(1) பக்கங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை 36
(2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள் 10-90
(3) ஆதாரங்குறிப்பவர் சுருக்கொப்பம்

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

PWD துறை

அரசாணை எண்.
மு. கோப்புத் தாள் எண். 511

அச்சகம்
பலவகை

நாள் : 17-2-1852 198.

கவோ கண்டபடி கையாளவோ கூடாது

28 Sheets

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17TH FEBRUARY 1892, No. 511 W., PUBLIC WORKS.

511/1

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

General.
Establishment.

READ—the following paper :—

G.O., dated 10th February 1892, No. 139, Revenue.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 30th January 1892, No. 72 :—

MR. CLOGSTOUN.

Read—the following letter from A. W. B. HIGGENS, Esq., Collector of Nellore, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated Udayagiri, 13th January 1892, No. 23-Tour :—

In reply to your telegram, dated 9th instant, calling for the statement of expenditure on works and gratuitous relief and establishments for December 1891, together with an estimate (probable) of expenditure to be incurred under the same heads during the next few months, I have the honour to state that the reports of the Executive and Local Fund Engineers and of Divisonal officers are still due in reference to Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 5251, dated 19th September 1891, and that report will be made to the Board on their receipt. Urgent reminders have already been sent to the officers named.

2. No expenditure was incurred under the head "gratuitous relief" beyond Rs. 59 in the Sub-Collector's division, which was spent in December by the Deputy Tahsildar of Podili under a misunderstanding of the orders issued. There was also no expenditure on establishment or on regular relief works.

3. Estimates of the probable expenditure on works for the relief of distress up to June 1892 have been furnished with my letters No. 3754-Ver., dated 29th December 1891 (embodied in Board's Proceedings, No. 6, dated 4th January 1892), and No. 15-Tour, dated 10th January 1892. The total amounts to Rs. 3,33,951 or, say, Rs. 3,34,000. I trust that those estimates may be adequate; but, now that I have rather more personal experience of the condition of the northern taluks, I shall not be greatly surprised to find that they are considerably under the mark. We have not, I am afraid, made sufficient allowance for the enormous proportion of the population which belongs to the lowest classes (Malas and Madigas) in the taluks of the Sub-Collector's and Head Assistant's divisions. The results of the census of 1891, showing the distribution of the people by castes, are not yet available; but, taking the figures of 1881, I find that in these two divisions there were no less than 130,000 Malas and Madigas forming from one-fifth to one-eighth of the total population. How many of this number may need work, I cannot say; but from the way in which low-caste people have crowded to the road-repair work opened a few days ago between Udayagiri and Sitharampuram, I apprehend that the demand of such people for work will be very large. Out of 3,669 persons who had come to that work from within a few miles of the road, on the 11th instant, 1,620 were Madigas and 572 Malas, making nearly two-thirds of the whole.* These people have for the most part no lands. The crops on the ground from Nandavaram northwards throughout the inland taluks

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* *Note.*—Probably with institution of tasks, the total numbers will decrease, but the proportion of low-caste will probably be constant.

(Intld.) A. W. B. H.

(Udayagiri, Kanigiri and Podili) and the two northern divisions (Darsi and Addanki) will generally produce a very minute outturn, or will, as has been already the case in several localities, wither away without any outturn whatever, except some fodder for the cattle. The result will be a very limited amount of harvest work, and a continuance or intensification of the present high prices, and the extension of the distress, not only to Malas and Madigas and other laborers, but also to persons of the ryot class, who (witness the presence of 516 Capus on the Sitharampuram road) already seem to need help. Without more experience, however, I cannot venture on a further estimate of the cost of works.

4. I have the same difficulty in regard to an estimate of the cost of gratuitous relief. A large provision for works at an early date in convenient localities will no doubt obviate the necessity for gratuitous relief on a very large scale; but it will be necessary to provide for children and very old persons and for those physically incapable of any work. I calculate that at 30 per cent. of the total population, the total number of such persons in the eight affected taluks is about 280,000; but of this number it may not be necessary to provide gratuitous relief for an average of more than 2 per cent., or say 5,600. The cost of feeding this number at, say, 15 pies per head per diem for 120 days would be Rs. 52,500; or allowing for cost of buildings, Rs. 53,000. This figure is really pure guess work, but may, I think, be taken as a probable estimate.

5. As to extra establishments, the requirements of the affected taluks will probably be—

(*a*) One Special Assistant Collector and one Deputy Collector to assist the Sub-Collector in routine, magisterial and famine work. Cost for four months, say Rs. 4,000.

(*b*) One Deputy Collector to give similar assistance to the Head Assistant Collector. Cost for four months, say Rs. 1,200.

(*c*) Five Deputy Tahsildars (for Udayagiri, Kanigiri, Podili, Darsi and Ongole) to assist the Tahsildars or Deputy Tahsildars in magisterial and routine work. Cost for five months, at Rs. 70 each per mensem, Rs. 1,750.

(*d*) Two Assistant Engineers for the superintendence of works. (The road works proposed will soon, I am afraid, be more than the Local Fund Engineer and supervisor can manage efficiently; and there are Public Works Department works of some magnitudes also proposed). Cost for four months, say Rs. 4,000.

(*e*) Ten Overseers or Sub-Overseers for the same purpose; some under the Public Works Department officers and some under the Local Fund Engineer. Cost at an average of Rs. 50 each for five months, Rs. 2,500.

(*f*) Establishment connected with kitchens. Cost for 15 kitchens, at Rs. 60 each for 4 months, Rs. 3,600.

(*g*) If the necessity for gratuitous relief, apart from kitchens on the works, should become extensive, taluk relief inspectors would be required, and also European officers of the grade of Salt Inspectors to supervise them; but I trust that that may be avoided; and so make no estimate under this head.

(*h*) Extra clerical establishments would probably cost not less than Rs. 500 a month, or say Rs. 2,000 in all.

6. My estimate under establishments, excluding travelling allowance, thus amounts to Rs. 19,050 or say Rs. 19,000.

7. The totals under all the heads are—

	RS.
Works	3,34,000
Gratuitous relief	53,000
Extra establishments	19,000
Total ...	4,06,000

8. I trust that the Deputy Tahsildars and some overseers may be sanctioned at the earliest possible date. I have already asked urgently for funds to begin works in the localities where they are most needed.

511/2

Read—the following letter from A. W. B. HIGGENS, Esq., Acting Collector of Nellore, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated 21st January 1892, No. 43-Tour :—

Referring to Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 430, dated 13th instant, I have the honour to submit the following report, under section 35 of the Famine Code, regarding the existing distress in this district and the measures which seem necessary in order to relieve it.

2. The rainfall of fasli 1301 has been deficient throughout the whole district. During the period of the south-west monsoon anxiety was chiefly felt regarding the taluks south of the Pennér including also the portions of the Nellore and Atmakúr taluks north of that river. This anxiety continued also for a portion of the north-east monsoon period, but timely rain in December altered the prospects, and on the 15th December I was able to report that there was no further cause for anxiety regarding the southern taluks. Except that prices rule high, the portion of the taluks formerly classed as "affected" (excepting Atmakúr) is now fairly normal, and there seems every reason to expect that as the crops are harvested prices will fall and the country will return to its usual condition.

3. The nothern taluks, including Atmakúr, have not fared so well. The rainfall of the south-west monsoon was deficient, and the rain of the north-east monsoon including that of December may be said to have failed over considerable areas.

4. There has, generally speaking, been no falling off in the total area cultivated; but for want of water in tanks and wells, large areas, which usually grow wet crops, have been sown with dry crops, and even so have failed to produce, or are likely to fail to produce, a good outturn. The dry crops are, as a rule, very miserable, and in some localities they have failed or will fail entirely and will yield no more than a small supply of fodder for the cattle. There are happily exceptions to this forlorn prospect. In localities where showers of any quantity fell during December or where the wells are particularly favorably situated, the crops are in fair condition. Patches of such crops may, I believe, be found in most villages, but they are not of large area, and the level of water in the wells is, generally speaking, so low that they can water but a small portion of the land under them. The probable outturn of all crops therefore varies from 0, through 2 and 4 annas, up to 8 annas, the great bulk being of the 0, 2 and 4 anna grades. Lands under wells have, however, in some places yielded full or nearly full crops of ragi.

5. Prices at the present time show no tendency to fall, and indeed in the western taluks the prices of dry grains, which are the food of the poor, have been steadily rising. This rise is largely due to local failure of rain, but is also the result of the unhappy condition of the adjoining taluks of the Cuddapah, Kurnool and Kistna districts. No doubt there will be some fall in the price of rice as the produce of the Kistna delta is brought to market, but this can have little effect on the prices of dry grains, for supplies of which the area in question has, I believe, been chiefly used to depend on local resources.

6. I do not, however, apprehend any general failure of supplies. The Railway to Nellore on the south, the Buckingham Canal on the east and the Southern Mahratta Railway in the extreme north, coupled with the existing stocks (which, considering that the area under report did not suffer severely in fasli 1300, cannot be very low), should be sufficient to provide the country with food for a considerable period. There is likely to be more difficulty in many villages on account of failure of water for men and of water and fodder for cattle than from want of grain. Rain in January and February is exceptional, but it may possibly fall. If it were to fall over considerable areas there would be some increase in the outturn of the dry crops (chiefly jonna) which are still maintaining the struggle for existence, and fears for a water famine in the coming hot months would be removed, but we must, I apprehend, be prepared for the worst.

7. One of the great factors in the distress which is upon us is the enormous proportion of the population which lives from hand to mouth. In my letter No. 23-Tour, dated 13th instant, to which I beg reference, I have calculated the total number of the Malas and Madigas (the two Pariah castes) living in the taluks under reference at 130,000. It was at this figure in 1881. It is probably higher now. These people have ordinarily no lands. The Madigas are for the most part the servants (if no stronger term should be applied) of the cultivators, and when their masters cannot give them work they must find it elsewhere or die. Some of the Malas are in the same condition. Some live by weaving coarse cloths; but this occupation will not support them as the distress becomes more general. Considerable numbers of the poorer cultivators and of the laboring classes are also likely to need relief by way of wages on works.

8. In previous communications (letters Nos. 3754-Ver. of the 29th December and 15 of the 10th January) I have estimated roughly the average number likely to come on to relief works for six months (January to June), *i.e.*, until such time as agricultural work may be again available, at 15,400, the details of persons and of the probable cost of relieving them being as per margin. It is, I am afraid, likely that these figures may be exceeded, but I hope that it may be otherwise.

Taluk.	No. of persons.	Amount.
		RS.
Ongole	3,000	60,000
Kandukúr	2,000	45,000
Kanigiri	2,400	52,000
Darsi	1,500	30,000
Podili	3,000	60,000
Kaváli	500	11,250
Atmakúr	1,000	22,500
Udayagiri	2,000	45,000
Total ...	15,400	3,25,750

9. As to works required to provide for the numbers estimated as above, I request reference to the two sets of lists, A and B, submitted with my letters quoted in the last paragraph. I enclose combined copies, A-i, B-i of those lists for ready reference. The major irrigation works and road works mentioned therein are those which the Sub-Collector and Head Assistant Collector and I think likely to be most useful, and I request sanction for the undertaking of all of them as occasion may arise. The total estimated cost is Rs. 2,99,700. The Board has already in Board's Proceedings, No. 6, dated 4th January 1892, recommended the issue of orders for the early execution of the major irrigation works in the sub-division at a cost of Rs. 29,600, and I trust a similar recommendation has now been made for the same class of works in the Head Assistant's division costing Rs. 12,000. Of the Rs. 20,000 asked for by me and by the Board as a preliminary grant in aid of Local Funds, some Rs. 13,600 are intended to be spent on village sanitation and water-supply works, leaving only Rs. 6,300 for road works. I would suggest therefore that the Board should be pleased to move Government for a further grant in aid of Local Funds of Rs. 20,000, making Rs. 40,000 in all. If road works are begun, as I hope this may be begun promptly, this sum may last for, say, six weeks. Work should, I consider, be provided *now* in Udayagiri, Kanigiri, Podili, Darsi and in the Addanki division of Ongole; and, if funds are provided, I would open one or more road works in each of these localities as need might seem to require. The Sub-Collecter in his letter No. 275, dated 19th January 1892 (enclosed in original), writes very urgently of the need for the commencement of works in the Podili division, where the low-caste people have already begun to show clear symptoms of emaciation. In Ongole, Kandukúr, Kávali and Atmakúr the situation is believed to be rather less urgent, and, if the Public Works Department works are now undertaken, road works may perhaps be deferred for another fortnight.

10. As to gratuitous relief, I have in my letter No. 23-Tour, dated 13th January 1892, made a rough estimate of Rs. 53,000 as the total cost. I believe that this form of relief will not be generally necessary before the 15th February. In reference, however, to the Sub-Collector's letter referred to above, I now ask for a grant of Rs. 500 under this head for the opening of one or more kitchens, if necessary, in connection with the road works in the Podili division.

11. If the Board approve, I wish to try the plan proposed for Bellary of having kitchens on the works rather than in the villages.

12. In regard to the establishments which I believe to be necessary, I have reported fully in my letter No. 23, dated 13th January 1892.

13. I respectfully ask that, if funds have not been already allotted for road works, they may be allotted on receipt of this letter. Any delay now will, I am afraid, eventuate in such a reduction in the strength of those who now ask for work (especially in the most northern parts of the district), that it may prove necessary to support numbers gratuitously. It may happen also that help may reach some of them too late to be of any benefit.

Enclosure.

From C. H. MOUNSEY, Esq., Sub-Collector of Nellore, to the Collector of Nellore, dated Podili, 19th January 1892, No. 275.

I have the honour to refer you to the several reports from me in reference to the state of the season, especially in Podili.

2. On the 3rd December in No. 66-Camp, I wrote that if no rain fell there (and unfortunately no more rain has fallen) relief works beyond the few (Rs. 390) I had already given from Taluk Board funds in the worst villages would have to be undertaken by the 15th December. In my letter of the 7th December, No. 6209, I mentioned that I had to allot a further sum of Rs. 300 in Podili and that I understood the zemindar of Venkatagiri had sanctioned Rs. 20,000 for repairs to his tanks and that he would sanction Rs. 8,000 more. With that money, I thought matters would go on well for some time.

3. On the 9th December in Camp No. 66, I gave my opinion that if there was no rain, works should be started as soon as ever in the ordinary course of correspondence, the arrangements for starting them could be made.

4. On the 14th December in No. 6244, I stated: "I desire again to inform you that if the season remains as it is by the 15th January, relief works must be started." I said, however, that in the zemindari tracts repairs to tanks and money from Taluk Board was being utilized to give employment and food to the most suffering classes. I added that in a month's time relief kitchens might be necessary, but might not be necessary if other works were started.

5. On the 15th December in my No. 6297, I wrote to inform you that the zemindari officials were not carrying out the repairs to their irrigation works, and I had therefore to provide for Podili alone Rs. 1,140 more out of Taluk funds. At the same time I asked for tools. I asked for as little delay as possible in getting money sanctioned for water-supply and village sanitation.

6. In my No. 77 of 22nd December, I drew attention to the road works that would have in my opinion to be put in hand this official year as relief works, providing the Kottapatam-Cumbum road for relief in Podili as work on that road could be started at once. In my No. 78 of the same date, I said that some of these works must be started by the middle of January, if there was no rain.

7. On the 29th December, as the zemindar was doing no work, I allotted Rs. 2,000 from my Taluk Board balance (up to then untouched) for further relief in Podili. The total Taluk Board money, specially allotted to Podili up to the end of the year, was Rs. 3,830. If it had not been for my ability to do this, matters would have been most critical in regard to the condition of the Malas and Madigas.

8. After my inspection of Addanki and parts of Ongole taluk, I have come here and regret to find matters are such that work must be provided for, or many Malas and Madigas will become too weak to do any work when it is provided. In Podili there are several cases of great emaciation although gratuitous relief under the Famine Code has been given for nearly all this month. This was found to be an absolute necessity and some Rs. 60 has been expended. I have found in several villages the poorer classes have had no grains for two or three days, in one village for about six days. In these villages I have made use of the attenuated balance of my Taluk Board to repair wells. In the last villages I visited, the poor people (about 40) had reached a state of almost apathy. I saw this this morning and work has already been started there. This would undoubtedly have been the condition of almost all the villages if I had not been able to give Rs. 3,830 I mentioned, to which sum I have now added Rs. 460.

9. It is not in my power to give more help except to about Rs. 150, and it has come to this point now that hundreds must starve on a diet of prickly-pear, fruit and water or have work provided for them.

10. It is true that the Zemindar of Venkatagiri informed you that he had sanctioned certain works, but as none of these works are started (20 or 30 coolies are working at Podili tank), he has not helped us. The works, I am told, are given out on contract and the contractor cannot or would not start without an advance and no advance is given to him. Representations have been

made to get this advance, but in the mean time the people starve. The zemindar states in his letter to you that in Podili it is a case of severe distress more than famine. This was quite true a month ago, and if true now, it is only because of relief given by the Taluk Board. In my opinion, however, what was severe distress is now passing, if it has not passed beyond that point, and steps must be taken accordingly.

11. The first relief we are likely to get is the Rs. 10,000 applied for by the Board of Revenue to Government in aid of the Ongole Taluk Board funds, but the Podili share of this will be very little. It is necessary to start at once the road repairs as already suggested. It is past the middle of January, the Taluk Board funds are exhausted, the zemindar's relief works are not in operation, the last two monsoons failed (*vide* my report upon the crops of the division that will go to-day or to-morrow). There is very little grain in this country, the percentage of the cooly classes is, I believe, very high and many of them are in a state of absolute destitution now.

12. I request therefore that orders be issued on, or as soon as after the receipt of this letter as telegraphic orders can be received, to start not only repairs to Kottapatam-Cumbum road in this division, but to the Darsi-Podili and Darsi-Kurichedu roads as well in this and the Darsi division.

Resolution—dated 30th January 1892, No. 72.

Submitted to Government with reference to G.O., dated 12th January 1892, No. 38, in continuation of Board's Proceedings, Nos. 6 and 41, dated 4th and 19th January, respectively.

2. In his second letter read above, the Collector briefly summarises the history of the past season in his district. This has been set forth fully in previous monthly reports. The situation briefly is that south of the Pennér the crops are safe and the area alluded to is in no sense "affected" except by the general high prices. North of the Pennér, however, the dry crops are generally very poor, and in some localities have failed, or will fail entirely and only yield fodder for the cattle. Prices have been rising rapidly of late and show no tendency to fall, but no failure of supplies is feared, as the affected area is well supplied with communications, and has easy access to the Kistna delta on the north.

3. The Collector's estimates of the numbers likely to need relief in the areas affected have already been laid before Government with the Board's remarks, together with detailed lists of the works he has selected for their relief, for approval. He has estimated the probable cost of the works necessary up to June next, when the south-west monsoon rains may lead to a revival of field work, at Rs. 3,25,750; but he fears that, owing to the very large proportion of the population of the tract that lives from hand to mouth, a larger sum may be required. Besides this he has estimated the probable cost of gratuitous relief at Rs. 53,000. The former estimate is very high and the Commissioner would substitute for it the estimate submitted by the Board in Board's Proceedings, dated 21st January 1892, No. 44, which provides for the employment of the numbers noted on the margin during each month. The latter is, in the Commissioner's opinion, excessive, both as to the numbers likely to need gratuitous relief, if works are opened promptly, and as to the cost of feeding the persons to be fed. A sum of Rs. 20,000 will, he considers, suffice under this head.

February	5,000
March	7,500
April, ...	12,500
May	15,000
June	5,000

4. In the first letter read above, the Collector states that the extra establishment required will probably be—

(1) a Special Assistant Collector at head-quarters.
(2) a do. Deputy Collector to relieve the Sub-Collector.
(3) a do. do. do the Head Assistant Collector.
(4) five Deputy Tahsildars.
(5) two Assistant Engineers.
(6) ten Overseers.

The Commissioner considers that the first three appointments should be made at an early date, and that the Collector should be authorized to appoint a Deputy Tahsildar in each of the affected taluks to relieve the Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars of magisterial and routine work, as they may be found necessary. The Commissioner has already recommended the appointment of an officer of the Public Works Department to assist the Collector in the management of Civil Agency works, and for the present that should suffice. Arrangements can probably be made locally for obtaining a sufficient number of subordinates if the Public Works Department is unable to spare the large number required.

5. The Collector also states that establishments for supervising the kitchens, costing Rs. 3,600 for four months, may be necessary. The petty establishment in charge of each kitchen may, the Commissioner thinks, be met from the estimate for gratuitous relief. Circle Inspectors are not at present necessary, though they may be hereafter, if the number of kitchens opened becomes larger than the Tahsildars can properly supervise.

6. The Collector will be informed that gratuitous relief will only be granted in the form of cooked food distributed in the kitchens.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

Order—dated 10th February 1892, No. 139, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

The Government concurs in the Commissioner's remarks in paragraphs 3 and 5 of his Proceedings read above. The question of allotting the necessary funds will be considered in the Financial Department.

2. Two Special Deputy Collectors of the 6th grade and five Special Deputy Tahsildars for the five marginally-noted taluks, each on a salary of Rs. 70 per mensem, will be appointed as recommended by the Board of Revenue. The question of appointing a Special Assistant Collector at head-quarters will be considered in the Public Department, while that regarding the additional Assistant Engineers and Overseers asked for by the Collector will be considered in the Department of Public Works.

Udayagiri.	Darsi.
Kanigiri.	Ongole.
Podili.	

3. The instruction in paragraph 6 of the Board's Proceedings is approved.

(True Extract.)

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

ORDER—dated 17th February 1892, No. 511 W., Public Works.

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer, II Circle, for information.

2. The services of Mr. H. H. O'Connell, Executive Engineer, will be available for employment on famine relief works as soon as he is relieved of the charge of the division by Mr. Hughes and his appointment will meet present requirements as regards engineer establishment.

3. Of the ten upper subordinates asked for, the Collector states that some will be required for employment under the Public Works Department officer and some under the Local Fund Engineer. Those required for Local fund work will be appointed by the President, District Board, and the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, will take immediate steps to post four upper subordinates for duty under Mr. O'Connell.

4. When Mr. O'Connell has organised his groups of works, he will be in position to state what further establishment, if any, he will require, and, on receipt of a report on the subject, steps will be taken to provide more men if necessary.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. PENNYCUICK, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D

To the Superintending Engineer, II Circle.
" Revenue Department.
" Local and Municipal Department.
" Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

Exd. A. D. Xavier.
Spare Copies

511/5

GENERAL.
ESTABLISHMENT.

Govt. of {1892} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated February, 17th.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 17th Feb. 1892, No. 511 W.

FEBRUARY.

Famine Relief Works, Nellore District

Proceedings, Revenue Department, regarding the condition of season in the Nellore district, communicated to the Superintending Engineer, II Circle, with intimation that the services of Mr. H. H. O'Connell, Executive Engineer, will be made available for employment on — with four upper subordinates under him.

Board of Revenue (Rev. Sett., L. Rds. and Agri.), 30th Jan. 1892, No. 72.

511/6

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture)

Mr. Clogstoun.

Read—the following letter from A. W. B. HIGGENS, Esq., Collector of Nellore, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated Udayagiri, 13th January 1892, No. 23-Tour :—

In reply to your telegram, dated 9th instant, calling for the statement of expenditure on works and gratuitous relief and establishments for December 1891, together with an estimate (probable) of expenditure to be incurred under the same heads during the next few months, I have the honour to state that the reports of the Executive and Local Fund Engineers and of Divisional officers are still due in reference to Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 5251, dated 19th September 1891, and that report will be made to the Board on their receipt. Urgent reminders have already been sent to the officers named.

2. No expenditure was incurred under the head "gratuitous relief" beyond Rs. 59 in the Sub-Collector's division, which was spent in December by the Deputy Tahsildar of Podili under a misunderstanding of the orders issued. There was also no expenditure on establishment or on regular relief works.

3. Estimates of the probable expenditure on works for the relief of distress up to June 1892 have been furnished with my letters No. 3751-Ver., dated 29th December 1891 (embodied in Board's Proceedings, No. 6, dated 4th January 1892), and No. 15-Tour, dated 10th January 1892. The total amounts to Rs. 3,33,951 or, say, Rs. 3,34,000. I trust that those estimates may be adequate; but, now that I have rather more personal experience of the condition of the northern taluks, I shall not be greatly surprised to find that they are considerably under the mark. We have not, I am afraid, made sufficient allowance for the enormous proportion of the population which belongs to the lowest classes (Malas and Madigas) in the taluks of the Sub-Collector's and Head Assistant's divisions. The results of the census of 1891, showing the distribution of the people by castes, are not yet available; but, taking the figures of 1881, I find that in these two divisions there were no less than 130,000 Malas and Madigas forming from one-fifth to one-eighth of the total population. How many of this number may need work, I cannot say; but from the way in which low-caste people have crowded to the road-repair work opened a few days ago between Udayagiri and Sitharampuram, I apprehend that the demand of such people for work will be very large. Out of 3,669 persons who had come to that work from within a few miles of the road, on the 11th instant, 1,620 were Madigas and 572 Malas, making nearly two-thirds of the whole.* These people have for the most part no lands. The crops on the ground from Nandavaram northwards throughout the inland taluks (Udayagiri, Kanigiri and Podili) and the two northern divisions (Darsi and Addanki) will generally produce a very minute outturn, or will, as has been already the case in

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* *Note.*—Probably with institution of tasks, the total numbers will decrease, but the proportion of low-caste will probably be constant.

(Intld.) A. W. B. H.

several localities, wither away without any outturn whatever, except some fodder for the cattle. The result will be a very limited amount of harvest work, and a continuance or intensification of the present high prices, and the extension of the distress, not only to Malas and Madigas and other labourers, but also to persons of the ryot class, who (witness the presence of 516 Capus on the Sitharampuram road) already seem to need help. Without more experience, however, I cannot venture on a further estimate of the cost of works.

4. I have the same difficulty in regard to an estimate of the cost of gratuitous relief. A large provision for works at an early date in convenient localities will no doubt obviate the necessity for gratuitous relief on a very large scale; but it will be necessary to provide for children and very old persons and for those physically incapable of any work. I calculate that at 30 per cent. of the total population, the total number of such persons in the eight affected taluks is about 280,000; but of this number it may not be necessary to provide gratuitous relief for an average of more than 2 per cent., or say 5,600. The cost of feeding this number at, say, 15 pies per head per diem for 120 days would be Rs. 52,500; or allowing for cost of buildings, Rs. 53,000. This figure is really pure guess work, but may, I think, be taken as a probable estimate.

5. As to extra establishments, the requirements of the affected taluks will probably be--

(*a*) One Special Assistant Collector and one Deputy Collector to assist the Sub-Collector in routine, magisterial and famine work. Cost for four months, say Rs. 4,000.

(*b*) One Deputy Collector to give similar assistance to the Head Assistant Collector. Cost for four months, say Rs. 1,200.

(*c*) Five Deputy Tahsildars (for Udayagiri, Kanigiri, Podili, Darsi and Ongole) to assist the Tahsildars or Deputy Tahsildars in magisterial and routine work. Cost for five months, at Rs. 70 each per mensem, Rs. 1,750.

(*d*) Two Assistant Engineers for the superintendence of works. (The road works proposed will soon, I am afraid, be more than the Local Fund Engineer and supervisor can manage efficiently; and there are Public Works Department works of some magnitudes also proposed). Cost for four months, say Rs. 4,000.

(*e*) Ten Overseers or Sub-Overseers for the same purpose; some under the Public Works Department officers and some under the Local Fund Engineer. Cost at an average of Rs. 50 each for five months, Rs. 2,500.

(*f*) Establishment connected with kitchens. Cost for 15 kitchens, at Rs. 60 each for 4 months, Rs. 3,600.

(*g*) If the necessity for gratuitous relief, apart from kitchens on the works, should become extensive, taluk relief inspectors would be required, and also European officers of the grade of Salt Inspectors to supervise them; but I trust that that may be avoided; and so make no estimate under this head.

(*h*) Extra clerical establishments would probably cost not less than Rs. 500 a month, or say Rs. 2,000 in all.

6. My estimate under establishments, excluding travelling allowance, thus amounts to Rs. 19,050 or say Rs. 19,000.

7. The totals under all the heads are—

	RS.
Works	3,31,000
Gratuitous relief	53,000
Extra establishments	19,000
Total ...	4,06,000

8. I trust that the Deputy Tahsildars and some overseers may be sanctioned at the earliest possible date. I have already asked urgently for funds to begin works in the localities where they are most needed.

51/7

READ—the following letter from A. W. B. HIGGENS, Esq., Acting Collector of Nellore, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated 21st January 1892, No. 43-Tour:—

Referring to Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 420, dated 13th instant, I have the honour to submit the following report, under section 35 of the Famine Code, regarding the existing distress in this district and the measures which seem necessary in order to relieve it.

2. The rainfall of fasli 1301 has been deficient throughout the whole district. During the period of the south-west monsoon anxiety was chiefly felt regarding the taluks south of the Pennér including also the portions of the Nellore and Atmakúr taluks north of that river. This anxiety continued also for a portion of the north-east monsoon period, but timely rain in December altered the prospects, and on the 15th December I was able to report that there was no further cause for anxiety regarding the southern taluks. Except that prices rule high, the portion of the taluks formerly classed as "affected" (excepting Atmakúr) is now fairly normal, and there seems every reason to expect that as the crops are harvested prices will fall and the country will return to its usual condition.

3. The nothern taluks, including Atmakúr, have not fared so well. The rainfall of the south-west monsoon was deficient, and the rain of the north-east monsoon including that of December may be said to have failed over considerable areas.

4. There has, generally speaking, been no falling off in the total area cultivated; but for want of water in tanks and wells, large areas, which usually grow wet crops, have been sown with dry crops, and even so have failed to produce, or are likely to fail to produce, a good outturn. The dry crops are, as a rule, very miserable, and in some localities they have failed or will fail entirely and will yield no more than a small supply of fodder for the cattle. There are happily exceptions to this forlorn prospect. In localities where showers of any quantity fell during December or where the wells are particularly favorably situated, the crops are in fair condition. Patches of such crops may, I believe, be found in most villages, but they are not of large area, and the level of water in the wells is, generally speaking, so low that they can water but a small portion of the land under them. The probable outturn of all crops therefore varies from 0, through 2 and 4 annas, up to 8 annas, the great bulk being of the 0, 2 and 4 anna grades. Lands under wells have, however, in some places yielded full or nearly full crops of ragi.

5. Prices at the present time show no tendency to fall, and indeed in the western taluks the prices of dry grains, which are the food of the poor, have been steadily rising. This rise is largely due to local failure of rain, but is also the result of the unhappy condition of the adjoining taluks of the Cuddapah, Kurnool and Kistna districts. No doubt there will be some fall in the price of rice as the produce of the Kistna delta is brought to market, but this can have little effect on the prices of dry grains, for supplies of which the area in question has, I believe, been chiefly used to depend on local resources.

6. I do not, however, apprehend any general failure of supplies. The Railway to Nellore on the south, the Buckingham Canal on the east and the Southern Mahratta Railway in the extreme north, coupled with the existing stocks (which, considering that the area under report did not suffer severely in fasli 1300, cannot be very low), should be sufficient to provide the country with food for a considerable period. There is likely to be more difficulty in many villages on account of failure of water for men and of water and fodder for cattle than from want of grain. Rain in January and February is exceptional, but it may possibly fall. If it were to fall over considerable areas there would be some increase in the outturn of the dry crops (chiefly jonna) which are still maintaining the struggle for existence, and fears for a water famine in the coming hot months would be removed, but we must, I apprehend, be prepared for the worst.

7. One of the great factors in the distress which is upon us is the enormous proportion of the population which lives from hand to mouth. In my letter No. 23-Tour, dated 13th instant, to which I beg reference, I have calculated the total number of the Malas and Madigas (the two Pariah castes) living in the taluks under reference at 130,000. It was at this figure in 1881. It is probably higher now. These people have ordinarily no lands. The Madigas are for the most part the servants (if no stronger term should be applied) of the cultivators, and when their masters cannot give them work they must find it elsewhere or die. Some of the Malas are in the same condition. Some live by weaving coarse cloths; but this occupation will not support them as the distress becomes more general. Considerable numbers of the poorer cultivators and of the laboring classes are also likely to need relief by way of wages on works.

8. In previous communications (letters Nos. 3754-Ver. of the 29th December and 15 of the 10th January) I have estimated roughly the average number likely to come on to relief works for six months (January to June), *i.e.*, until such time as agricultural work may be again available, at 15,400, the details of persons and of the probable cost of relieving them being as per margin. It is, I am afraid, likely that these figures may be exceeded, but I hope that it may be otherwise.

Taluk.	No. of persons.	Amount. RS.
Ongole	3,000	60,000
Kandukúr	2,000	45,000
Kanigiri	2,400	52,000
Darsi	1,500	30,000
Podili	3,000	60,000
Kaváli	500	11,250
Atmakúr	1,000	22,500
Udayagiri	2,000	45,000
Total ...	15,400	3,25,750

9. As to works required to provide for the numbers estimated as above, I request reference to the two sets of lists, A and B, submitted with my letters quoted in the last paragraph. I enclose combined copies, A-i, B-i of those lists for ready reference. The major irrigation works and road works mentioned therein are those which the Sub-Collector and Head Assistant Collector and I think likely to be most useful, and I request sanction for the undertaking of all of them as occasion may arise. The total estimated cost is Rs. 2,99,700. The Board has already in Board's Proceedings, No. 6, dated 4th January 1892, recommended the issue of orders for the early execution of the major irrigation works in the sub-division at a cost of Rs. 29,600, and I trust a similar recommendation has now been made for the same class of works in the Head Assistant's division costing Rs. 12,000. Of the Rs. 20,000 asked for by me and by the Board as a preliminary grant in aid of Local Funds, some Rs. 13,600 are intended to be spent on village sanitation and water-supply works, leaving only Rs. 6,300 for road works. I would suggest therefore that the Board should be pleased to move Government for a further grant in aid of Local Funds of Rs. 20,000, making Rs. 40,000 in all. If road works are begun, as I hope this may be begun promptly, this sum may last for, say, six weeks. Work should, I consider, be provided *now* in Udayagiri, Kanigiri, Podili, Darsi and in the Addanki division of Ongole; and, if funds are provided, I would open one or more road works in each of these localities as need might seem to require. The Sub-Collector in his letter No. 275, dated 19th January 1892 (enclosed in original), writes very urgently of the need for the commencement of works in the Podili division, where the low-caste people have already begun to show clear symptoms of emaciation. In Ongole, Kandukúr, Kávali and Atmakúr the situation is believed to be rather less urgent, and, if the Public Works Department works are now undertaken, road works may perhaps be deferred for another fortnight.

10. As to gratuitous relief, I have in my letter No. 23-Tour, dated 13th January 1892, made a rough estimate of Rs. 53,000 as the total cost. I believe that this form of relief will not be generally necessary before the 15th February. In reference, however, to the Sub-Collector's letter referred to above, I now ask for a grant of Rs. 500 under this head for the opening of one or more kitchens, if necessary, in connection with the road works in the Podili division.

11. If the Board approve, I wish to try the plan proposed for Bellary of having kitchens on the works rather than in the villages.

12. In regard to the establishments which I believe to be necessary, I have reported fully in my letter No. 23, dated 13th January 1892.

13. I respectfully ask that, if funds have not been already allotted for road works, they may be allotted on receipt of this letter. Any delay now will, I am afraid, eventuate in such a reduction in the strength of those who now ask for work (especially in the most northern parts of the district), that it may prove necessary to support numbers gratuitously. It may happen also that help may reach some of them too late to be of any benefit.

ENCLOSURE.

From C. H. MOUNSEY, Esq., Sub-Collector of Nellore, to the Collector of Nellore, dated Podili, 19th January 1892, No. 275.

I have the honour to refer you to the several reports from me in reference to the state of the season, especially in Podili.

2. On the 3rd December in No. 66-Camp, I wrote that if no rain fell there (and unfortunately no more rain has fallen) relief works beyond the few (Rs. 390) I had already given from Taluk Board funds in the worst villages would have to be undertaken by the 15th December. In my letter of the 7th December, No. 6209, I mentioned that I had to allot a further sum of Rs. 300 in Podili and that I understood the zemindar of Venkatagiri had sanctioned Rs. 20,000 for repairs to his tanks and that he would sanction Rs. 8,000 more. With that money, I thought matters would go on well for some time.

3. On the 9th December in Camp No. 66, I gave my opinion that if there was no rain, works should be started as soon as ever in the ordinary course of correspondence, the arrangements for starting them could be made.

4. On the 14th December in No. 6244, I stated: "I desire again to inform you that if the season remains as it is by the 15th January, relief works must be started." I said, however, that in the zemindari tracts repairs to tanks and money from Taluk Board was being utilized to give employment and food to the most suffering classes. I added that in a month's time relief kitchens might be necessary, but might not be necessary if other works were started.

5. On the 15th December in my No. 6297, I wrote to inform you that the zemindari officials were not carrying out the repairs to their irrigation works, and I had therefore to provide for Podili alone Rs. 1,140 more out of Taluk funds. At the same time I asked for tools. I asked for as little delay as possible in getting money sanctioned for water-supply and village sanitation.

6. In my No. 77 of 22nd December, I drew attention to the road works that would have in my opinion to be put in hand this official year as relief works, providing the Kottapatam-Cumbum road for relief in Podili as work on that road could be started at once. In my No. 78 of the same date, I said that some of these works must be started by the middle of January, if there was no rain.

7. On the 29th December, as the zemindar was doing no work, I allotted Rs. 2,000 from my Taluk Board balance (up to then untouched) for further relief in Podili. The total Taluk Board money, specially allotted to Podili up to the end of the year, was Rs. 3,830. If it had not been for my ability to do this, matters would have been most critical in regard to the condition of the Malas and Madigas.

8. After my inspection of Addanki and parts of Ongole taluk, I have come here and regret to find matters are such that work must be provided for, or many Malas and Madigas will become too weak to do any work when it is provided. In Podili there are several cases of great emaciation although gratuitous relief under the Famine Code has been given for nearly all this month. This was found to be an absolute necessity and some Rs. 60 has been expended. I have found in several villages the poorer classes have had no grains for two or three days, in one village for about six days. In these villages I have made use of the attenuated balance of my Taluk Board to repair wells. In the last villages I visited, the poor people (about 40) had reached a state of almost apathy. I saw this this morning and work has already been started there. This would undoubtedly have been the condition of almost all the villages if I had not been able to give Rs. 3,830 I mentioned, to which sum I have now added Rs. 460.

9. It is not in my power to give more help except to about Rs. 150, and it has come to this point now that hundreds must starve on a diet of prickly-pear, fruit and water or have work provided for them.

10. It is true that the Zemindar of Venkatagiri informed you that he had sanctioned certain works, but as none of these works are started (20 or 30 coolies are working at Podili tank), he has not helped us. The works, I am told, are given out on contract and the contractor cannot or would not start without an advance and no advance is given to him. Representations have been

made to get this advance, but in the mean time the people starve. The zemindar states in his letter to you that in Podili it is a case of severe distress more than famine. This was quite true a month ago, and if true now, it is only because of relief given by the Taluk Board. In my opinion, however, what was severe distress is now passing, if it has not passed beyond that point, and steps must be taken accordingly.

11. The first relief we are likely to get is the Rs. 10,000 applied for by the Board of Revenue to Government in aid of the Ongole Taluk Board funds, but the Podili share of this will be very little. It is necessary to start at once the road repairs as already suggested. It is past the middle of January, the Taluk Board funds are exhausted, the zemindar's relief works are not in operation, the last two monsoons failed (*vide* my report upon the crops of the division that will go to-day or to-morrow). There is very little grain in this country, the percentage of the cooly classes is, I believe, very high and many of them are in a state of absolute destitution now.

12. I request therefore that orders be issued on, or as soon as after the receipt of this letter as telegraphic orders can be received, to start not only repairs to Kottapatam-Cumbam road in this division, but to the Darsi-Podili and Darsi-Kurichedu roads as well in this and the Darsi division.

RESOLUTION—dated 30th January 1892, No. 72.

Submitted to Government with reference to G.O., dated 12th January 1892, No. 38, in continuation of Board's Proceedings, Nos. 6 and 41, dated 4th and 19th January, respectively.

2. In his second letter read above, the Collector briefly summarises the history of the past season in his district. This has been set forth fully in previous monthly reports. The situation briefly is that south of the Pennér the crops are safe and the area alluded to is in no sense "affected" except by the general high prices. North of the Pennér, however, the dry crops are generally very poor, and in some localities have failed, or will fail entirely and only yield fodder for the cattle. Prices have been rising rapidly of late and show no tendency to fall, but no failure of supplies is feared, as the affected area is well supplied with communications, and has easy access to the Kistna delta on the north.

3. The Collector's estimates of the numbers likely to need relief in the areas affected have already been laid before Government with the Board's remarks, together with detailed lists of the works he has selected for their relief, for approval. He has estimated the probable cost of the works necessary up to June next, when the south-west monsoon rains may lead to a revival of field work, at Rs. 3,25,750; but he fears that, owing to the very large proportion of the population of the tract that lives from hand to month, a larger sum may be required. Besides this he has estimated the probable cost of gratuitous relief at Rs. 53,000. The former estimate is very high and the Commissioner would substitute for it the estimate submitted by the Board in Board's Proceedings, dated 21st January 1892, No. 44, which provides for the employment of the numbers noted on the margin during each month. The latter is, in the Commissioner's opinion, excessive, both as to the numbers likely to need gratuitous relief, if works are opened promptly, and as to the cost of feeding the persons to be fed. A sum of Rs. 20,000 will, he considers, suffice under this head.

February	5,000
March	7,500
April, ...	12,500
May	15,000
June	5,000

4. In the first letter read above, the Collector states that the extra establishment required will probably be—

(1) a Special Assistant Collector at head-quarters.
(2) a do. Deputy Collector to relieve the Sub-Collector.
(3) a do. do. do the Head Assistant Collector.
(4) five Deputy Tahsildars.
(5) two Assistant Engineers.
(6) ten Overseers.

511/9

The Commissioner considers that the first three appointments should be made at an early date, and that the Collector should be authorized to appoint a Deputy Tahsildar in each of the affected taluks to relieve the Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars of magisterial and routine work, as they may be found necessary. The Commissioner has already recommended the appointment of an officer of the Public Works Department to assist the Collector in the management of Civil Agency works, and for the present that should suffice. Arrangements can probably be made locally for obtaining a sufficient number of subordinates if the Public Works Department is unable to spare the large number required.

5. The Collector also states that establishments for supervising the kitchens, costing Rs. 3,600 for four months, may be necessary. The petty establishment in charge of each kitchen may, the Commissioner thinks, be met from the estimate for gratuitous relief. Circle Inspectors are not at present necessary, though they may be hereafter, if the number of kitchens opened becomes larger than the Tahsildars can properly supervise.

6. The Collector will be informed that gratuitous relief will only be granted in the form of cooked food distributed in the kitchens.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Collector of Nellore.
Copy to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department.

Exd. W. J. Lewis.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1892.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Printed February 4th.

Proceedings, 30th January 1892, No. 72.

Submitting to Government, with remarks, report on the *state of season in the Nellore* district.

10TH FEBRUARY 1892, No. 139, REVENUE.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 30th January 1892, No. 72 :—

MR. CLOGSTOUN.

Read—the following letter from A. W. B. HIGGENS, Esq., Collector of Nellore, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated Udayagiri, 13th January 1892, No. 23-Tour :—

In reply to your telegram, dated 9th instant, calling for the statement of expenditure on works and gratuitous relief and establishments for December 1891, together with an estimate (probable) of expenditure to be incurred under the same heads during the next few months, I have the honour to state that the reports of the Executive and Local Fund Engineers and of Divisonal officers are still due in reference to Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 5251, dated 19th September 1891, and that report will be made to the Board on their receipt. Urgent reminders have already been sent to the officers named.

2. No expenditure was incurred under the head "gratuitous relief" beyond Rs. 59 in the Sub-Collector's division, which was spent in December by the Deputy Tahsildar of Podili under a misunderstanding of the orders issued. There was also no expenditure on establishment or on regular relief works.

3. Estimates of the probable expenditure on works for the relief of distress up to June 1892 have been furnished with my letter No. 3754-Ver., dated 29th December 1891 (embodied in Board's Proceedings, No. 6, dated 4th January 1892), and No. 15-Tour, dated 10th January 1892. The total amounts to Rs. 3,33,951 or, say, Rs. 3,34,000. I trust that those estimates may be adequate; but, now that I have rather more personal experience of the condition of the northern taluks, I shall not be greatly surprised to find that they are considerably under the mark. We have not, I am afraid, made sufficient allowance for the enormous proportion of the population which belongs to the lowest classes (Malas and Madigas) in the taluks of the Sub-Collector's and Head Assistant's divisions. The results of the census of 1891, showing the distribution of the people by castes, are not yet available; but, taking the figures of 1881, I find that in these two divisions there were no less than 130,000 Malas and Madigas forming from one-fifth to one-eighth of the total population. How many of this number may need work, I cannot say; but from the way in which low-caste people have crowded to the road-repair work opened a few days ago between Udayagiri and Sitharampuram, I apprehend that the demand of such people for work will be very large. Out of 3,669 persons who had come to that work from within a few miles of the road, on the 11th instant, 1,620 were Madigas and 572 Malas, making nearly two-thirds of the whole. * These people have for the most part no lands. The crops on the ground from Nandavaram northwards throughout the inland taluks (Udayagiri, Kanigiri and Podili) and the two northern divisions (Darsi and Addanki) will generally produce a very minute outturn, or will, as has been already the case in

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* *Note.*—Probably with institution of tasks, the total numbers will decrease, but the proportion of low-caste will probably be constant.

(Intld.) A. W. B. H.

several localities, wither away without any outturn whatever, except some fodder for the cattle. The result will be a very limited amount of harvest work, and a continuance or intensification of the present high prices, and the extension of the distress, not only to Malas and Madigas and other labourers, but also to persons of the ryot class, who (witness the presence of 516 Capus on the Sitharampuram road) already seem to need help. Without more experience, however, I cannot venture on a further estimate of the cost of works.

4. I have the same difficulty in regard to an estimate of the cost of gratuitous relief. A large provision for works at an early date in convenient localities will no doubt obviate the necessity for gratuitous relief on a very large scale; but it will be necessary to provide for children and very old persons and for those physically incapable of any work. I calculate that at 30 per cent. of the total population, the total number of such persons in the eight affected taluks is about 280,000; but of this number it may not be necessary to provide gratuitous relief for an average of more than 2 per cent., or say 5,600. The cost of feeding this number at, say, 15 pies per head per diem for 120 days would be Rs. 52,500; or allowing for cost of buildings, Rs. 53,000. This figure is really pure guess work, but may, I think, be taken as a probable estimate.

5. As to extra establishments, the requirements of the affected taluks will probably be—

(*a*) One Special Assistant Collector and one Deputy Collector to assist the Sub-Collector in routine, magisterial and famine work. Cost for four months, say Rs. 4,000.

(*b*) One Deputy Collector to give similar assistance to the Head Assistant Collector. Cost for four months, say Rs. 1,200.

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Extra establishments	19,000
Total ...	4,06,000

8. I trust that the Deputy Tahsildars and some overseers may be sanctioned at the earliest possible date. I have already asked urgently for funds to begin works in the localities where they are most needed.

571/11

Read—the following letter from A. W. B. HIGGENS, Esq., Acting Collector of Nellore, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated 21st January 1892, No. 43-Tour:—

Referring to Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 430, dated 13th instant, I have the honour to submit the following report, under section 35 of the Famine Code, regarding the existing distress in this district and the measures which seem necessary in order to relieve it.

2. The rainfall of fasli 1301 has been deficient throughout the whole district. During the period of the south-west monsoon anxiety was chiefly felt regarding the taluks south of the Pennér including also the portions of the Nellore and Atmakúr taluks north of that river. This anxiety continued also for a portion of the north-east monsoon period, but timely rain in December altered the prospects, and on the 15th December I was able to report that there was no further cause for anxiety regarding the southern taluks. Except that prices rule high, the portion of the taluks formerly classed as "affected" (excepting Atmakúr) is now fairly normal, and there seems every reason to expect that as the crops are harvested prices will fall and the country will return to its usual condition.

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4. There has, generally speaking, been no falling off in the total area cultivated; but for want of water in tanks and wells, large areas, which usually grow wet crops, have been sown with dry crops, and even so have failed to produce, or are likely to fail to produce, a good outturn. The dry crops are, as a rule, very miserable, and in some localities they have failed or will fail entirely and will yield no more than a small supply of fodder for the cattle. There are happily exceptions to this forlorn prospect. In localities where showers of any quantity fell during December or where the wells are particularly favorably situated, the crops are in fair condition. Patches of such crops may, I believe, be found in most villages, but they are not of large area, and the level of water in the wells is, generally speaking, so low that they can water but a small portion of the land under them. The probable outturn of all crops therefore varies from 0, through 2 and 4 annas, up to 8 annas, the great bulk being of the 0, 2 and 4 anna grades. Lands under wells have, however, in some places yielded full or nearly full crops of ragi.

5. Prices at the present time show no tendency to fall, and indeed in the western taluks the prices of dry grains, which are the food of the poor, have been steadily rising. This rise is largely due to local failure of rain, but is also the result of the unhappy condition of the adjoining taluks of the Cuddapah, Kurnool and Kistna districts. No doubt there will be some fall in the price of rice as the produce of the Kistna delta is brought to market, but this can have little effect on the prices of dry grains, for supplies of which the area in question has, I believe, been chiefly used to depend on local resources.

6. I do not, however, apprehend any general failure of supplies. The Railway to Nellore on the south, the Buckingham Canal on the east and the Southern Mahratta Railway in the extreme north, coupled with the existing stocks (which, considering that the area under report did not suffer severely in fasli 1300, cannot be very low), should be sufficient to provide the country with food for a considerable period. There is likely to be more difficulty in many villages on account of failure of water for men and of water and fodder for cattle than from want of grain. Rain in January and February is exceptional, but it may possibly fall. If it were to fall over considerable areas there would be some increase in the outturn of the dry crops (chiefly jonna) which are still maintaining the struggle for existence, and fears for a water famine in the coming hot months would be removed, but we must, I apprehend, be prepared for the worst.

7. One of the great factors in the distress which is upon us is the enormous proportion of the population which lives from hand to mouth. In my letter No. 23-Tour, dated 13th instant, to which I beg reference, I have calculated the total number of the Malas and Madigas (the two Pariah castes) living in the taluks under reference at 130,000. It was at this figure in 1881. It is probably higher now. These people have ordinarily no lands. The Madigas are for the most part the servants (if no stronger term should be applied) of the cultivators, and when their masters cannot give them work they must find it elsewhere or die. Some of the Malas are in the same condition. Some live by weaving coarse cloths; but this occupation will not support them as the distress becomes more general. Considerable numbers of the poorer cultivators and of the laboring classes are also likely to need relief by way of wages on works.

8. In previous communications (letters Nos. 3754-Ver. of the 29th December and 15 of the 10th January) I have estimated roughly the average number likely to come on to relief works for six months (January to June), *i.e.*, until such time as agricultural work may be again available, at 15,400, the details of persons and of the probable cost of relieving them being as per margin. It is, I am afraid, likely that these figures may be exceeded, but I hope that it may be otherwise.

Taluk.	No. of persons.	Amount. RS.
Ongole	3,000	60,000
Kandukúr	2,000	45,000
Kanigiri	2 400	52,000
Darsi	1,500	30,000
Podili	3,000	60,000
Kaváli	500	11,250
Atmakúr	1,000	22,500
Udayagiri	2,000	45,000
Total ...	15,400	3,25,750

9. As to works required to provide for the numbers estimated as above, I request reference to the two sets of lists, A and B, submitted with my letters quoted in the last paragraph. I enclose combined copies, A-i, B-i of those lists for ready reference. The major irrigation works and road works mentioned therein are those which the Sub-Collector and Head Assistant Collector and I think likely to be most useful, and I request sanction for the undertaking of all of them as occasion may arise. The total estimated cost is Rs. 2,99,700. The Board has already in Board's Proceedings, No. 6, dated 4th January 1892, recommended the issue of orders for the early execution of the major irrigation works in the sub-division at a cost of Rs. 29,600, and I trust a similar recommendation has now been made for the same class of works in the Head Assistant's division costing Rs. 12,000. Of the Rs. 20,000 asked for by me and by the Board as a preliminary grant in aid of Local Funds, some Rs. 13,600 are intended to be spent on village sanitation and water-supply works, leaving only Rs. 6,300 for road works. I would suggest therefore that the Board should be pleased to move Government for a further grant in aid of Local Funds of Rs. 20,000, making Rs. 40,000 in all. If road works are begun, as I hope this may be begun promptly, this sum may last for, say, six weeks. Work should, I consider, be provided *now* in Udayagiri, Kanigiri, Podili, Darsi and in the Addanki division of Ongole; and, if funds are provided, I would open one or more road works in each of these localities as need might seem to require. The Sub-Collector in his letter No. 275, dated 19th January 1892 (enclosed in original), writes very urgently of the need for the commencement of works in the Podili division, where the low-caste people have already begun to show clear symptoms of emaciation. In Ongole, Kandukúr, Kávali and Atmakúr the situation is believed to be rather less urgent, and, if the Public Works Department works are now undertaken, road works may perhaps be deferred for another fortnight.

10. As to gratuitous relief, I have in my letter No. 23-Tour, dated 13th January 1892, made a rough estimate of Rs. 53,000 as the total cost. I believe that this form of relief will not be generally necessary before the 15th February. In reference, however, to the Sub-Collector's letter referred to above, I now ask for a grant of Rs. 500 under this head for the opening of one or more kitchens, if necessary, in connection with the road works in the Podili division.

11. If the Board approve, I wish to try the plan proposed for Bellary of having kitchens on the works rather than in the villages.

51/12

12. In regard to the establishments which I believe to be necessary, I have reported fully in my letter No. 23, dated 13th January 1892.

13. I respectfully ask that, if funds have not been already allotted for road works, they may be allotted on receipt of this letter. Any delay now will, I am afraid, eventuate in such a reduction in the strength of those who now ask for work (especially in the most northern parts of the district), that it may prove necessary to support numbers gratuitously. It may happen also that help may reach some of them too late to be of any benefit.

Enclosure.

From C. H. MOUNSEY, Esq., Sub-Collector of Nellore, to the Collector of Nellore, dated Podili, 19th January 1892, No. 275.

I have the honour to refer you to the several reports from me in reference to the state of the season, especially in Podili.

2. On the 3rd December in No. 66-Camp, I wrote that if no rain fell there (and unfortunately no more rain has fallen) relief works beyond the few (Rs. 390) I had already given from Taluk Board funds in the worst villages would have to be undertaken by the 15th December. In my letter of the 7th December, No. 6209, I mentioned that I had to allot a further sum of Rs. 300 in Podili and that I understood the zemindar of Venkatagiri had sanctioned Rs. 20,000 for repairs to his tanks and that he would sanction Rs. 8,000 more. With that money, I thought matters would go on well for some time.

3. On the 9th December in Camp No. 66, I gave my opinion that if there was no rain, works should be started as soon as ever in the ordinary course of correspondence, the arrangements for starting them could be made.

4. On the 14th December in No. 6241, I stated: "I desire again to inform you that if the season remains as it is by the 15th January, relief works must be started." I said, however, that in the zemindari tracts repairs to tanks and money from Taluk Board was being utilized to give employment and food to the most suffering classes. I added that in a month's time relief kitchens might be necessary, but might not be necessary if other works were started.

5. On the 15th December in my No. 6297, I wrote to inform you that the zemindari officials were not carrying out the repairs to their irrigation works, and I had therefore to provide for Podili alone Rs. 1,140 more out of Taluk funds. At the same time I asked for tools. I asked for as little delay as possible in getting money sanctioned for water-supply and village sanitation.

6. In my No. 77 of 22nd December, I drew attention to the road works that would have in my opinion to be put in hand this official year as relief works, providing the Kottapatam-Cumbum road for relief in Podili as work on that road could be started at once. In my No. 78 of the same date, I said that some of these works must be started by the middle of January, if there was no rain.

7. On the 29th December, as the zemindar was doing no work, I allotted Rs. 2,000 from my Taluk Board balance (up to then untouched) for further relief in Podili. The total Taluk Board money, specially allotted to Podili up to the end of the year, was Rs. 3,830. If it had not been for my ability to do this, matters would have been most critical in regard to the condition of the Malas and Madigas.

8. After my inspection of Addanki and parts of Ongole taluk, I have come here and regret to find matters are such that work must be provided for, or many Malas and Madigas will become too weak to do any work when it is provided. In Podili there are several cases of great emaciation although gratuitous relief under the Famine Code has been given for nearly all this month. This was found to be an absolute necessity and some Rs. 60 has been expended. I have found in several villages the poorer classes have had no grains for two or three days, in one village for about six days. In these villages I have made use of the attenuated balance of my Taluk Board to repair wells. In the last villages I visited, the poor people (about 40) had reached a state of almost apathy. I saw this this morning and work has already been started there. This would undoubtedly have been the condition of almost all the villages if I had not been able to give Rs. 3,830 I mentioned, to which sum I have now added Rs. 460.

9. It is not in my power to give more help except to about Rs. 150, and it has come to this point now that hundreds must starve on a diet of prickly-pear, fruit and water or have work provided for them.

10. It is true that the Zemindar of Venkatagiri informed you that he had sanctioned certain works, but as none of these works are started (20 or 30 coolies are working at Podili tank), he has not helped us. The works, I am told, are given out on contract and the contractor cannot or would not start without an advance and no advance is given to him. Representations have been

made to get this advance, but in the mean time the people starve. The zemindar states in his letter to you that in Podili it is a case of severe distress more than famine. This was quite true a month ago, and if true now, it is only because of relief given by the Taluk Board. In my opinion, however, what was severe distress is now passing, if it has not passed beyond that point, and steps must be taken accordingly.

11. The first relief we are likely to get is the Rs. 10,000 applied for by the Board of Revenue to Government in aid of the Ongole Taluk Board funds, but the Podili share of this will be very little. It is necessary to start at once the road repairs as already suggested. It is past the middle of January, the Taluk Board funds are exhausted, the zemindar's relief works are not in operation, the last two monsoons failed (*vide* my report upon the crops of the division that will go to-day or to-morrow). There is very little grain in this country, the percentage of the cooly classes is, I believe, very high and many of them are in a state of absolute destitution now.

12. I request therefore that orders be issued on, or as soon as after the receipt of this letter as telegraphic orders can be received, to start not only repairs to Kottapatam-Cumbum road in this division, but to the Darsi-Podili and Darsi-Kurichedu roads as well in this and the Darsi division.

Resolution—dated 30th January 1892, No. 72.

Submitted to Government with reference to G.O., dated 12th January 1892, No. 38, in continuation of Board's Proceedings, Nos. 6 and 41, dated 4th and 19th January, respectively.

2. In his second letter read above, the Collector briefly summarises the history of the past season in his district. This has been set forth fully in previous monthly reports. The situation briefly is that south of the Pennér the crops are safe and the area alluded to is in no sense "affected" except by the general high prices. North of the Pennér, however, the dry crops are generally very poor, and in some localities have failed, or will fail entirely and only yield fodder for the cattle. Prices have been rising rapidly of late and show no tendency to fall, but no failure of supplies is feared, as the affected area is well supplied with communications, and has easy access to the Kistna delta on the north.

3. The Collector's estimates of the numbers likely to need relief in the areas affected have already been laid before Government with the Board's remarks, together with detailed lists of the works he has selected for their relief, for approval. He has estimated the probable cost of the works necessary up to June next, when the south-west monsoon rains may lead to a revival of field work, at Rs. 3,25,750; but he fears that, owing to the very large proportion of the population of the tract that lives from hand to mouth, a larger sum may be required. Besides this he has estimated the probable cost of gratuitous relief at Rs. 53,000. The former estimate is very high and the Commissioner would substitute for it the estimate submitted by the Board in Board's Proceedings, dated 21st January 1892, No. 44, which provides for the employment of the numbers noted on the margin during each month. The latter is, in the Commissioner's opinion, excessive, both as to the numbers likely to need gratuitous relief, if works are opened promptly, and as to the cost of feeding the persons to be fed. A sum of Rs. 20,000 will, he considers, suffice under this head.

February	5,000
March	7,500
April, ...	12,500
May	15,000
June	5,000

4. In the first letter read above, the Collector states that the extra establishment required will probably be—

(1) a Special Assistant Collector at head-quarters.
(2) a do. Deputy Collector to relieve the Sub-Collector.
(3) a do. do. do the Head Assistant Collector.
(4) five Deputy Tahsildars.
(5) two Assistant Engineers.
(6) ten Overseers.

51/13

The Commissioner considers that the first three appointments should be made at an early date, and that the Collector should be authorized to appoint a Deputy Tahsildar in each of the affected taluks to relieve the Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars of magisterial and routine work, as they may be found necessary. The Commissioner has already recommended the appointment of an officer of the Public Works Department to assist the Collector in the management of Civil Agency works, and for the present that should suffice. Arrangements can probably be made locally for obtaining a sufficient number of subordinates if the Public Works Department is unable to spare the large number required.

5. The Collector also states that establishments for supervising the kitchens, costing Rs. 3,600 for four months, may be necessary. The petty establishment in charge of each kitchen may, the Commissioner thinks, be met from the estimate for gratuitous relief. Circle Inspectors are not at present necessary, though they may be hereafter, if the number of kitchens opened becomes larger than the Tahsildars can properly supervise.

6. The Collector will be informed that gratuitous relief will only be granted in the form of cooked food distributed in the kitchens.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Collector of Nellore.
Copy to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department.

ORDER—dated 10th February 1892, No. 139, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

The Government concurs in the Commissioner's remarks in paragraphs 3 and 5 of his Proceedings read above. The question of allotting the necessary funds will be considered in the Financial Department.

2. Two Special Deputy Collectors of the 6th grade and five Special Deputy Tahsildars for the five marginally-noted taluks, each on a salary of Rs. 70 per mensem, will be appointed as recommended by the Board of Revenue. The question of appointing a Special Assistant Collector at head-quarters will be considered in the Public Department, while that regarding the additional Assistant Engineers and Overseers asked for by the Collector will be considered in the Department of Public Works.

Udayagiri.
Kanigiri.
Podili.
Darsi.
Ongole.

3. The instruction in paragraph 6 of the Board's Proceedings is approved.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Government.

To the Public Department.
" the Financial Department.
" the Public Works Department. [illegible]
" the Board of Revenue (Settlement Department).
" the Local and Municipal Department.
" the Commissioners of Land Revenue.
" the Accountant-General.

Exd. A. Aubert.

125 Copies.

P. W. CURRENT No. 1430

Govt. of {1892} Madras.

REVENUE.

Issued

Recd.   Encl.
Regd: 11-2-92

G.O., 10th February 1892, No. 139.

A 511 W
17.2.92

FEBRUARY.

Season, Nellore.

Stating that two Special Deputy Collectors of the 6th grade and five Special Deputy Tahsildars, each on Rs. 70 per mensem, will be appointed owing to the distress prevailing there.

The Hon'ble Mr Garstin's remarks.

511/14

A copy of the Board's Proceedings had better be sent to the Chief Engineer. If 10 Overseers are required for Nellore we shall want a larger supply of this class of subordinates from Bengal probably.

(Sd) J H G.

P6/1430/92

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read Pros.ˣ of the Board of Revenue (Rt. L.R. & Agri) dated 30th Jany 1892 No 72.

ˣ Copy attached

51/15

Order thereon 10th Feby 1892 No. 139.

The Government concurs in the Commissioner's remarks in paras 3 and 5 of his Proceedings read above. The question of alloting the necessary funds will be considered in the Finl. Department.

2. Two special Dy Collectors of the 6th grade and five special Dy Tahsildars for the five marginally noted⁺ Taluks each on a salary of Rupees 70 per mensem will be appointed as recommended by the Board of Revenue. The question of appointing a special Assistant Collector at Head Quarters will be considered in the Public Department while that regarding the additional Assistant Engineers and Overseers asked for by the Collector

⁺ Udayagiri
Kanigiri.
Podili -
Darsi -
Ongole -

Collector will be considered in the Department of Public Works.

3. The instruction in para 6 of the Board's Proceedings is approved.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Govt.

To

The Public Department.
" Financial Departt.
with extract of notes of Hon. Mr. Stokes His Excellency the Governor.
" Public Works Dept.
with extract of Hon. Mr. Gaskins note.
" Board of Revenue (Settt)
" Local & Municl. Dept.
" Commr. of Land Revenue.
" Accountant General.

Ak

P. W. CURRENT No. 1430

Govt. of {1892} Madras.

REVENUE.

To

The Public Works Dept.

Dated }
Recd. } Encl. 2

Mis. G.O. 10th Feby 1892 No. 139

No. 160 C d/ 11-1-92
" 379 C " 25-1-92
" 704 C " 11-2-92
" 388 W " 8-2-92
" 414 W " 10-2-92
" 2784 R " 19-11-91
" 505 C " 1-2-92
" 637 C " 8-2-92

51

SUBJECT.

Passing orders on B. P. submg. to Govt., with remarks report on the condition of season in Nellore district.

---

the subject. steps wa

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

A

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

51/17

READ the following

Pros: of Govt: Revenue Dept. No. 139 d/ 10th Feby '92.

Communicated to the Supdg. Engineer II Circle for information.

2. The services of Mr. H. H. O'Connell Ex: Engineer will be available for employment on Famine Relief works as soon as he is relieved of the charge of the Division of the [illegible], ~~have been placed at the disposal of the Revenue Department for duty under the Collector~~ and his appointment will meet present requirements as regards Engineer Establishment.

3. Of the ten upper subordinates asked for, the Collector states that some will be required for employment under the P. W. Dept. officers and some under the Local Fund Engineer

those required for Local Fund work will be appointed by the President, District Board. The ~~services of the under mentioned~~ four upper subordinates named in the margin, who are available for transfer from the South Indian Railway will at once be ~~placed at the disposal of the Revenue Dept for employment under Mr. O'Connell~~: posted to [illegible]

Mr. H. Bristow Sub Engr. 2nd grade
" Gunput Kristnajee, Sub Engr 3rd grade
" F. J. Teal, Supervisor 2nd grade
" Prasad Durga, Overseer 3rd grade

4. When Mr. O'Connell has organised his groups of works, he will be in a position to state what further establishment, if any, he will require, and on receipt of a report on the subject, steps will be taken to provide more men if necessary.

OHB
13.2.92

No. II Circle, and the Superintending Engineer will distribute them to the best of his judgment, bearing in mind that as far as possible, subordinates of local experience should be employed on famine relief works, the places on ordinary works being taken by the men now posted to the Circle –

To the Joint Secy } of
Ry Branch
" Secy to Govt
Rev. Dept

To

The S.E. II Circle
Rev: Dept
L & M. Dept
C.E. for

---

the subject, steps will

1430
/

Circ. 1430

Ord 571/58

Requisition from the Rev. Dept. for officers & subordinates for famine relief works in the Nellore District.

The Collector asks for 2 engineers & 10 upper subordinates. The Board of Rev. says that the one engineer previously asked for should be sufficient for the present, & adds that arrangements can probably be made locally to obtain a sufficient number of subordinates, if the Board is unable to spare the large number required.

Mr. O'Connell has already been posted for duty under the Collector, & this meets the requisition for an officer.

With regard to subordinates, the following men are apparently available at once from the S.I. Ry. -

H. Bristow Sub Engr 2d grade
Ganapathi Kristnaiyer - Sub Engr 3d grade.
F. J. Teal, Supervisor 2d grade
Prosad Durga, overseer 3d grade,

and the undermentioned will become available from the dates named -

W. Handy. Sub Engr 3d grade - 1-3-92
W. Millie. Supervisor 1st grade - 30.6.92
G. W. Rayner — " 2d " — 31.3.92
F. Hand — " 2d " — 1-3-92
C. S. Brown overseer 2d grade - 30-6-92

The men who will not be available before 30th June will be of no use apparently.

A list of men on the register of applicants is attached -

Some of the Engineer Students who recently completed their practical course will probably accept employment as temp. overseers 1st grade -

For orders.

12/2/92

The Collector states that of the 10 overseers (or sub overseers) some are required for work under the L. F. Engineer and the President Dt. Bd. should appoint them -

Of the men immediately available for transfer from S.I.R. 3 are of higher rank than required - Most of the outsiders however ask for high pay, & so these 4 men may be transferred from S.I.R.

others are

wanted, Subrahmanya Pillai from K.E.B. or Lindsay Pillai from St. Xavier's may be appointed. –

Mr. O'Connell's appointment meets present requirements as regards Eng. staff. –

When he has organised his charge of works he will be in a better position to state what further staff, if any, he will require. –

12.2.92

Yes G...

DW

Considers whether the four men available from the South Indian Ry. are at once to be transferred for duty under Mr. O'Connell.

In a note now in circulation the Hon. suggested that men from other Presidencies should be posted to ordinary divisions, and that the Madras officers and subordinates relieved by them should be sent on famine duty.

If this course be decided on, the four Ry. men might be posted to the II Circle, leaving it to the S.E. to select four from his staff for duty under Mr. O'Connell.

12-2-92

1430

I think this letter's
suggestion as to
reference to Officer
of the Engr. Coll.
I think that
every paper to the S.R.
should be posted
direct.

OVB
12-2-92

It has been decided
~~that~~ the order placing
Mr O'Connell's services
at the disposal of the
Finance Department will
be cancelled, and that
all public works establish-
ment, whether for F.R.
or not, will be under
the Frontier Engin-

S 18.2

51/24

1430/

PUBLIC WORKS SECRETARIAT,
RAILWAY BRANCH.

Station Simla. date 13. 2. 1892.

OFFICE NOTE.

511/2

To W.

With ref. to annexed draft G.O.

Mr. Bristow will not be available for transfer from S.I.R. until 30 April, & Mr. Peel will be wanted till 31 March.

Mr. Handy, Sub-Engr. 3rd Grade is available at once.

I have wired to the Agent to ask if Ganpat Krishna & Durga Prasad are available at once. I think they are unless the latter gets med: certificate. On receipt of Agent's reply will let you know.

13/2 R

1

Proposed to alter the draft as shown in pencil, omitting the portion in brackets.

This will admit of the draft going on, & the question of selecting men for transfer will be taken up at once ~~[illegible]~~ under D.W.'s orders.

The telegram from India previously referred to, has just been received, & is submitted for orders – India will require a reply.

Cy
15.2.92

511/~~28~~ 23

N. 15.II.92.

[illegible] quite [illegible] and
this. Has not the
Venus been always
ported for? The
the ~~same~~ Three shown seems
to have asked for
see these Planets
& Nixon I think,
and we assume they
been received about
them —

We are delighted
with these prints and
album but we must
see some at least
with these Pen[illegible]
& Nixon —

Let me know
exactly those matters
stand as regards
these —

S

25 —

No 15 II. 92.

Note for W

Mr Clayton asked for four Officers of Engrs –

1 for Bellary
√ 1 for Cuddapah
1 for Punganur (N. Arcot)
√ 1 for Nellore.

Mr Frost has been posted to Cuddapah & Mr O'Connell to Nellore –

The C. S. I. agreed to give Mr Verrieres' services but he has not been posted to any division yet.

The services of Messrs Parry & Nixon of the East Coast Ry were asked for, & India said that they would be given, provided that substitutes were not necessary on the E. C. Ry. This question was wired to the Engr in Chief by R, & no reply appears to have been received.

R. S. 15. II. 92. 15. 2. 92

PUBLIC WORKS

Genl
Estab

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

A

571/28

READ the following

Pros: of Government Revenue Dept: No 139 d/10th Feby 1892

Communicated to the Supdg: Engineer II Circle for information.

2. The services of Mr H. H. O'Connell Executive Engineer, will be available for employment on Famine Relief Works as soon as he is relieved of the charge of the division by Mr Hughes, and his appointment will meet present requirements as regards Engineer Establishment.

SHS
17 Feb

3. Of the ten Upper Subordinates asked for, the Collector states that

for employment under the P.W. Department officer and some under the Local Fund Engineer. Those required for Local Fund work will be appointed by the President District Board and the Chief Engineer P.W. Department will take immediate steps to post ~~f[illegible]~~ four Upper subordinates for duty under Mr O'Connell.

4. When Mr O'Connell has organised his groups of works, he will be in a position to state what further establishment, if any, he will require, and on receipt of a report on the subject, steps wi be taken to provide more men if necessary.

15-5/11/2[illegible]

15-2-12

27

15 Feb/12

To

The Supdg. Engineer II Circle

" Revenue Department

" Local & Municipal Dept

" Chief Engr: for Irrigation

6/12

C No. 1430

Govt. of 1892 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Famine

17th February 1892 No. 511 W

Famine Relief Works,
Nellore Dt.

Pro: Revenue Department regarding the condition of season in the Nellore Dt. communicated to the Supg. Engineer II Circle with intimation that the services of Mr. J H O'Connell Ex: Engineer will be made available for employment on ——— with four upper subordinates under him

Sd, 17/2

J. C. 17/2

28