seers a rupee ..	1 9	1 6	1·20	1·20
6½ do. ..	1 8	1 5	1·43	1·23
7 do. ..	1 7	1 4	1·46	1·23
7½ do. ..	1 6	1 3	1·49	1·24
8 do. ..	1 6	1 3	1·52	1·26
8½ do. ..	1 5	1 2	1·56	1·28
9 do. ..	1 4	1 1	1·59	1·30
9½ do. ..	1 4	1 1	1·62	1·31
10 do. ..	1 3	1 0	1·65	1·32
10½ do. ..	1 3	1 0	1·68	1·34
11 do. ..	1 2	0 11	1·72	1·36
11½ do. ..	1 2	0 11	1·75	1·37
12 do. ..	1 2	0 11	1·78	1·39
Child.	½ lb.+¾ anna.	½ lb.+½ anna.	½ lb.+¾ anna.	½ lb.+½ anna.
6 seers a rupee ..	1 2	0 11	·89	·70
6½ do. ..	1 1	0 10	·93	·71
7 do. ..	1 1	0 10	·96	·72
7½ do. ..	1 0	0 9	·99	·74
8 do. ..	1 0	0 9	1·02	·76
8½ do. ..	1 0	0 9	1·06	·78
9 do. ..	0 11	0 8	1·09	·79
9½ do. ..	0 11	0 8	1·12	·81
10 do. ..	0 11	0 8	1·15	·82
10½ do. ..	0 11	0 8	1·18	·84
11 do. ..	0 10	0 7	1·22	·86
11½ do. ..	0 10	0 7	1·25	·87
12 do. ..	0 10	0 7	1·28	·89

No. 138.

OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM.

Adverting to the Commissioner's Proceedings, dated 27th May 1892, No. 396, regarding the wages and classification of famine labourers, the undersigned is directed to request that the Commissioner will, with the least possible delay, report with reference to the following remarks :—

(1) It is observed that while under the system now in force every one who applies is taken on and gangs are formed in which it is provided that families work together and the gang is paid by the amount of work it turns out according as such work is above or below the standard for the third-class wage, *i.e.*, 50 per cent. of a full day's task, under the system now proposed class I gang will consist of persons capable of turning out 75 per cent. of a full day's task, and, accordingly, it will be left to the supervisor of any particular work to which coolies come for relief to select certain men and say to them "you are in my opinion capable of turning out 75 per cent.; you must go with your families to class I, and to earn the same as the coolies in other classes, you must do 50 per cent. more work than they do; but if you like to do twice as much as they do, you will be able to earn ½ lb. more grain (or flour). This selection is an innovation in this Presidency and it is doubtful how it would work.

(2) Then, supposing this selected gang only turned out 50 per cent., is it proposed to fine them? Apparently not; so that they would soon drop down to the others and do 50 per cent. of a full day's task, as it is not likely that the chance of earning only ½ lb. more grain would tempt them to do twice as much work as any body else.

(3) Moreover, this selection would seem to apply only to able-bodied labourers accustomed to labour of the kind required on Public Works Department works and it is doubtful if their families who are to work with them are any stronger than the families of other men (Wuddars, of course, excepted).

(4) In order that the standard wage proposed by the Commissioner may not appear too liberal, he is requested to report how much *in grain* the gangs at Márkápur were earning during the time they were on subsistence allowance. Those gangs showed the most marked symptoms of deterioration while on this pay and a reference to their condition will be a strong argument for the scale proposed by the Commissioner.

(5) It is presumed that the intention is that the scale proposed as the minimum should also be given as the ordinary Sunday dole.

(6) The Commissioner says nothing about fining for short work. It is presumed that this must be provided for as experience shows that if coolies can earn a certain sum whatever the work turned out, they end in practically doing nothing.

(7) It is presumed that the standard ration for each district will be determined with reference to the grain which forms the common staple food-grain of the district and that the standard wage will be the price of a quantity of raw grain which when husked or ground into flour in the case of ragi will give the standard weights proposed.

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Secretary to Government.

5th July 1892.

To the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture.

No. 6076.

MEMORANDUM.

The Commissioner regrets that his absence in camp and the fact that he has had to spend the past few days until yesterday away from his office has prevented his replying earlier to the official memorandum from Government, No. 138, Revenue, dated 5th instant.

2. With reference to clause (1) of the memorandum, the Commissioner observes that the practice described as being in force in this Presidency is not the practice prescribed in the Madras Code and is at present followed invariably only on works under the control of the Civil Department, though the practice has also been adopted by Public Works officers working in the Cumbum and Márkápur taluks of Kurnool and in the sub-division of Cuddapah.

Under other Public Works officers, *e.g.*, under the officer in charge of the Sagilér project and the officer in charge of the works in the Punganúr zemindari, gangs have generally been classed as class I or class II, and it may be assumed that they are turning out tasks in proportion to the wages they are drawing.

It is, as Government implies, somewhat anomalous that selected gangs should be required to turn out a task equal to 75 per cent. of the full day's work of an able-bodied gang of ordinary Public Works laborers for a wage which does not exceed that paid to other gangs, who do a task equal only to 50 per cent. of the same full day's work standard; and that for work equal to twice the amount of that performed by the 50 per cent. gangs, they should be allowed a sum equal only to the equivalent of ½ lb. of grain or one-fifth in excess of the wage of the 50 per cent. gang; but under a code which requires the labourer to be tasked in accordance with his powers but which limits his wage to a sum sufficient to provide food for his support, anomalies are necessary. The requirement of a full day's work and the limitation of wage both seem to the Commissioner to be just and, in the interests of economical administration, to be absolutely necessary.

3. To the question in clause (2) as to whether it is the intention to fine gangs which do less than their task, the Commissioner would reply in the affirmative. Fining for short work is absolutely necessary, if any task is to be enforced at all. The tasks must be carefully fixed, and the effects of fining anxiously watched, but so long as tasks are fairly fixed and the labourers continue in good health and condition, there is no hardship in requiring the latter to do a reasonable day's task. The weakly gang and the light task are the refuge for those who for any reason fall out of the race.

There will occur always in serious famines times when on particular works or in particular tracts the people lose heart and when fining becomes mere cruelty and must be forbidden, and the power to limit or altogether to stop fining on particular works, where the condition of the labourers is deteriorating, must always lie with the responsible officer in charge of the work; but to prohibit fining altogether is to utterly demoralise the laborers and to cover the country with idlers. Fining has been everywhere inflicted for short work during the present period of distress, and the Commissioner is satisfied that, notwithstanding, the condition of the coolies has been everywhere satisfactorily maintained. Without the exaction of task work enforced by the infliction of fines for short work, the Commissioner is satisfied that the numbers on works, large as they have been during the past few months, would have been enormously increased.

The large increase in the numbers on relief works in the Podili division of the Nellore district, which the Commissioner has recently visited, where the numbers rose from 7,187 in the last week in May to 18,653 in the last week in June was, the Commissioner found, largely due to the failure to exact a proper task. But indeed without fining it would, as Government implies, be impossible to exact any task, and a gang would be paid a first-class wage, not because it did a class I task, but solely because it was classed as able to do it. The competition to enter a class I gang would, under these circumstances, be considerable.

4. Under the system of classification proposed in paragraph 19 of Board's Proceedings, dated 27th May 1892, No. 396, it was not intended that class I should be

confined to able-bodied laborers accustomed to labour of the kind required on Department of Public Works works, but that all persons capable of doing 75 per cent. of the work of such laborers should be admitted into the class.

The Commissioner regrets that no reference was made in Board's Proceedings, above alluded to, to the wage for Sunday. He would accept for the Sunday dole in this Presidency the allowances granted in Bombay which are shown below:—

For a man or nursing mother	1½ lb. flour.
For a woman	1¼ „ „
For child (1)	1 „ „
Do. (2)	½ „ „

5. In clause (4) of the memorandum Government desires information as to the amount in grain, which the gangs at Márkápur were earning during the time they were on subsistence allowance. These gangs, as observed by Government, showed the most marked symptoms of deterioration while on this pay, and a reference to their condition will be a strong argument for the scale proposed in the Proceedings of the Board already referred to. The rates of subsistence allowance in force at the period referred to were As. 1–5 for a man or nursing mother, As. 1–2 for a woman and As. 0–10 for a child, equivalent in ragi flour at the prices then ruling to 1·89 lb. for a man or nursing mother, 1·56 lb. for a woman and 1·11 for a child. The wages of the Bombay Code and the standard wages proposed for Madras by the Commissioner are considerably in excess of these figures, but the wages earned at Márkápur were clearly at the time insufficient, and it is, moreover, necessary, when fining is to be enforced, that the class III wage should be well above the amount absolutely necessary to sustain a laborer in condition: otherwise fining would be impossible, and without fining it is impossible to restrict relief to those who are really in need.

6. The presumption in paragraph 7 of the official memorandum, that the standard ration for each district will be determined with reference to the grain which forms the common staple food-grain of the district, and that the standard wage will be the price of a quantity of raw grain which, when husked or ground into flour in the case of ragi, will give the standard weights proposed, is correct.

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

15*th July* 1892.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

READ—also the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 2nd August 1892, No. 547:—

MR. CLOGSTOUN.

Read—G.O., dated 29th July 1892, Mis. No. 3431, Revenue.

Resolution—dated 2nd August 1892, No. 547.

It is in the Commissioner's opinion very desirable, and he would say necessary, that a day's rest in the week should be allowed to all laborers on relief works, and in order that the laborer may be in a position to keep the day as a day of rest, it is of course necessary either (1) that he should be granted a special wage for that day, or

(2) that he should be allowed on each of the other six days of the week a margin in the day's wage to provide for his maintenance on the day of rest.

2. It matters little to the laborer which of these two courses is adopted, but in the Commissioner's opinion the former practice, which is that followed in the case of task workers both under the Bombay and Madras Famine Codes, is the preferable course. In every famine the sufficiency or otherwise of the famine wage or the famine ration will be the subject of keen discussion, and it seems very undesirable to complicate this discussion by determining that the full wage or the full ration shall represent anything but the full wage or the full ration for one working day.

3. The Commissioner would add that it has been the invariable practice in this Presidency to give task workers a separate wage for Sunday, and that all observations made during this famine or the last famine in regard to the sufficiency of a particular wage are based on the assumption that the wage is the wage for a day and does not include a margin for a seventh non-working day.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

ORDER—dated 11th August 1892, No. 839, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

The foregoing papers relate to the questions of the classification of famine labourers and of the wage which they should be permitted to earn. The Board's Proceedings read above contain a full discussion of the points raised by the Government of India in its Circular No. 6-44 of the 17th March 1892 and letter of the same date, No. 498-44, and it is only necessary for His Excellency the Governor in Council to state the conclusions at which he has arrived.

2. The main principles on which the resolution of the Government of India, now under discussion, is based are (1) that every individual who applies for State relief must perform the utmost amount of work of which he is capable in return for a wage which is the money equivalent of a ration just sufficient for his individual maintenance, a slight margin being allowed in the case of able-bodied labourers; (2) that employment of labour on relief works is to be regulated by task and skilled able-bodied labourers are not to be permitted to perform an unlimited amount of piece-work on such works; and (3) that separate provision is to be made for the support of children unable to work and for sick and infirm dependents under the head of gratuitous relief, no margin for that object being included in the famine wage. These principles are undoubtedly correct in theory: the question for consideration is as to how far it is possible to adhere to them in practice. The system advocated necessitates the imposition of a task carefully regulated with reference to the capabilities of *each individual worker*. But the tasking of individuals is not possible in practice, for this involves separate measurement of the work done by each. The work of individuals, however, cannot be kept separate in earth-work though it might be in stone-breaking, and even if it could, the measuring daily of individual outturns would be a prodigious operation requiring enormous establishments. It must be borne in mind, moreover, that the numbers who will resort to the works during a severe famine will be so large that it will be utterly

beyond the powers of the supervising staff to gauge the capabilities of each individual and to apportion the task or enforce it. At the height of the famine of 1877-78 the people were coming on the works * in such enormous crowds that in many localities it was found utterly impossible to enforce any task even for whole gangs. It is of course quite right to distinguish between ordinary labourers accustomed to manual labour of the kind required at the works and those who are unaccustomed to labour of that description, such as weavers, but no ordinary overseer could be trusted to differentiate between the different classes applying for work and to determine whether they are capable of performing the full day's work of an ordinary labourer of the Department of Public Works or 75 or 50 per cent. thereof, much less to task each individual with any approach to accuracy or fairness. If an experienced Public Works Department officer could be put on each work every morning, as the coolies flock in, it might be possible to adjust the task to individual capacities, but with a limited number of supervisors, many of them destitute of experience and recruited hastily for the occasion, refined distinctions are out of the question and the idea of insisting on them must be abandoned.

* Daily average number on works—

March 1877	641,937
April "	678,289
May "	722,020
June "	808,482
July "	867,996
August "	919,712
September 1877	712,988
October "	503,122

3. The plan which has been generally followed in this Presidency during the recent scarcity has been to adjust the task, not to the physical powers of the *individual*, but to those of a typical gang composed of units of varying degrees of strength. This plan differs from that contemplated by the Madras Famine Code (sections 19 and 24), in that the women and children are taken into account in estimating the task to be imposed, whereas under the system prescribed by the Code, families when allowed to work with able-bodied labourers are to be provided with light labour and paid the ration prescribed for class III, whatever the classification of the gang in which they are working. This plan of not separating families is a distinctive feature of the Madras system which should be preserved as it conduces to the contentment of the workers, and the strong will willingly do a little extra work to make up for the deficiencies of the weaker labourers when they are their own kith and kin. In the opinion of His Excellency the Governor in Council, the plan of forming all comers into gangs, relatives being kept together and apportioning the task to the capabilities of the gang cannot be improved upon. The classification should be as simple as possible and the Government considers that three classes will suffice—

(i) Able-bodied labourers accustomed to work of the description provided on the relief works, *i.e.*, generally earth-work or stone-breaking.

(ii) Those who are unaccustomed to work of that description, such as artisans.

(iii) Weakly labourers capable of performing only a nominal task.

These three classes correspond to B. C. and D. of the Government of India scheme. Class A of the Government of India scheme comprises able-bodied persons accustomed to labour of the kind required on professional agency works. As a rule these will be the last to come on relief; they will find employment on well-sinking and other private work requiring skilled labour and a certain number of ordinary public works should be set apart for their employment on piece-work. Paragraph 8 of the resolution of the Government of India above read recognizes the fact that it may in some cases be necessary to set apart a portion of a relief work for employment of skilled labour "when the work is of such a character, or requires to be executed with such urgency, as to demand the employment of ordinary public works labour at full piece-work rates." Such provision will be necessary not only for the above reasons, but in order that skilled labourers may have the opportunity of earning enough to keep themselves and their families in comfort and may not be forced to come on relief works, where they will be able merely to obtain a bare subsistence for themselves, their dependants being obliged to come on gratuitous relief. It is only fair that work should be provided for skilled labourers also, and that their requirements should not be ignored in

the scheme of relief; but paragraph 30 of the Madras Code requires that "all works which may be in progress within the famine zone will be considered famine works," so that when a district is declared distressed all the budgeted works in progress must be converted into relief works and piece-work will cease. The code must be modified in this respect and as it will not generally be possible to set apart a portion of a relief work for piece-work labour, the works which are available for relief in this Presidency being generally so small that confusion would result from any attempt to work task-work and piece-work gangs in close proximity to each other, separate works must be reserved for skilled labourers on piece-work.

4. As to the task which should be exacted, His Excellency the Governor in Council considers that the task for class I described in the preceding paragraph should be 50 per cent. of a full Public Works Department task for which they should be paid the standard wage with permission to earn a slight margin above it by doing 75 per cent. of the full task. Class II should be required to turn out 50 per cent. of the full task and receive therefor the standard wage. Class III should be tasked lightly in accordance with their ability to work and should receive the standard wage. Neither class II nor III should be allowed to earn more than the standard wage.

5. The next question for consideration is, what the standard wage should be and whether it should be estimated wholly in grain or partly in money and partly in grain? In this Presidency the staple food-grains of the people vary in the different districts and as each has a different nutritive value, theoretical perfection would require that the ration of each should vary, but such refinements are not feasible in actual practice and the wage should, therefore, be based in each district on the price of that grain which has been selected as the staple grain of the district—*vide* G.O., dated 30th April 1889, No. 324. It should be the money equivalent of a certain weight of *husked* grain in the case of paddy, cholum and cumbu and of flour in the case of ragi, as that grain is consumed in the shape of flour and loses one-fifth of its weight by conversion. A separate table has already been framed for the calculation of money wages when ragi is the staple grain. On the ground of simplicity it will also be advisable to fix the ration in terms of grain only so as to include a sufficient grain-margin for condiments, following the Bombay plan, instead of having a ration expressed in terms of grain and condiments separately. The Board has not furnished any information as to whether the prices of condiments vary *pari passu* with the price of grain: the main condiments are salt and oil, the prices of which do not vary so much as that of grain, but it does not appear necessary to have a separate ration in terms of condiments on that account. It will be a great advantage to adopt a simple method of calculating the amount of the money wage, and provided the wage admits of a small fraction being spent on condiments and vegetables, it will suffice for all practical purposes.

Vide paragraph 29 of the Board's Proceedings, dated 29th September 1890, No. 274, printed in G.O., dated 19th December 1890, No. 1026.

6. As to what the standard wage should be, His Excellency the Governor in Council concurs with the Board in thinking that the money equivalent of 2½ lb. of the staple grain husked, or of flour in the case of ragi, for a man, 2 lb. for a woman and 1¾ or 1¼ lb. for a child according to age and condition is not excessive. There is a consensus of opinion amongst the District officials that a ration of that amount (to include the cost of condiments) would only be just sufficient to keep the people in their ordinary state of health. It is a ¼ lb. more liberal than the Bombay scale, but experience gained in feeding nearly 100,000 coolies during the current year has shown that it was not doing more than keeping the people in good health and the experience thus gained on the works is too valuable to be lightly disregarded. The standard wage should be paid to all labourers of classes II and III whilst those of class I should be permitted to earn an extra ½ lb. per man and woman for doing half as much again as the prescribed task, *i.e.*, 75 per cent. instead of 50 per cent. of the full Public Works Department task. The Government concurs with the Board in thinking that it is unnecessary to increase the children's wage.

7. To ensure performance of the task, however, it is necessary to authorise fining within certain limits, as all experience shows that if coolies can earn a certain sum, whatever the work turned out, they end in practically doing nothing. The extent to which fining may be carried must be left to the discretion of the responsible officer in charge of the work and it may be necessary in some cases to prohibit fining altogether, as the Commissioner points out, but in no case should fining be carried so far as to reduce the wage below a certain limit, and for this purpose His Excellency the Governor in Council is prepared to accept the Bombay minimum which is shown in the margin in juxtaposition with the subsistence allowance actually earned by the coolies on the works in the Márkápur taluk of Kurnool. It will be seen that the two scales are almost identical, but the coolies on the Márkápur works showed they were on these wages and it became marked symptoms of deterioration whilst apparent that the so-called subsistence allowance was not sufficient for subsistence. Whilst ready, therefore, to accept the Bombay minimum as a penal wage, His Excellency the Governor in Council considers it too low to be suitable for a subsistence allowance for Sundays and other days on which work is suspended, and resolves to propose, for the acceptance of the Government of India, the slightly higher wage marginally-noted which is roughly the penal ration raised by one-third of the difference between that ration and the standard wage. A table is appended to this order setting forth the equivalent in money of the standard wage, Sunday wage and penal ration, respectively, according to the variations in price of the staple food-grain from 6 seers to 20 seers a rupee.

	Bombay subsistence allowance.	Márkápur subsistence allowance in terms of grain.
	lbs.	lb.
Man	1½	1·63
Woman	1¼	1·56
Children (1)	1¼	1·11
Do. (2)	1	

Subsistence allowance for Sundays and non-working days—

	lb.
Man	2
Woman	1¾
Children (1)	1¼
Do. (2)	1

8. On the question of allowing a day of rest in the week with a subsistence allowance, the Government concurs in the remarks of the Board in its Proceedings, dated 2nd August 1892, No. 547, and considers that a special wage for that day is preferable to the alternative plan of including in the daily wage paid on the six working days a small allowance to cover the consumption of the seventh day not only for the reason given in paragraph 2 of the Proceedings, but because the recipients of relief are not likely to be provident enough to set apart a portion of their daily wage on working days to meet the requirements of the day of rest.

9. The Government of India will be addressed accordingly.

True Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Settlement).
Copy to the Public Works Department.

Exd. A. Aubert.

130 Copies.

[Appendix.

APPENDIX.

1 Seer = 2·05714 lb.

When grain sells at —— a rupee.	Standard wage.				Sunday wage.				Penal ration.			
	For a man (ration 2½ lb.)	For a woman (ration 2 lb.).	For children.		For a man (ration 2 lb.).	For a woman (ration 1⅔ lb.).	For children.		For a man (ration 1⅔ lb.).	For a woman (ration 1½ lb.).	For children.	
			Ration 1⅔ lb.	Ration 1¼ lb.			Ration 1⅓ lb.	Ration 1 lb.			Ration 1¼ lb.).	Ration 1 lb.
	As. P.	As. P.	As. P.	As. P.	As. P.	As. P.	As. P.	As. P.	As. P.	As. P.	As. P.	As. P.
6 seers per rupee	3 3	2 7	2 3	1 7	2 7	2 3	1 11	1 4	2 5	1 11	1 7	1 4
6½ do.	3 0	2 5	2 1	1 6	2 5	2 1	1 10	1 2	2 1	1 10	1 6	1 2
7 do.	2 9	2 3	1 11	1 5	2 3	1 11	1 8	1 1	1 11	1 8	1 5	1 1
7½ do.	2 7	2 1	1 10	1 4	2 1	1 10	1 7	1 0	1 10	1 7	1 4	1 0
8 do.	2 5	1 11	1 8	1 3	1 11	1 8	1 6	1 0	1 8	1 6	1 3	1 0
8½ do.	2 4	1 10	1 7	1 2	1 10	1 7	1 4	0 11	1 7	1 4	1 2	0 11
9 do.	2 2	1 9	1 6	1 1	1 9	1 6	1 4	0 10	1 6	1 4	1 1	0 10
9½ do.	2 1	1 8	1 5	1 0	1 8	1 5	1 3	0 10	1 5	1 3	1 0	0 10
10 do.	1 11	1 7	1 4	1 0	1 7	1 4	1 2	0 9	1 4	1 2	1 0	0 9
10½ do.	1 10	1 6	1 4	0 11	1 6	1 4	1 1	0 9	1 4	1 1	0 11	0 9
11 do.	1 9	1 5	1 3	0 11	1 5	1 3	1 1	0 9	1 3	1 1	0 11	0 9
11½ do.	1 8	1 4	1 2	0 10	1 4	1 2	1 0	0 8	1 2	1 0	0 10	0 8
12 do.	1 7	1 4	1 2	0 10	1 4	1 2	1 0	0 8	1 2	1 0	0 10	0 8
12½ do.	1 7	1 3	1 1	0 9	1 3	1 1	0 11	0 7	1 1	0 11	0 9	0 8
13 do.	1 6	1 2	1 1	0 9	1 2	1 1	0 11	0 7	1 1	0 11	0 9	0 7
13½ do.	1 5	1 2	1 0	0 9	1 2	1 0	0 10	0 7	1 0	0 10	0 9	0 7
14 do.	1 5	1 1	1 0	0 8	1 1	1 0	0 10	0 7	1 0	0 10	0 8	0 7
14½ do.	1 4	1 1	0 11	0 8	1 1	0 11	0 10	0 6	0 11	0 10	0 8	0 6
15 do.	1 4	1 1	0 11	0 8	1 1	0 11	0 9	0 6	0 11	0 9	0 8	0 6
15½ do.	1 3	1 0	0 11	0 8	1 0	0 11	0 9	0 6	0 11	0 9	0 8	0 6
16 do.	1 3	1 0	0 10	0 7	1 0	0 10	0 9	0 6	0 10	0 9	0 7	0 6
16½ do.	1 2	0 11	0 10	0 7	0 11	0 10	0 8	0 6	0 10	0 8	0 7	0 6
17 do.	1 2	0 11	0 10	0 7	0 11	0 10	0 8	0 6	0 10	0 8	0 7	0 6
17½ do.	1 1	0 11	0 9	0 7	0 11	0 9	0 8	0 5	0 9	0 8	0 7	0 5
18 do.	1 1	0 10	0 9	0 7	0 10	0 9	0 8	0 5	0 9	0 8	0 7	0 5
18½ do.	1 1	0 10	0 9	0 6	0 10	0 9	0 8	0 5	0 9	0 8	0 6	0 5
19 do.	1 0	0 10	0 9	0 6	0 10	0 9	0 7	0 5	0 9	0 7	0 6	0 5
19½ do.	1 0	0 10	0 8	0 6	0 10	0 8	0 7	0 5	0 8	0 7	0 6	0 5
20 do.	1 0	0 9	0 8	0 6	0 9	0 8	0 7	0 5	0 8	0 7	0 6	0 5

RSD 2/25

Govt. of {1892} Madras.

REVENUE.

Issued

Recd. Encl.

G.O., 11th August 1892, No. 839.

AUGUSE.

Famine labourers.

Passing orders on papers relating to the questions of the classification of — and of the wage which they should be permitted to earn.

No. 2507 W 8/7 September 1892

Recorded

(60) 28/8

25