(1) Number of pages 8

(2) Date of repair 26-5-1984

(3) Initials of the Referencer

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / ~~B.P. No.~~	1197	Press. / Mis.
Dated	31-7-1878. ~~197~~	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Archives I—5,806—24-2-78.

1197
7

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

31st July 1878, No. 1,197.

Read the following paper :—

No. 394. From C. A. ELLIOTT, Esq., C.S.I., Secretary to the Famine Commission, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department, dated Simla, 10th July 1878, No. 72.

With reference to my letter, No. 21, dated the 22nd ultimo, I am directed to forward, for the information of His Grace the Governor in Council, copy of a letter, No. 60, dated the 5th instant, addressed to the Government of India in explanation of the reasons which induced the Famine Commission to open their inquiries by issuing a series of questions to which written answers are expected, and of the mode of operation which the Commission propose eventually to pursue.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From C. A. ELLIOTT, Esq., C.S.I., Secretary to the Famine Commission, to the Additional Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Famine,) dated Simla, 5th July 1878, No. 60.

With reference to my letter, No. 15, dated the 21st ultimo, I am desired to state, for submission to His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General, that the Famine Commission think it may be useful to explain the reasons which induce them to open their inquiries by issuing a series of questions to which written answers are to be given rather than by making personal inquiries on the spot, or by holding *viva voce* examinations of witnesses.

2. In the first place, the Secretary of State's instructions contained in paragraph 6 of the Despatch of 10th January, and quoted in the margin, had to be borne in mind. Unfortunately the effects of the recent great calamity, though to a modified extent, are still felt in Southern India, and relief-works are open in parts of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh: and it was, therefore, thought desirable to do as little as possible to distract the local authorities from the duties in which they are engaged.

"The Commission should enter on its labors as soon as the local Authorities are released, by the return of normal conditions, from the pressing duties of famine relief."

3. In the second place, the subjects of inquiry are so numerous and are spread over so wide an area that to have attempted a direct personal and local investigation into them would have been an almost impossible task to fulfil, and would have involved an inquiry of unlimited length. It was, therefore, thought that the issue of a series of questions at the outset would do much to clear the ground and to elicit the leading points into which more detailed inquiry will be necessary hereafter. It is hoped that the answers received will enable the Commission to draw out certain definite issues, the conclusions as to which will be best elucidated by local inquiry on the spot, or by the examination of the most capable and experienced witnesses.

4. Towards the end of the present year, as soon as the season admits of it, the President proposes that the Commission, when it has been joined by Mr. Caird, should visit the principal provinces of India and carry on their inquiries in the different places where the occasion for local investigation may arise.

No. 395. ORDER THEREON, 31st July 1878, No. 1,197.

Miscellaneous.

COMMUNICATED to the Revenue (Famine) Department in continuation of G.O., 17th July 1878, No. 1,082.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Secretary to Government.

To the Revenue (Famine) Department.
„ G. A. Ballard, Esq., with a copy of G.O., 17th July 1878, No. 1,082.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

1197/2

Engl

Govt. of {1878} Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE REVENUE (FAMINE) DEPARTMENT.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated July 31st.

Printed August 6th.

Encl.

G.O. 31st July 1878, No. 1197.

JULY.

Nos. 394-395.

Famine Commission.—Communicating to the Revenue (Famine) Department a letter explaining the course adopted by the — — in which it intends pursuing its enquiries.

1878

FAMINE COMMISSION.

No. 60.

1197/3

FROM

C. A. ELLIOTT, ESQ., C.S.I.,
Secretary to the Famine Commission,

TO

THE ADDL. SECY. TO THE GOVT. OF INDIA, P. W. DEPT.
(FAMINE).

SIMLA, *the 5th July* 1878.

SIR,

WITH reference to my letter No. 15, dated the 21st ultimo, I am desired to state, for submission to His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General, that the Famine Commission think it may be useful to explain the reasons which induce them to open their enquiries by issuing a series of questions to which written answers are to be given, rather than by making personal enquiries on the spot, or by holding *viva voce* examinations of witnesses.

2. In the first place, the Secretary of State's instructions contained in paragraph 6 of the despatch of 10th January, and quoted in the margin, had to be borne in mind. Unfortunately the effects of the recent great calamity, though to a modified extent, are still felt in Southern India, and relief works are open in parts of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh: and it was therefore thought desirable to do as little as possible to distract the local authorities from the duties in which they are engaged.

> "The Commission should enter on its labours as soon as the local authorities are released, by the return of normal conditions, from the pressing duties of famine relief."

3. In the second place, the subjects of enquiry are so numerous and are spread over so wide an area, that to have attempted a direct personal and local investigation into them would have been an almost impossible task to fulfil, and would have involved an enquiry of unlimited length. It was, therefore, thought that the issue of a series of questions at the outset would do much to clear the ground and to elicit the leading points into which more detailed enquiry will be necessary hereafter. It is hoped that the answers received will enable the Commission to draw out certain definite issues, the conclusions as to which will be best elucidated by local enquiry on the spot, or by the examination of the most capable and experienced witnesses.

4. Towards the end of the present year, as soon as the season admits of it, the President proposes that the Commission, when it has been joined by Mr. Caird, should visit the principal provinces of India and carry on their enquiries in the different places where the occasion for local investigation may arise.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

C. A. ELLIOTT,

Secretary to the Famine Commission.

1878.
FAMINE COMMISSION.

To

THE ADDL. SECY. TO THE GOVT.
OF INDIA, P. W. D. (FAMINE).

No. 60.

Dated Simla, the 5th July 1878.

Rev 322/78

SUBJECT.

EXPLAINING the reasons which induced the Commission to open their enquiries by issuing a series of questions to which written answers are to be given, rather than by making personal enquiries on the spot, or by holding *viva voce* examinations of witnesses.

Govt. Central Branch Press, Simla.—No. 105, P. W. D. (F.)—9-7-78.—200.

1197/4

No. 72.

FROM

C. A. ELLIOTT, ESQ., C.S.I.,
Secretary to the Famine Commission,

To the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras Revenue Department.

SIMLA, *the* 10*th July* 1878.

SIR,

WITH reference to my letter No. 21, dated the 22nd ultimo, I am directed to forward, for the information of His Grace the Governor in Council, copy of a letter, No. 60, dated the 5th instant, addressed to the Government of India in explanation of the reasons which induced the Famine Commission to open their enquiries by issuing a series of questions to which written answers are expected, and of the mode of operation which the Commission propose eventually to pursue.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

C A Elliott

Secretary to the Famine Commission.

1 Copy sent with 2nd Copy by Packet Post.

No. 3122.

Revenue 1878. Secret

FAMINE COMMISSION.

To

No.

Dated Simla, the 10th July 1878.

SUBJECT.

FORWARDS a letter addressed to the Government of India explaining the course adopted by the Famine Commission, and that which it intends pursuing eventually in carrying out its enquiries.

Govt. Central Branch Press, Simla.—No. 186 (Famine)—17-7-78—500.

C 23-7-78
R 31-7-78