M.R.O. 14-5,450—22-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1875 — Press / Mis.

530-531

Dated 30-7-1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
30th July 1866.

No. 530. Read the following letter from the Collector of South Arcot, to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Cuddalore, 24th July 1866, No. 32 :—

1. A public Meeting has been called by me for Monday next, the 30th instant, to discuss the measures necessary to be adopted to meet the present and prospective distress in this District.

2. Although famine may not be immediately imminent, still the very unpropitious character of the passing season, and the absence of all cultivation up to this time, while the cultivating season itself is rapidly passing away, are painful reminders that the time for action has arrived, in order to avert in part the misery and wretchedness which must shortly ensue.

3. Even should it please God to visit the country with abundance of rain at this late period of the season, it will be five or six months before there will be any grain available; and it is this interval which calls for the adoption of provident measures, in order to mitigate the terrible distress which seems inevitable.

4. I am sanguine of considerable success in the efforts I am about to make to raise funds on the emergency, and although put forth to the utmost, local energy must fail adequately to meet the requirements of the occasion, but supplemented, as I trust those efforts will be from the public treasury, it is possible that under judicious and able management, we may be able to tide over the crisis under circumstances of comparative alleviation; and it is on this account that I desire to ascertain whether I may be authorized to inform the Meeting at which I shall preside, whether and to what extent Government will be prepared to supplement local contributions.

5. The principal Native residents and merchants are, I believe, ready to come forward liberally, and I propose to raise funds in two ways: first, by immediate donations for the purchase of grain; and, secondly, by monthly subscriptions for the next few months, in order to keep up the supply in all the Cusbah towns of the District, where the distress and scarcity may be most pressing; and I am anxious to learn beforehand what assistance we may calculate on from the Government in aid of our own efforts. I, therefore, trust the Right Honorable the Governor in Council may be moved to a favorable consideration of this application, and that I may be favored with such instructions as will have the effect of stirring up the people generally to greater earnestness and a greater interest in the cause.

6. I propose to report to Government the result of the Meeting; and meanwhile I venture to enclose copy of a Notice which has been put in circulation both in English and Tamil, in the hope that all of every class who have the means will attend and take part in the discussion, and give of their substance liberally as the occasion so urgently demands at the hands of all.

No. 531. ORDER THEREON, 30th July 1866, No. 1,875.

Miscellaneous.

1. A full reply to the Collector's inquiries will be found in Proceedings of Government, Revenue Department, 25th July 1866, No. 1,861.

at this late period even an

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
30th July 1866.

2. He will observe that the Government are prepared to contribute the equivalent of any sum which may be raised in Madras or the Provinces, and that such contributions will be disbursed to the Madras Relief Committee.

3. His special attention is called to paragraph 3 of the Proceedings, and he is requested to arrange as expeditiously as possible, in consultation with the Engineer Officers of the District, for the commencement of works of the description indicated by Government. Gratuitous relief should be given only to those who are physically incapable of earning a livelihood.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of South Arcot.
,, the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Circular Notice

It seems to the Rector that the time has come when the attention of the Resident Inhabitants of Cuddalore & other towns in South Arcot should be aroused to the impending distress which so imminently threatens the most part of the population of the District.

2 The character of the last season is sufficiently notorious to render comment on it quite unnecessary, & yet the anticipated distress & suffering were limited to the result of a single season there might be no real cause for anxiety, but unhappily the cultivating season is rapidly passing away & no cultivation has been possible whether of dry or wet lands owing to the entire absence of Rain thus we are threatened with another year of dearth with all its attendant misery & protracted woe; and even supposing it pleased God to visit the Country at this late period with abundant

If rain no grain adequate to the wants of the people could be raised or made available for another 5 or 6 Months, and the question arises as to what is to be done to meet the pressing wants in the interval of an already half starved population whose necessities are daily becoming more pressing & whose fate, as it appears to the Collector, must be starvation & death unless some efforts adequate to the occasion be at once put forth by those who have the means & ability to rescue their fellow subjects & Country men from an impending famine - The occasion is one which loudly appeals to every person gifted with the ordinary feelings of humanity and it is undoubted that the prospective distress may greatly be averted if only all who have the means do their part & respond as they should to the urgent demand now made on their sympathies & their purses in a Cause so stirring and heartrending -

The

5 The Madras public have taken the initiative in adopting measures for the relief of the distress of famine so generally expected throughout the Country but it is clear that such District must supplement their efforts & that a sacred duty in the matter devolves on the local inhabitants in every Cusbah of every Zillah - It is expected that Government will liberally second all local efforts wherever made throughout the Presidency, but it is unreasonable to expect every thing of the State, & it is as much the duty & should be the privilege of every capable individual at such a juncture to come forward at his own self denial to lend his help in the Cause -

6 The Collector proposes that monthly Subscriptions adequate to the wants to be met should be raised in Cuddalore & from the District to buy up Grain of all Kinds for distribution either gratis or at some nominal price so as to place it within

reach

reach of all, such grain to be stored
in towns & places to be carefully se-
-lected & to be placed under the Con-
-trol & supervision of Competent
persons. But as the measures the
Collector has in contemplation are
necessarily extensive in order to be
Commensurate with the greatness
& urgency of the occasion; and as
a public meeting would seem the
appropriate arena at which to
discuss every point Connected with
the threatened destress & the best means
to be adopted to meet it, it is pro-
-posed that a public meeting be
held on Monday next at a place
to be appointed hereafter at 3 P.M.,
and it is hoped that every public
Servant of the Government as
well as the Public generally in
Cuddalore will attend and aid
in the discussion - The Collector
will be prepared to submit to the
meeting Certain definite propositions
in furtherance of the Cause & the at-
-tendance of all Classes who have feeling
& money is earnestly solicited

(Signed) C. A. Brooke
Civil Assistant

(Translation)

Cuddalore
25th July 1866.

Charles Brooke
Collector of South Arcot

A full reply to the Collectors
enquiries will be found in Bs
Govt Res Dep 25 July 1868 N 1861
a copy of which is herewith
forwarded.

It will observe that the Govt
are prepared to grant the equivalent
of any sums which may be raised
in Madras or the Provinces, & that
such contributions will be paid
& disbursed by the Madras Relief Com
mittee

Special attention is called
to para 3 of the proceedings, the

Ltr a letter from the
Collector of Kistna
Govt dated 24 July
1868 No 32

Rec: 22/7/68

Forwarding Madras Relief
Circular Letter

Rev. 1866 Oct. 6
Pro of Govt for July
Rec'd 22 Oct
No. 2221

No. 530.

The Collector of Customs
Cuddalore

To The Chief Secretary
to Government
Fort St. George

Dated 24 Sept. 1866.
Recd 26 " "

No. 32.
Enclosure 1 in

Noting that a Public
Meeting will be held
at Cuddalore for the
purpose of considering
the Report of the Committee
appointed at the Meeting
held on the 20th Instant
for the purpose of
ascertaining Chinnaiah
Pillay's opinion respecting the
proposed Railway
from Cuddalore
to Villupuram

Read

Ordered, that the Collector be requested to arrange as expeditiously as possible in Consultation with the ~~Local Public~~ Engineer Officers of the District for the commencement of works of the Railway indicated by Govt.

The Govt await with interest the Report to be submitted on the result of the Meeting when held at Cuddalore

J.G.

S. Ord. 875. 30 July

L

Fort St. George
Chief Secretary's
Office
24th Sept. 1866.

R. Clarke

Copy

Chief Secretary

To

The Collector
Cuddalore

Revenue Department.

No. 1875

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 30 July 1866.

Read the following letter from the Collector of South Arcot=

Stating that a public meeting will be held at Cuddalore for the purpose of adopting measures for alleviating the distresses caused by the unpropitious character of the season, & requesting to be informed, whether Govt will be prepared to supplement from the Public Treasury any local contributions for the object=

(Here enter 24th July 1866, No 32)

A full reply to the Collector's inquiries will be found in Proc Govt Revenue Dept 25th July 1866, No 1861 a copy of which is herewith forwarded=

He will observe that the Govt are prepared to grant the equivalent of any

any sum which may be raised in Madras or the Provinces, and that such contributions will be disbursed to the Madras Relief Committee -

His special attention is called to para 2 of the proceedings, and he is requested to arrange as expeditiously as possible in consultation with the Engineer officers of the District for the commencement of works of the description indicated by Govt - Gratuitous relief should be given only to those who are physically incapable of earning a livelihood -

[illegible]

[illegible]

Revenue 1866 Depart.
Pro. of Govt. for July

No. 1875

Pro. of the Madras Govt.
Dy 30th July 1866

From the Collr South
Arcot No 1 dy 20 Sept 1866
No 3256.

Collr of South Arcot
informed of the help which
Govt are prepared to give
in case of destitution and
his attention drawn to the
orders authorizing the com-
mencement of Public works

No. 530-531.

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