M.R.O. 14—5,450—22-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2845 Press ~~Mis.~~

487-488

Dated 20. 10. 1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
20th October 1866.

No. 487. Read the following letter from the Honorary Secretary Famine Relief Fund, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 11th October 1866 :—

1. In accordance with the desire of Government, as expressed in their Proceedings under date 5th September 1866, No. 2,363, I have the honor to forward, for transmission to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, the following brief narrative of the operations of the Famine Relief Committee during the past month of September.

2. *The state of the season during the month.*—The accounts received from the Northern Districts of the Presidency, including Nellore, have been generally favorable as regards the prospects of the season. Rain has been plentiful in this part of the country, but at the close of the month, prices had still a tendency to rise, except in Vizagapatam, where they were stationary, and in Ganjam, where a slight fall had taken place. In Cuddapah and Kurnool, the season was also promising, and even in Bellary, had improved a little during the last week of the month. Prices also had fallen slightly in Bellary and Kurnool, but all grain was still at famine rates. In the central Districts of North and South Arcot, Madras, Coimbatore, Salem, and Trichinopoly, the season was decidedly favorable, except in the Sub-division of Coimbatore, where no rain had fallen, but in all these Districts, with the exception of South Arcot, where a slight fall took place in the quotations for rice and raggy, the general tendency of prices was still rather to rise than to fall. In the Southern Districts of Tanjore, Madura, and Tinnevelly, the season was unfavorable during the first three weeks of the month, and prices rose to unprecedentedly high rates, causing severe suffering among the poorer classes in some parts of Madura. At the close of the month, however, an improvement took place, and there were heavy falls of rain in all three Districts. The harvesting of the rice crop in Tinnevelly had also caused a considerable fall in prices there. On the Western Coast the season has been all along favorable, but these Districts have shared in the general rise, and a good deal of distress has been felt in Cochin and Cannanore.

3. *Expenditure from the General Fund.*—The expenditure from the General, or Provincial, Relief Fund amounted to Rupees 38,293-10-10 on the 31st August, and had then been restricted principally to the Districts of Bellary, North Arcot, Salem, and South Arcot, though small sums had been sent to Madura, Tanjore, and Cochin. During September the disbursement noted in the margin were made from this Fund, and it will be observed that the effect of the continued high prices has been to render assistance necessary in no less than three* Districts, in which no severe distress had been at first reported.

	Rs.	A.	P.
To Bellary	20,000	0	0
* ,, Kurnool	2,000	0	0
* ,, Madura	2,000	0	0
* ,, Trichinopoly	2,000	0	0
,, Salem	5,000	0	0
,, Poonamallee	100	0	0
,, Saint Thomas' Mount ...	100	0	0
,, Cannanore	250	0	0
Establishment	53	5	2
	31,503	5	2

4. *Bellary.*—The total expenditure from the Fund in relieving distress in the Bellary District up to 30th September has been Rupees 39,000, and this sum, added to Rupees 22,268, which were collected locally, enabled the District authorities to

relieve the aged, the young, and the infirm, in all parts of the District. The applicants for relief were so numerous that no attempt at the establishment of Relief Houses has been made, but small doles of raw grain have been issued daily to all applicants at a cost of about nine Pies (one penny and an eighth) per meal. The expenditure incurred would have relieved about 15,000 people per diem for the three months of July, August, and September. It may thus be roughly estimated that an outlay of Rupees 60,000 from the Famine Fund, if it be supplemented by an additional Rupees 25,000 raised locally, will be sufficient for the wants of the District until the end of January next, when it is hoped that the scarcity will have passed over.

5. *Salem.*—In Salem, upwards of Rupees 8,000 have been raised for the relief of local distress, and Rupees 11,000 have been forwarded to the Collector by the Relief Committee. There are thirty-two Relief Houses in operation in the District, and about 7,000 persons are fed daily at a cost of a little over half an Anna (three farthings) per meal. The Collector estimates that, with the funds at his disposal, he will be enabled to keep the Relief Houses open until the end of November. A further provision of about Rupees 14,000 will therefore probably be needed from the Famine Fund.

6. *Coimbatore.*—In Coimbatore local subscriptions have been raised to the amount of Rupees 3,453, and Rupees 3,000 have been granted to this District by the Famine Committee. Relief Houses have been opened at Coimbatore, Palladum, Collegal and other places, where large numbers are fed daily. A general improvement had taken place in the circumstances of the District at the end of September, but very great distress was still prevalent in the Sub-division. It may be roughly estimated that further grants to the extent of about Rupees 15,000 will be needed for this District.

7. *North Arcot.*—In North Arcot upwards of Rupees 8,000 have been raised locally; Rupees 6,000 have been obtained from the Relief Fund, and Rupees 24,000, accumulated charitable endowments, are available. There are eighteen Relief Houses in operation in different parts of the District, at which about 7,000 persons are fed daily at an average cost of one Rupee per head per mensem, or half an anna (three farthings) per meal. The funds at present at the Collector's disposal will probably enable him to keep the Relief Houses open until the coming harvest, if necessary.

8. *South Arcot.*—The earlier accounts of the distress in South Arcot appear to have been very much exaggerated. Very favorable accounts of the state of the District have been lately received, but the Collector reports that he has found it desirable to open Relief Houses at several places where adults are fed at a cost of two annas (three pence) per day. As prices do not range higher in South Arcot than in other Districts, this rate is, in itself, pretty clear evidence of the state of the District as compared with others, where half an anna per day is the average allowance for feeding each adult. Local subscriptions to the amount of Rupees 12,000 have been raised in South Arcot, and Rupees 3,000 have been obtained from the Famine Fund. The Collector is desirous of acting independently of the Madras Relief Committee, and proposes to return this grant, so that it may be fairly presumed that no further provision, need be made for this District from the General Famine Fund.

9. *Madura.*—As stated in last month's report, there was considerable distress in the town of Madura in the month of August, and a grant-in-aid of Rs. 1,000 was forwarded to the Collector during that month. Early in September, the distress had extended to many parts of the District, and was very severely felt in the Sub-division Talooks. It has been found necessary to open Relief Houses at fifteen places in the District, exclusive of those established at their own expense by the Zemindars of Shevagungah and Ramnad for the relief of the poor of their estates. Nearly Rupees 8,000 have been raised locally in the District, and a further sum of Rupees 2,000 has been granted by this Committee during September. It is difficult to estimate what further grants from the Fund may be required, but at least Rupees 15,000 should be provided on this account.

10. *Trichinopoly.*—During the month under report, Kurnool and Trichinopoly have been also added to the list of distressed Districts. In the latter District five Relief Houses have been established, three in the Town of Trichinopoly, and one each at Kalutalai and Laulgoodi. The distress is reported to be most serious in the Woodiarpollium Talook, and it is in contemplation to establish Relief Houses there immediately. Rupees 1,945-8-0 have been raised in this District, and Rupees 2,000 have been granted from the Relief Fund. Additional grants of at least Rupees 20,000 will probably be needed.

11. *Kurnool.*—In Kurnool the distress was at first confined to the Pattikondah Talook, which is adjacent to the Bellary District, but in the course of September it became evident that a Relief House must be opened in the Town of Kurnool. About 3,000 persons are fed there daily, at a cost of Rupees 75, or about five Pies (five-eighths of a penny) per head, and several Mussulman women, who by custom are unable to appear in public, are also relieved by money payments of one anna (three half pence) each per day. Donations, amounting to Rupees 729, and a monthly subscription of Rupees 1,125 have been obtained on the spot, and Rupees 2,000 have been granted from the Famine Fund. To continue the present charity until the harvest, further assistance from the Famine Fund will be needed to the extent of about Rupees 6,000.

12. *Madras Town.*—As explained in last month's report, there is a separate Fund for the relief of the distress in the Town of Madras, and up to 31st August Rupees 3,094-15-9 had been expended on this account. As anticipated in that report, the number of applicants for relief has considerably increased, and the subjoined Tabular Statement shews that the average number of persons relieved daily at the Relief Houses has increased to 2,318, and that no less than 1,215 families are receiving money relief. The outlay from the Town Fund, during the month of September, has been Rupees 5,421-3-2, making the total expenditure up to 30th September Rupees 9,031-2-11. Every effort is being made by the Town Committee to economise the funds at their disposal, and an inferior description of diet has been adopted at the Relief Houses, wherever possible, with this object, but, in all probability, a further outlay of at least Rupees 20,000 will be needed to provide for the relief of distress in the Town until the next harvest.

STATEMENT.

Gross sum advanced to each Sub-Committee up to 30th September.	Name of the Poor House.	Total number of meals issued in September.	Average number of persons fed each day.	Total cost of food issued in September.	Average cost of each meal.	Number of families to which money payments were made.	Total of money payments in September.	Cost of establishment and contingencies in September.	Total expended in September as shewn in Columns 4, 7, and 8.	Expenditure in July and August.	Total Expenditure up to 30th September.	Cash in hand and value of grain, &c., in store on 30th September.	Total Columns 12 and 13.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
RS.				RS. A. P.			RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	
1,900	Black Town Relief House, opened on 10th August.	19,608	654	1,087 3 4	10·75	53	138 0 0	64 4 0	1,289 7 4	590 0 2	1,879 7 6	20 8 6	1,900
1,300	Mylapore Relief House, opened on 7th August.	11,305	376	597 7 3	10·15	20	42 0 0	35 6 1	674 13 4	353 5 9	1,028 3 1	271 12 11	1,300
1,500	Vepery Relief House, opened on 15th August.	16,658	555	809 10 3	9·3	161	258 3 0	70 12 1	1,138 9 4	353 5 5	1,491 14 9	8 1 3	1,500
2,000	Triplicane Relief House, opened on 15th August.	22,002	733	1,329 11 9	11·5	23	44 12 0	*43 13 5	1,418 5 2	463 4 5	1,881 9 7	118 6 5	2,000
1,000	The Revd. S. Fennelly and J. G. Coleman, Esq.....	...	...	...	...	958	515 0 0	...	... .	485 0 0	1,000 0 0	... .	1,000
	Total...	69,573	2,318	2,824 0 7	...	1,215	997 15 0	214 3 7	4,521 3 2	2,244 15 9	7,281 2 11	418 13 1	7,700
	Grants in-aid to the Friend-in-need Society								600 0 0	600 0 0	1,200 0 0		
	Do. Comalaseveranpettah Relief House								300 0 0	250 0 0	550 0 0		
								GrandTotal...	5,421 3 2	3,094 15 9	9,031 2 11		

* A portion of the Establishment at the Triplicane House is provided by Sum Saum Ood-Dowlah Bahadoor at his own cost.

13. *Total expenditure up to 30th September.*—The expenditure during the month from the General and Town Funds has thus been Rupees 31,503-5-2 and Rupees 5,421-3-2, respectively, making the total outlay from each Fund up to 30th September Rupees 69,797 and Rupees 9,031-2-11, or Rupees 78,828-2-11 in all.

14. *Receipts.*—The gross sum received by the Treasurers up to 30th September amounted to Rupees 1,52,946 (£15,294-13-0) distributed as follws :—

	RS.	A.	P.
General Fund	56,658	13	3
Town do.	16,287	10	9
State donation	80,000	0	0

15. *Estimate of additional Funds needed.*—It will be observed that more than half of this total sum of Rupees 1,52,946-8-0 has been expended, leaving only Rupees 74,118-5-1 (£7,411-16-0) to meet a further expenditure, roughly estimated in the foregoing report at Rupees 1,50,000 (£15,000). It is hoped, however, that this deficiency will be made up before the end of the year by additional subscriptions and State donations.

No. 488. ORDER THEREON, 20th October 1866, No. 2,845.

Miscellaneous.

The report will be forwarded to the Secretary of State.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Relief Committee.
,, the Editor's Table.

Exd S. T. Augustin.

Rupees 1945..8..0 have been raised in this District and Rupees 2000 have been granted from the Relief funds. Additional grants of at least Rupees 20,000 will probably be needed.

11. Kurnool. In Kurnool the distress was at first confined to the Puttikondah taluk which is adjacent to the Bellary District but in the course of September it became evident that a Relief House must be opened in the town of Kurnool - about 3,000 persons are fed there daily at a cost of Rupees 75, or about 5 pies (five eighths of a penny) per head, and several Muhammadan women who by custom are unable to appear in public, are also relieved by money payments of one anna (three half pence) each per day. Rupees 2000 have been granted from the Famine Fund. Donations amounting to Rupees 729 and a monthly subscription of Rupees 1125 have been obtained on the spot, and to continue the present charity until the harvest further assistance from the Famine Fund will be needed to the extent of about Rupees 6,000.

12. Madras Town. As explained in last month's report there is a separate fund for the relief of the distress in the town of Madras and upto 31st August Rupees 3094-15-9 had been expended on this account. As anticipated in that report the number of applica-

Statement

1	2	3	4	5	6
	Name of the Poor House.	Total number of Meals issued in the Month.	Total Cost defrayed by Government.	Average number of persons fed each day.	Gross sum ordered to be paid by Government as stated in Column 4.
			Rs. a. p.		Rs.
1	Black Town Relief House opened on 10th August.	19,708	654 1027 3 4	1075	1900
2	Muhapore Relief House opened on 7th August.	11,305	376 297 7 3	1015	1300
3	Vepery Relief House opened on 15th August.	16,658	555 869 10 3	913	1500
4	Triplicane Relief House opened on 15th August.	22,072	733 1329 11 9	1175	2000
5	The Revd. S. Hannah and S.P. Coleman Esqrs.	"	" " "	"	1000
	Total...	69,373	2,318 2,824 " 7		7700
		4	3 3 11		

* A portion of this Establishment is provided by Government at his own expense.

Grant in aid to the Friends in need Society & the Purasawalkam Relief House.

for relief has considerably increased, and the subjoined tabular statement shows that the average number of persons relieved daily at the Relief Houses has increased to 2318 and that no less than 1215 families are receiving money relief. The outlay from the Town Funds during the month of September has been Rupees 5,421-3-2 making the total expenditure up to 30th September Rupees 9031-2-11. Every effort is being made by the Town Committee to economise the funds at their disposal and an inferior description of diet has been adopted at the Relief Houses, wherever possible, with this object, but, in all probability, a further outlay of at least Rupees 20,000 will be needed to provide for the relief of distress in the town until the next harvest.

7	Rs. as. p.	Rs. as. p.	Rs. as. p.	Rs. as. p.	Rs. as. p.	Rs. as. p.	Rs. as. p.	Rs. as. p.	Rs. as. p.	Rs. as. p.	Rs. as. p.	Rs. as. p.	Rs. as. p.	Rs. as. p.	Rs. as. p.
53	138 " "	64 4 "	1289 7 4	590 " "	2,879 7 6	20 8 6	1905								
20	42 " "	35 5 1	674 13 4	353 5 9	1028 3 1	27 12 11	1300								
161	288 3 "	70 12 1	1138 9 4	353 5 5	1491 14 9	8 1 3	1500								
73	44 12 "	43 13 5	1418 5 2	463 4 5	1881 9 7	118 6 5	2000								
988	515 " "	" " "	" " "	485 " "	1000 " "	" " "	1000								
1215	997 5 "	214 3 7	482 3 2	2244 15 9	7281 2 11	418 13 1	7699								
				600 " "	1200 " "										
				300 " "	550 " "										
				5421 3 2	3644 15 9	9031 2 11									

Total of Statement
Items 1 to 13.

Grants to date

Let the Secretary
Mr. Deputy
Mr. Secretary
Mr. Secretary
Mr. Secretary
Mr. Secretary

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Pro. 5 Sept 66 A 110
25 575-576.
Reported to England
D/ 26th October A. 18 / 1866
No. 2845.

The report will
be forwarded
to the Secy of
State.

20th Oct 66.

14 Folks Board of Rev Dr 22 Oct
51 a the Relief Committee do
the Bd of Works Falls.

A. 2878188

C 15 Oct 1866 17

Forwarding for
transmission to the Home
Govt an account of
the operations of the
Famine Relief Comtee
during the month of
Sept. Jan. to 28th Oct.
With order

Queenstown 1866. 6th
Rec. of Govt for October
No. 3577.

From the Honry
Sec.y Famine
Relief Fund.

Dated 11th 3 Oct.
Received 12th 1866.