Archives I 10,006—16-8 77.

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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No.	2142.	Press. / Mis.

Dated 30th August 1878. 197 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

10th August 1878, F.R. No. 1,722-B.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper:—

No. 136-C. From C. BERNARD, Esq., C.S.I., Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, to J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Additional Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue (Famine) Department, dated Simla, 26th July 1878, No. 1,387, (Famine).

I AM directed to forward extracts of a letter from the Famine Commission, respecting the appointment of a Committee of selected officers to investigate, both in Madras and in Orissa, some of the more important questions regarding irrigation which the Famine Commission have to consider.

2. An irrigation officer from Northern India will be associated with the two officers to be named by the Government of Madras; and the senior of the three officers will be the President of the Committee.

3. I am to ask that the names of the officers, to be nominated by the Government of Madras for this duty, may be communicated by telegraph. The Bengal officer (probably, Major Moncrieff, R.E., if he can be spared) will be directed to meet the Madras Members of the Committee with the least possible delay.

4. I am to invite the attention of His Grace the Governor in Council to the suggestion made by the Famine Commission that the Madras Government should add to the questions contained in Chapter IV of the Commission's reference to local Governments, any inquiries that may appear calculated to bring out the desired information.

See papers published at pages 979-997, of the *Gazette of India* of the 22nd June.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

EXTRACTS from a Letter from the Secretary to the Famine Commission, No. 109, dated 18th July 1878.

I HAVE the honor to state for the information and approval of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General that, in the opinion of the President and Members of the Famine Commission, the most satisfactory method by which the necessary inquiries can be carried out in the Madras Presidency as to many important matters connected with the value of irrigation, the difficulties that are met with in extending it, and in maintaining certain classes of works in proper efficiency, referred to in Chapter IV of the questions prepared by the Commission, as well as upon the particular points relating to the work of the Madras Irrigation Company and the Orissa Canal Company referred to in the instructions of the Government of India (*vide* paragraph 12, Resolution, dated 16th May) will be by the appointment of a Committee of specially selected officers who shall investigate on the spot the several questions upon which information is desired. To this course the sanction of the Government of India is required.

* * * *

The other two members might, it is suggested, be a Civilian with revenue experience in the irrigated districts in Madras, and an Engineer with professional and local knowledge of the irrigation works in that Presidency.

I am therefore to suggest that the Madras Government might be invited to select suitable officers to fill these posts.....

* * * *

It would also be useful if the Madras Government added to the questions that have been proposed by the Commission any other inquiries of a kindred nature that might be thought likely to bring out the information sought for.....

* * * *

On the completion of their inquiry in the Madras Presidency the Committee might usefully proceed to Orissa and examine the condition of the irrigation in that Province. The Government of Bengal might properly be invited to name an officer to join the Committee in this part of their investigation.

It is to be desired that the Proceedings of the Committee should be brought to a close as early as possible in October next, so that the result of their inquiries should be placed before the Famine Commission not later than the commencement of November.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) S. LIOTARD,
Superintendent, Famine Department.

No. 136-D. ORDER THEREON, 10th August 1878, F.R. No. 1,722-B.

Miscellaneous.

ORDERED that the following telegram, dated 10th August 1878, No. 446, be despatched to the Additional Secretary to the Government of India, P.W.D., (Famine)—Simla:—

"YOUR letter of 26th, No. 1,387. Government hope wire nominations in day or two, but officer desired is on tour of inspection in district away from telegraph."

(True Extract.)

J. H. Lawton
Additional Secretary to Government.

To G. A. Ballard, Esq.
" the Board of Revenue.
" the Financial Department.
" the Revenue Department.

Edr. W. H. French.
4 Spare Copies.

Will follow.

214 2/2

2142/2

Revenue Department
No 3782

Govt. of (1878) Madras.

REVENUE.

To

G. A. BALLARD, Esq.,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated August 10th.

Printed 24th.

Rcd. 8.8.29 *Encl.*

G.O., 10th August 1878, F.R. No. 1,722-B.

AUGUST.

Nos. 136-C-136-D.

Committee of selected Officers for investigating, both in Madras and Orissa, some of the more important questions of irrigation proposed by the Famine Commission.—Intimating, by telegram, to the Government of India with reference to their correspondence respecting the appointment of a —, that the Madras Government hope to wire their nominations very soon.

No 2142

Lodged

30 August 1878