(1) பக்கங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை 20

(2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள் ஜூலை / 91

(3) ஆதாரங்குறிப்பவர் சுருக்கொப்பம்

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

பொதுப்பணித் துறை

அரசாணை எண். 1865 / 1866 W — அச்சகம் பலவகை

மு. கோப்புத் தாள் எண். —

நாள் : 19 . 7 . 1893 198

மடிக்கவோ கண்டபடி கையாளவோ கூடாது

ஆவண, கா-1—18,006—15-6-87.

1865-66

No. 756

Superintending Engineer's Office,
3RD CIRCLE.
Bellary 23rd June 1893.

FROM Colonel A. T. Fraser R.E.
SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER.
IIIRD CIRCLE.

To THE Chief Engineer
for Irrigation
Ootacamund

Sir,

Enclosures,

I have the honor to forward for favorable consideration a representation from C. J. K. Watson Esqr. C.E. Executive Engr. 2nd Grade to the Government of India that in transferring his name lately from the Lower Bengal list to that of the "Local Administrations" he is superseded by 21 of his juniors, seriously affecting his prospects in the Department.

2. As Mr. Watson's efficiency is well known to the Chief Engineer it seems only necessary to suppose that this has occurred by some accident, and that nothing stands in the way of the matter being put right.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt Servt
A.T. Fraser Col. R.E.
Supdg Engineer IIIrd Circle

From, Colt A Fraser RE
The Superintending Engineer,
IIIrd Circle,
Bellary.

To,
The Chief Engineer
for Irrigation
Calcutta

R 6 - 111

Dated 23rd June 1893.
Received

Enclosures. /

No. 756

Subject.

Representation from E. & M. Ex Engr-2nd grade for promotion

Forwarding for favorable consideration

Ord 4.

No 3553

Transferred to the Chief Engineer P. W. Dept, with concurrence in the opinion expressed by the Supg Engineer,

Ancrum, Kitchener
Lt Col RE
Chief Engineer for Irrigation

Ootacamund
4 July 1893

A

1565

E. I. Form

P. W. CURRENT No. 6071
1893.

From

Lt: Col. R.E. Drake Brockman
~~Lieut.-Col. R.E.~~,
CHIEF ENGINEER FOR IRRIGATION, RC

To

THE Chief Engineer
P. W. D.

No. 35 E.W.
Dated 4th July.
Despatched
Received 7-7-93

ENCLOSURES /.

Subject.

Representation from C. J. K. Watson Esquire, Executive Engineer, 2nd Grade for promotion — Transferring letter from the Superintending Engr. III Circle, concerning in his opinion relative to the —

AK 143 A19/7

2. 2730 & 21-8-92
" 4632 & 25-5-92
" 5799 & 22-10-92
" 3214W & 22-11-92
" 767 C & 20-2-93.
" 597 C & 21-2-93
" 886 C & 24-2-93
" 888 C & 24-2-93
" 911 C & 25-2-93
" 1607 C & 11-4-93

Con 6071

1865-66
3

DW.

For orders whether any, & if so what remarks should be made in forwarding Mr Watson's appeal to the Govt of I.

CR
10/7/93

I don't think that there is anything else said, beyond forwarding the letter.

OMS
12/7/93

1865-66
4

RT

ERTAKEN BY THE
PARTMENT

1892.

GOVERNMENT PRESS.

E. I. Form No. 10—1,000—23-1-93

P. W. CURRENT No. 6071
1893.

From

Lt. Col. R.E. Drake Brockman
~~Lieut.-Col. R.~~ E.,
CHIEF ENGINEER FOR IRRIGATION, RC

To

THE Chief Engineer
P. W. D.

No. 35 E.W.
Dated 4th July.
Despatched
Received 7-7-93

ENCLOSURES 1.

Subject.

Representation from C.J.K. Watson Esquire, Executive Engineer, 2nd Grade for promotion — Transferring letter from the Supdg. Engr. III Circle, Concurring in his opinion relative to the —

1865-66
4

REPORT

OF

FAMINE OPERATIONS UNDERTAKEN BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

DURING 1891 AND 1892.

MADRAS:
PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS.
1893.

1865-66
4

REPORT

OF

FAMINE OPERATIONS UNDERTAKEN BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

DURING 1891 AND 1892.

MADRAS:
PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS.

1893.

1865-66
6

REPORT OF FAMINE OPERATIONS UNDERTAKEN BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT DURING 1891 AND 1892.

In para. 147 of the Famine Code it is prescribed that, on the termination of a famine, the Chief Engineer shall submit a concise history of the operations of his department. The following narrative is accordingly drawn up:—

Indications of scarcity first appeared towards the close of the year 1890–91, when the preparation of programmes of work for the relief of distress was ordered by Government, irrigation works being selected by Collectors in communication with the Public Works Department. Estimates for the works thus selected were to be got ready, and, where the irrigation works available in any affected tract were thought insufficient, they were to be supplemented by suitable Local Fund works. Scarcity more or less severe was anticipated in the Bellary, Anantapur, Kurnool, Cuddapah, North Arcot, Chingleput and Nellore districts and possibly in some others, but the nature and amount of relief to be afforded could only be determined with certainty as the season advanced. Programmes of works were drawn up, establishments organised and tools got ready, and new works in addition to the ordinary budgeted works of the department were started as occasion demanded. It was not, however, till the closing months of 1891–92 that any of the districts, where scarcity prevailed, were formally declared "distressed" under the provisions of the Famine Code. The following were the districts thus denominated, viz., Nellore, Bellary, Kurnool, Anantapur, Cuddapah and Salem.

Precise orders were given in regard to the procedure to be adopted in the execution of works classed as "Relief works." It was directed that, with certain exceptions (*e.g.*, the majority of Local Fund roads), all works undertaken for the relief of the distressed population were to be carried out under the orders of the Executive Engineer of the division. Such works were to be classed as "Professional Agency works" and the provisions of the Famine Code relating to works of that description were declared applicable to them. Detailed instructions were also given as to the closing of contracts and the adjustments of claims to compensation on account of works which it might be necessary to continue under the altered conditions induced by the famine.

The operations of the Public Works Department embraced the districts of Nellore in the II Circle, Bellary, Anantapur, Kurnool and Cuddapah in the III Circle, North Arcot, Salem and Coimbatore in the IV Circle, and Chingleput in the V Circle.

At the close of the official year 1891–92 there were 46,059 persons employed under all agencies on relief works throughout the Presidency, and this number gradually rose till it reached the sum of 91,065 in the week ending 18th June 1892. The numbers then commenced to fall week by week till by the middle of September the coolies had all left the works. The number of persons exclusively employed on "Professional Agency" works under the supervision of the Public Works Department never approximated to those figures. At the close of the official year there were only 9,606 coolies confined to the two districts of Kurnool and Anantapur on "Professional Agency" works. Bellary, with 516 persons, was added during the week ending 9th April, and, by the 30th April, large accessions were made in Cuddapah, Nellore and Salem, bringing the total up to 27,521. This was the maximum attained during the famine. The numbers then fluctuated for a few weeks until, in July, they commenced to rapidly decline, and by the middle of September they had wholly disappeared.

The following is a brief summary of the operations of the Public Works Department in the affected tracts :—

II Circle.

Nellore District.—The fasli 1301, which commenced on the 1st July 1891, was characterised by deficient rainfall. The failure of the south-west monsoon gave cause for considerable anxiety in the taluks south of the Pennér as well as in portions of the Nellore and Atmakúr taluks north of it. Scarcity in the former area, including the portion of the Nellore taluk north of the Pennér, was obviated by late rains in December 1891, while the taluk of Atmakúr together with the taluks of Ongole, Kandakúr, Kanigiri, Kávali and Udayagiri continued to suffer much for want of rains and became the "famine zone."

The Pennér rose over the anicut on only six days during 1891–92, the highest flood occurring on the 15th August 1891, when the depth over the Nellore anicut crest was but 1′ 4″ and that over the Sangam anicut crest 1′. Owing to this failure of the river supply, coupled with the failure of the rains, much of the land ordinarily irrigated from the Sangam and Nellore anicuts was left uncultivated, whilst there was an extensive failure of "dry" crops.

For relief purposes, a special establishment, consisting of an Executive Engineer and 3 overseers, was appointed, and the following works were started :—

Name of work.	Amount of estimate.	Expenditure.
	Rs.	Rs.
Griddalore tank	18,900	8,778
Madamanur do.	20,700	13,307
Vosili tank improvements	9,600	8,614
Do. flood bank	6,500	2,090
Kalanakur do.	6,000	4,046
		8,984

The works were to a considerable extent given out on the conditional contract system provided for in paragraph 121 of the Famine Code. In the execution of the works a stipulation was made with the contractors that they should admit all laborers seeking work. Where work was carried out departmentally the following procedure was adopted. A gang constituted, as shown below, was formed to execute 77 cubic yards of earthwork daily :—

	Number.
Men	50
Women	40
Children	10
Total ...	100

payment of wages being made according to the fluctuation in the market price of cholum. If the task fell short of the 77 cubic yards, a fine was imposed on each individual up to limit of subsistence allowance as follows :—

	A.	P.
Man	1	3
Nursing mother	1	3
Woman	1	0
Children	0	8

The amount of daily wages paid was per—

	Maximum. A.	Maximum. P.	Minimum. A.	Minimum. P.
Man	5	2	0	5
Nursing mother	5	2	0	5
Woman	4	1	0	4
Children	2	4	0	3

The daily task of 77 cubic yards had subsequently to be reduced to 65 cubic yards daily. Payment was made in cash only once in three days and subsistence allowance for Sundays was given to all those who had worked continuously for the six preceding days.

1865-6
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III Circle.

Scarcity more or less severe was felt from the beginning of the official year 1891–92 over the whole area comprised within this circle, but it was not till the close of that year, after the failure of both monsoons, that the Government considered it necessary to formally declare the tracts to be "distressed" under the provisions of the Famine Code. "Relief works" in the technical sense were started in Bellary and Kurnool in December 1891 and in Anantapur in March 1892. In Cuddapah, the relief works were started under the supervision of the civil authorities. During the official year 1891–92 the distress never assumed a severe character, and no more than 35,200 coolies were ever employed at one time on relief works in the circle.

Bellary.—Nine works, mostly irrigation improvements, were started in this district. The outlay was Rs. 12,146, of which Rs. 10,158 is the estimated normal value of the work done. Payments were made weekly, second and third class wages being generally earned. The coolies put on task work were only able to earn third-class wages in the majority of cases. The piece-work system was also tried, the rates earned being generally as follows :—

	1st class. A.	1st class. P.	2nd class. A.	2nd class. P.	3rd class. A.	3rd class. P.
Men	2	4	1	9	1	7
Women	1	8	1	4	1	3
Children	1	2	0	11	0	10

Hutting accommodation was not found to be necessary, the coolies being sufficiently near their villages to return home at night.

Two surveyors were employed on irrigation investigations and in the preparation of estimates, besides a special establishment for supervision of work consisting of two engineers and four subordinates.

Anantapur.—Distress in this district was confined to the northern portion, the southern, or hilly tracts being more favored in regard to rainfall and soil, did not require the opening of works of relief. The affected or northern taluks comprise about three-fourths of the whole district and about 75 per cent. of the population numbering upwards of 600,000. Judging by the numbers who resorted to relief works the distress could neither have been widespread nor acute. They never reached 900 on professional agency works, and the Collector's return comprising works of all classes shows 1,513 as the maximum at any one time. The Public Works Department works were opened in March and closed in July 1892, the expenditure having been Rs. 6,181. Of this outlay Rs. 3,467 have been classed as infructuous, being in excess of the normal value of the work done. The supervising staff in this district was well organised and payments were made frequently and with great regularity; the tasks were arranged with exactness, but this did not always suit the coolies, and they more than once temporarily ceased work. Finding, however, that nothing was gained by such procedure, they returned and succeeded in earning a sufficient wage.

Kurnool.—Relief works were started at the end of the year 1891, and when the official year 1891–92 closed there were 14 works in progress affording employment to nearly 9,000 persons. The number of works rose ultimately to 39, and the number of laborers to 22,717. In May 1892 the number of laborers commenced to diminish. There was a gradual but steady decline till the middle of September 1892 when the works were finally closed. All the works taken up by the Public Works Department were tanks, but, in May 1892, 38 miles of Local fund roads were placed under the supervision of the department. The total expenditure was upwards of 2 lakhs, the bulk being on irrigation works. The infructuous outlay was ·36 of the total expenditure, and the following are, among others, the causes which contribute to such outlay on famine relief works :—

(*a*) Sunday wages paid during cessation of work.
(*b*) The minimum wage being paid to weak persons unable to earn it.
(*c*) Supply of drinking water to camps.
(*d*) Extra supervision due to the nature of famine labour.
(*e*) Expenditure on sanitation of camps.

The tasks were laid out on principles similar to those already described in the case of other districts and the rates paid as the third-class wage ranged for—

	A.	P.		A.	P.
A man from	1	5	to	1	9
„ woman „	1	2	„	1	3
„ child „	0	9	„	0	10

The coolies were paid in cash twice and sometimes three times a week by paymasters appointed by the Collector and placed under the subordinates in charge of the works. The Executive Engineer and sub-divisional officer had drawing accounts, and the subordinates of lower ranks were provided with imprests according to requirements, the amount of the imprests being limited generally to Rs. 1,000. Special police guards were necessary for the security of the large cash balances kept on the works. No hutting accommodation was required, the coolies being able to return to their homes at night.

IV Circle.

Kálahasti Zemindari, North Arcot District.—The distress in this tract acquired an acute character at a very early period of the season. Besides the lower classes of laborers, whose means of subsistence had become quite exhausted, people of some of the higher castes also were affected by want of food, several families not inured to hard labour suffering from actual starvation. Works were started as soon as practicable in the affected centres, and, in consideration of the urgency of the case, an advance of Rs. 10,000 was placed at the disposal of the Diwan of Kálahasti to enable him to commence at once some of the minor irrigation works in the affected villages. The works were subsequently placed in charge of the Public Works Department and an Executive Engineer, with a suitable staff of subordinates, was entrusted with their supervision. Seventy-five works were started; of these, seven were roads and three buildings. The rest were tank repairs, the outlay incurred being Rs. 81,977. The maximum number of coolies employed on the works at one time was 5,229. Works were given out on the piece-work system and the coolies were paid at first, second and third class rates under the conditions prescribed in the Famine Code.

Punganúr Zemindari, North Arcot District.—This portion of the district became affected late in the year 1891. Relief works were started in the first instance by the Civil authorities, but, at the beginning of April 1892, the Public Works Department took them over. The following were the works transferred:—

(1) Constructing a road from Ramasamudram to the Cuddapah frontier *viâ* Chembacore; sanctioned estimate, Rs. 7,400.

(2) Remetalling the road from Punganúr to Chowdapalli; sanctioned estimate, Rs. 17,938.

(3) Repairing the road from Punganúr to the Kolar-Pulimmar road *viâ* Sunkaroyalpet; sanctioned estimate, Rs. 10,020.

During May the following additional work was placed under Public Works Department supervision, viz., the improvements of the village water-supply and the digging and cleansing of wells.

The coolies were tasked and paid in accordance with the provisions of the Famine Code, earning usually second-class wages.

At the end of April there were 545 coolies on the works. The numbers gradually rose to 1,764 by the end of June. In July they rapidly diminished, and, by the 15th of that month, there was no longer any need for keeping the works open.

The total expenditure was as follows:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
(1) Ramasamudram-Chembacore road	3,384	12	11
(2) Punganúr-Chowdapalli road	5,823	1	4
(3) Punganúr-Sunkaroyalpet road	6,188	2	3
(4) Improvement of village water-supply	1,169	14	8
(5) Saddam tank investigating	39	8	0

In the remaining portions of the North Arcot district the ordinary public works were generally sufficient to absorb all laborers in need of employment. The only other work specially started for relief was the removal of islands from the bed of the channel above the Cheyár anicut, on which an expenditure of Rs. 5,568 was incurred.

1865-66

Malabar, Salem and Coimbatore Districts.—Distress prevailed in portions of these districts, but it was neither widespread nor long-continued. The ordinary works of the Local Board and Public Works Department budgets were found to be generally sufficient to absorb the laborers seeking employment.

V Circle.

Chingleput District.—Arrangements were made in February 1891 to commence relief works in the north of Tiruvallúr taluk, none of the other taluks of the district being at this period in need of relief. A few months later, however, operations were extended southwards. The south-west monsoon had then failed and relief works became necessary in every taluk of the district. The rainfall of the north-east monsoon, though not copious, was sufficient to render relief operations no longer necessary and works were closed in January 1892.

The following is a list of the tracts in which relief works were opened with the month in which the works were begun in each case:—

Name of taluk.	Name of tract.	Month of opening.
1. Tiruvallúr	Kadur-Kambakam ..	February 1891.
2. Do.	Ulinkottai	April „
3. Do.	Periapálaiyam	May „
4. Ponnéri	Ponnéri taluk	February „
5. Chingleput	Manambathy	April „
6. Madurántakam	Acharavakam	„ „
7. Saldápet	Tirumushi tank	July „
8. Conjeeveram	Kuvam-Mappedu	„ „

System of Payments.—Payments on these works were made according to circumstances, sometimes weekly, but oftener as frequently as twice a week, while in some cases daily payments had to be given.

The maximum rates of wage per diem were 3 annas for a man, 2 annas for a woman and 1 anna 6 pies for a boy or girl. Smaller rates proportionate to the work done were paid to people who could not do the full task required for the maximum rates.

Preparation of Estimates.—Special subordinates were employed in the preparation of estimates, so that a continuous supply of works might be available.

The following table gives the total number of estimates prepared and their value:—

	Number.	Amount. Rs.
Tiruvallúr	56	1,48,707
Chingleput	73	1,58,345
Mount	10	8,035
Váyalúr project	1	43,000
Total ...	140	3,58,087

The following statement shows the maximum number of coolies employed at any one time:—

	Number.
Men	3,267
Women	1,313
Children	102

The following statement shows the total expenditure throughout the Presidency incurred on famine relief works under all heads by the agency of the Public Works Department:—

1890–91.	Rs.	A.	P.
Irrigation works	4,761	2	10
Roads	...		
Miscellaneous	...		
Establishment	...		
Total ...	4,761	2	10

1891-92.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Irrigation works	1,84,605	1	11
Roads	36,605	11	11
Miscellaneous	1,812	13	10
Establishment	24,885	9	11
Total ...	2,47,909	5	7

1892-93.

Irrigation works	2,01,542	15	1
Roads	79,858	12	3
Miscellaneous	3,097	10	3
Establishment	67,272	3	4
Total ...	3,52,671	8	11
Grand Total ...	6,05,342	1	4

G. T. WALCH,
Ag. Chief Engineer, P.W.D.

To the Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department.

1885-6/9

ADDENDUM TO THE CHIEF ENGINEER'S REPORT ON FAMINE OPERATIONS BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Cuddapah.—Relief work under the supervision of the Public Works Department commenced in April 1892. Previous to this date, relief was afforded by the collection of road metal under the direction of the Local Fund staff. The earthwork of the Sagilér upper project was started on the 18th April, and it immediately attracted a large number of persons. By the fourth week of the month they had increased to 3,098. The numbers for the whole district never rose beyond 6,349 out of a total population of 1,268,887. On the night of the 2nd June a heavy fall of rain occurred which ameliorated the condition of things. Agricultural operations were resumed and the numbers on relief works commenced shortly afterwards to decline. By the end of August they had diminished to 1,458 and by the middle of September the works were finally closed. The works undertaken were principally irrigation works, and of these the Sagilér project absorbed a very large proportion of the labour. A record of the arrangements made on this work will thus be the most useful for future reference. The tasks were calculated for a typical gang of 50 coolies, consisting of 24 men, 20 women and 6 children, and were fixed as follows :—

Classification of soil.	First-class task.	Second-class task.	Third-class task.	Remarks.
Excavating.	C. FT.	C. FT.	C. FT.	
Soft soil	2,376	1,782	1,188	Third-class tasks were raised after the soil had been softened by rain.
Hard soil and gravel	1,944	1,458	972	
Rocky soil—soft and decomposed rock ..	900	675	450	
Limestone	650	487·5	325	
Rock-cutting	450	337·5	225	

The following statement shows the rates of wages :—

—	First class.			Second class.			Third class.		
	Man.	Woman.	Child.	Man.	Woman.	Child.	Man.	Woman.	Child.
	A. P.	A. P.	A. P.	A. P.	A. P.	A. P.	A. P.	A. P.	A. P.
April—May	2 8	1 11	1 4	2 2	1 8	1 1	1 8	1 4	0 10
May—July	2 6	1 10	1 3	2 0	1 7	1 0	1 7	1 3	0 10
Last week in July and August.	2 3	1 8	1 2	1 9	1 5	0 11	1 5	1 1	0 9

Coolies coming from a distance found accommodation in the adjacent villages and it was only necessary therefore to construct 10 temporary huts at distances of half a mile apart. These were roofed with mats or date palms supported on wooden posts and rafters. A hospital for cases of general disease was also erected. The total cost of hutting came to Rs. 328. Cholera broke out among the coolies on the 22nd June and measures were at once taken to check the spread of the disease. The affected gangs were isolated and sheds erected to serve as a cholera hospital, to which patients were conveyed in a dhooly by bearers organised for the purpose. Twenty-eight persons in all were attacked, of whom 4 died.

The total expenditure on Professional Agency works throughout the district amounted to Rs. 59,490, of which Rs. 14,931 is classed as abnormal.

(Signed) G. T. WALCH,
Ag. Chief Engineer, P.W.D.

10th February 1893.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
in continuation of No. 573 C., dated 9th February 1893.

D. 2

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

No. 1865 W dated 19th July 1893. 1865-10

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

READ the following

Letter from the Supt. Engineer III Circle No. 756 dy 23 June 93, forwarding for orders an appeal from Mr C. J. K. Watson, Executive Engineer regarding his supersession in the Govt. of India list.

Order —

To be forwarded for the orders of the Govt. of India.

WLS 15/July

Docket No. 1866 W dy 19 July 1893.

Forwarded.

J. Mr Secy. to the Govt. of India Pub. W. with the letter in original from the Collr. of Salem dy 20 June 93.

15.7.93

DESPATCHED 20 JUL. 93

40—800-22-3-93.

No 1865-66 W dated 19th July 1893.

D. C. 21/VII

8/3/8