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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.
B.P. No.

1926

Press
Mis.

Dated

8.6.1877

107

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1926
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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

8th June 1877, No. 1,926.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper:—

No. 131. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 26th April 1877, No. 1,938.

Read the following letter from J. H. MASTER, Esq., Collector of Bellary, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Kogara, 18th April 1877, No. 286:—

I HAVE the honor to forward copy of a letter, dated the 13th instant, from Mr. Howe in charge of relief works in the Bellary Taluq.

2. I have been absent in the district since the 2nd March, and Major Jopp has never communicated with me once. I did not, therefore, know what arrangements had been made, or what was being done. All the receipt of Mr. Howe's letter.

3. I knew that we were to supply laborers, but, although I believe Mr. Howe has put men on the work, it must have been on the verbal requisition of somebody. Nothing official is on record in this office.

4. With regard, however, to Mr. Howe's particular request, I beg that the Government may be asked to put the work entirely in the hands of the Engineers as seems to have been settled at first in the conference alluded to.

5. It is impossible for Mr. Howe to continue to be in charge of the railway works in addition to all his other roads.

6. I also beg that his request that the piece-work should be allowed from the commencement may be sanctioned.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From W. A. HOWE, Esq., Divisional Officer, to J. H. MASTER, Esq., Collector of Bellary, dated 13th April 1877.

I HAVE the honor to report, for your information and sanction, the steps I have taken in conjunction with Major Jopp, R.E., and Mr. Leggatt, District Engineer, in order to carry out Government Orders with reference to the new Hooblee line of railway.

2. Major Jopp, according to his instructions, merely laid down and surveyed the line, leaving the actual work of construction to the Local and Public Work authorities. Several conferences were held, at the first of which Sir Richard Temple presided. It was then settled that the entire management of the work, measuring work done, ganging the coolies, payments, and the general administration should be under the Department of Public Works; that the new line should be the great means for drafting all able-bodied men from roads where they were hardly required and where they did but little work to a place where they were really wanted and where full work could be exacted. It was also determined that the only duty of the Civil authorities would be to supply the required number, an indent from the Department of Public Works. This plan manifestly is the best, and has also met with your approval.

3. Subsequently Mr. Leggatt informed me that his department could only undertake the measuring of the work, and that, unless the Civil authorities could take an active share in the management, great delay must ensue. He stated that the line would form a new division, the

staff and establishment of which would have to be organized and sanctioned, and that, if the work had to be entirely undertaken by the Department of Public Works, very little could be done, nor could the work be immediately commenced. He suggested that I should, besides bringing the coolies, see to the gauging, undertake the general administration and payments, and manage the general supervision, in fact, that the line would be in my charge, the Public Works Department only being responsible for measurements.

4. As it was a matter of great importance to start the work, and there was no time to be lost, I have taken the responsibility of commencing it in the manner suggested by Mr. Leggett, in accordance with G.O., No. 681, dated 5th February 1877, paragraph 2.

5. I have, therefore, introduced the ordinary system of task-work modified according to local circumstances and the nature of the work. But I would most earnestly recommend that the original plan of making this a large Public Work like the Nellore canal may not be injuriously affected by permanently introducing a system which is most unsuited to the nature of the work. I earnestly trust that orders may soon be issued so as to enable the Department of Public Works to undertake the entire management as early as possible, and that they may be allowed to work it entirely on Department of Public Works principles and in accordance with departmental rules, that is, that piece-work paid for not according to numbers, but according to work done be allowed, and that the gang, not the individual, be taken as the unit for payment.

6. If the object is to find employment for able-bodied persons who have no means of subsistence and to enable us to make our other works real relief works for inefficient gangs, that object will be fully secured by the piece-work system, or even by task-work, provided payments are made not at famine rates, but according to measurement for work performed and at current departmental rates.

7. And I would in conclusion earnestly solicit permission to conduct the work on Department of Public Works principles, until such time as the Public Works Department are prepared to take over charge. By this plan employment for large numbers would immediately be secured and future operations would not be impeded by introducing at the commencement a system which is utterly unsuited to the nature of the work, but which, if once introduced, it will be difficult hereafter to change.

(True Copy)

(Signed) J. H. MASTER,
Collector.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The questions raised by Mr. Howe are fully settled by G.O., dated 24th April 1877, No. 1,543, just received, and separately communicated to the Collector this day.

3. The following telegram will be sent to Mr. Howe at Bellary, as the Collector is absent in the Penkonda Taluq:—

"Yours to Collector, 13th April. Government direct Hooblee Railway executed on task or piece-work by gangs, piece-work at district rates preferred. Labor and funds to be provided by Civil officers; work to be supervised by State Railway Engineer. For present professional aid, Mr. Alexander placed at your disposal."

4. The ordinary Department of Public Works establishment may continue to afford some help in measuring up work for the present until Major Jopp's staff is strengthened.

5. Mr. Master was aware of the orders of Government for the speedy commencement of the work and should have authorized Mr. Howe to take the necessary action in his absence, and Major Jopp's formal application for labor should not have been awaited, nor the want of it allowed to prevent the Collector from moving in the matter himself. The steps taken by Mr. Howe on his own responsibility are not opposed to the orders of Government referred to in paragraph 2 *supra* and are fully approved.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary.

No. 132.

ORDER TELETYPE, 8th June 1877, No. 1,926.

Miscellaneous.

RECORDED with reference to the Government Order quoted by the Board.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. H. GARSTIN,
Additional Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue,
the Public Works Department,
the Financial Department.

Exd. A. Goodall.

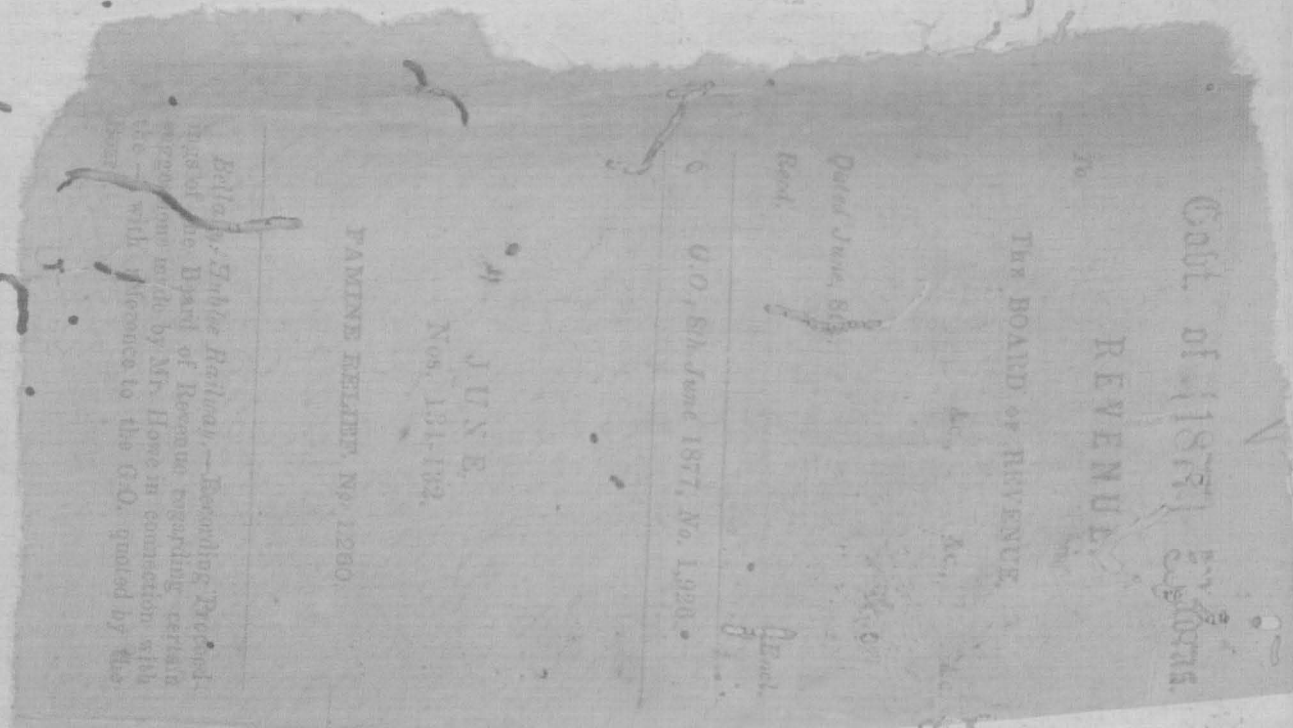
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 No 1938 Revenue department
 Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
 dated 26 April 1877
 Read letter from the collector
 of Bellary dated 18 April 1877
 No 286

Submitted for the information
 of Government

2. The questions raised by
 Mr Howe are fully settled
 by G. O 26 April 1877 No 1543
 just received and separately
 communicated to the
 collector this day.

3. The following telegram will
 be sent to Mr Howe at
 Bellary, as the Collector
 is absent in the Pankunda
 Taluq. "your to collector
 13 April. Government direct
 Nooblee

Bd G. O
 No 4293



roadway executed on
task or piece work by gangs,
piece work at district rates
refused. Labour and funds
to be provided by Civil
Officers, work to be super-
vised by State Railway
Engineers. For present professional
aid, Mr. Alexander placed
at your disposal.

The ordinary D.P.W.
Establishment may continue
to afford some help in
measuring up work for
the present until Major
Joffe staff is strengthened.

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of the orders of Government
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1926
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in his absence, and Major Joffe's
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the matter himself. The steps
taken by Mr. Howe on his
own responsibility are not
opposed to the orders of
Government referred to in
para 2 supra and are
fully approved.

True Extract.

W. H. S.

Secretary

To

Asst. Secretary to Government

Revenue Department
with copy of letter and
enclosures

W. H. S.

4926

Bellary

13th April 1877.

To
J. H. Measter Esquire
Collector of Bellary.

Sir
I have the honor to report
for your information and sanction
the steps I have taken in conjunction
with Major Jopp R.E. - and
Mr. Leggate District Engineer,
in order to carry out Government
Orders with reference to the New
Hulke Line of Railway.

2. Major Jopp according to
his instructions merely laid down
and surveyed the line, leaving the
actual

Recd 1877 20/4
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Proceedings of the

Board of Directors

dated 26 April 77.

Recd 27

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with order

relating to the

of the Bellary

Cherry Blossom

very certain inspection

made by his Grace

in regard to the

proposed

railway

of the Bellary

8 June 1877
J. H. Measter
Collector of Bellary
13th April 1877
50th Bellary
50th Bellary

actual work of construction to the
Local and Public Work authorities.
Several conferences were held, at
the first of which Sir Richard
Temple presided. It was then
settled that the entire management
of the work measuring work
done, gauging the coolies' payments
and the general administration
should be under the Department
of Public Works that the New
Leve should be the great means
for drafting all able bodied
men from roads where they were
hardly

1926
hardly required and where they
did but little work, to a place
where they were really wanted,
and where full work could be
traced. It was also determined
that the only duty of the Civil
authorities would be to supply the
required number, on indent from
the Department of Public Works.
This plan manifestly is the best
and has also met with your
approval.

3. Subsequently Mr Leggatt
informed me that his Depart-
ment could only undertake the

the measuring of the work, and
that unless the local authorities
could take an active share
in the management, great
delay must ensue. He stated
that the line would form a new
Division, the staff and esta-
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sanctioned, and that if the
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taken by the Department of
Public Works very little could
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be

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be immediately commenced.
He suggested that I should
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see to the gauging, undertake the
general administration and
payments, and manage the
general supervision; in fact
that the Line would be in
my charge, the Public Works
Department only being res-
ponsible for measurements.

4. As it was a matter of
great importance to start the
work, and there was no time to

be ~~done~~ I have taken the responsibility of commencing it in the manner suggested by Mr. Leggatt &c in accordance with G.O. No 681 dated 15th February 1877. para 2.

5. I have therefore introduced the ordinary system of Task work, modified according to Local circumstances and the nature of the work. But I would most earnestly recommend that the original plan of making this a large Public Work like the Sillone Canal, may not be injuriously affected by permanently introducing a system which is most unsuited to the nature of the work. I earnestly trust that orders may soon be issued so as to enable the Department of Public Works to undertake the entire management as early as possible and that they may be allowed to work it entirely on E.P.W. principles & in accordance with Departmental rules. That is that piece work paid for not according to numbers but according to work done be allowed, and that the gang not the

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individual be taken as the unit for payment.

6. If the object is to find employment for able bodied persons who have no means of subsistence and to enable us to make our other works, real relief works for inefficient gangs, that object will be fully secured by the piece work system, or even by task work provided payments are made not at famine rates, but according to measurement for work performed and at Government departmental rates.

7. And I would in conclusion earnestly solicit

permission to conduct the
work on D.P.M. Principles, until
such time as the D.P.M. are
prepared to take over charge.

By this plan employment for
large numbers would immediately
be found and future operations
would not be impeded by intro-
ducing at the Commencement
a system which is utterly unsuited
to the nature of the work, but
which if once introduced it will
be difficult hereafter to change.

I have &c
[Sd] W. A. Howe
Divisional Officer
Bellary Taluq

(True Copy)

[Sd] J. H. Martin
Collector

(True Copy)

Witness

Secretary

No 286.

Bellevue Collection Office

Sept 18th April 1877

Kofura Pinnakunda Taluk

Rem

The Collector Bellamy

L. The Secretary to the
Board of Revenue
Madras.

Sir,

Sir,
I have the honor to forward copy
of a letter dated the 13th inst. and from Mr. Fox in
answer of Relief Works in the Bellamy Valley.

2. I have been absent in the district since the 2^d March and Mayor Jopp has never communicated with me once. I did not therefore know what arrangements had been made, or what was being done, till the receipt of Mr. Howe's letter.

3. I know that we were to supply
labourers, but although I believe Mr. Howe was
put upon the work, it must have been on the
verbal requisition of some body. Nothing official
is on record in this office.

is on record in this House.
4. With regard however to Mr. Howe's particular request, I say that the Government may be asked to put the work entirely in the hands of the Engineers, as seems to have been settled at first in the Conference attended to.

5. It is impossible for Mr. Lane to continue to be in charge of the railway works, in addition to all his other work. - but his request that the piece work

to be in charge of the
his other roads.
C. I also say that his request that the piece work
should be allowed from the commencement may be
sanctioned.
I have &c
S^r J. H. Master,

Have V. A.
S. H. J. H. Master
Collector

1 June 1871

St. Louis, Mo.

Secretary.

Enclosure in

Proceedings of

the Board of Honor

dated 26th April 1873

To the Hon^{ble} Secretary

August 17. 28

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