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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 1392-A Press
B.P. No. _____ Mis.

Dated 10-4-1877 ~~197~~

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
10th April 1877.*

Famine Relief.

No. 234A. From C. E. BERNARD, Esq., C.S.I., Secretary to Sir RICHARD TEMPLE,
to J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Additional Secretary to Government, Revenue
Department, Fort St. George, dated Bangalore, 2nd April 1877, No. 168.

By direction of Sir Richard Temple, I have the honor to forward copy of a
minute recorded by him, containing his suggestion regarding the economical
disposal of the Government grain reserve in the interior of the Madras Presidency.

Minute by Sir RICHARD TEMPLE, dated Bangalore, 2nd April 1877.

I DESIRE to lay before the Government of Madras suggestions regarding the
economical disposal of the reserve of grain belonging to the State in this Presidency.
The Government of India has, I understand, acquiesced in the view that the
reserve now at Madras city should not be sold in lots to the trade. At present,
therefore, the Madras Government has, in round numbers, about 12,000 tons of
Government grain in Madras and about 25,000 tons stored at depôts in the distressed
districts.

2. Some parts of the 25,000 tons is stored at railway stations; but the bulk
has already been received at depôts distant from 12 to 90 miles from the railway or
the nearest sea-port whence the grain was carted. In my previous minutes I have
recommended that Government grain should not be stored, for relief purposes, at
any depôt within 60 miles of the railway. A similar view has been pressed on the
Government of Madras by the Government of India. The Government of Madras,
however, is satisfied that their grain is stored at well-selected places. On this point
I have nothing more to say than what I have already said. But whether these
25,000 tons be sent, as proposed, to places 60 miles distant from the railway, or
whether they remain, as at present, partly at railway stations and partly at places
at varying distances from the railway, they have to be disposed of to the best
advantage at the season advances.

3. The question then remains how should this Government grain* be used,
so as to cause the least possible disturb-
ance to private trade and the least possi-
ble loss to the State. This grain has cost,

* 25,000 tons in the interior.	
12,000 do. Madras city.	

transport and other charges included, about Rs. 32,00,000 to the public treasury.
The famine estimates provide for recovering, directly or indirectly, three-quarters
of this sum before October 1877.

4. Over a part of the famine-stricken tracts of the Peninsula favorable spring
rain has already (2nd April) fallen. If seasonable showers continue to fall in
April and May, and if the monsoon opens propitiously in June, then old stocks
of grain will come out everywhere, the relief laborers will very greatly decrease,
and the need for keeping a reserve of Government grain will be gone before the
end of July. If, unhappily, another year of short rain should come, then relief
operations might have to be begun again; but for the present plans have to be
made in view of the past failure only. It takes some time for orders on a matter
of this kind to reach all the distant places where action will have to be taken. It

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
10th April 1877.*

will be more convenient also for the grain dealers of the interior to know beforehand how and when Government is going to use its grain.

5. My recommendation is that the Government grain should be expended in paying wages to relief laborers, and that grain-wages should be begun from the 1st May next at all, save certain exceptional, depôts. The principle that Government may, at its discretion and convenience, pay its relief laborers in grain has been acknowledged by the high court. At exceptional places where the Government might consider that, for one or another, the grain reserve ought to be kept untouched later than the 1st of some later date, such as the 1st June or the 15th June, might be fixed, from which date grain-payments to relief laborers might begin.

6. If this recommendation should be accepted by the Madras Government, with or without modification, then it would be necessary that early orders should issue, so that Collectors and relief officers might be able to have all arrangements complete for beginning to pay grain-wages on the 1st May.

7. I trust that it may be understood that this minute relates only to the 25,000 tons or thereabouts now actually in the Ceded Districts and Kurnool. Regarding the 12,000 tons or thereabouts now in the town of Madras, a decision will apparently have to be formed hereafter.

RICHARD TEMPLE.

(True Copy.)

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

Famine Relief.

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REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
FORT ST. GEORGE,
10th April 1877.

No.

No. 234B.

To

C. E. BERNARD, Esq., C.S.I.,
Secretary to Sir Richard Temple.

Miscellaneous.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter, No. 168, of the 2nd April 1877, forwarding a Minute by Sir

R. Temple regarding the economical disposal of the grain reserve in the interior of the Madras Presidency, and to state that this Government do not anticipate embarrassment in respect of the small reserve grain store within the Presidency, in the utilization of which they must be guided by the varying circumstances of the scarcity and the intention not to interfere with private trade.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

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

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No. 168.

No. 234 A. - From

C. E. BERNARD, Esq., C.S.I.,

Secretary to Sir Richard Temple,

To

J. H. GARSTIN, Esq.,

Additional Secretary to the

Government of Madras,

Dated BANGALORE, the 2nd April, 1877.

Sir,

By direction of Sir Richard Temple, I have the honour to forward copy of a Minute recorded by him, containing his suggestion regarding the economical disposal of the Government grain reserve in the interior of the Madras Presidency.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

C. E. BERNARD,

Secretary to Sir Richard Temple.

Cost. of 1877 224000 Rs.

REVENUE.

To

C. E. BERNARD, Esq., C.S.I.,

Secretary to Sir Richard Temple.

Dated April, 10th.

Recd.

Recd.

G.O., 10th April 1877, No. 14392-A.

APRIL.

Nos. 234A-234B.

FAMINE RELIEF, No. 936A.

Starting, in reply to Sir Richard Temple's Minute, that this Government do not anticipate embarrassment in respect of the small reserve grain store within the Presidency, in the utilization of which they must be guided by the varying circumstances of the scarcity and the intention not to interfere with private trade.

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Minute by Sir Richard Temple, dated Bangalore, 2nd April, 1877.

I desire to lay before the Government of Madras suggestions regarding the economical disposal of the reserve of grain belonging to the State in this Presidency. The Government of India has, I understand, acquiesced in the view that the reserve now at Madras city should not be sold in lots to the trade. At present, therefore, the Madras Government has, in round numbers, about 12,000 tons of Government grain in Madras, and about 25,000 tons stored at depôts in the distressed districts.

2. Some parts of the 25,000 tons is stored at railway stations; but the bulk has already been received at depôts distant from 12 to 90 miles from the railway or the nearest sea-port whence the grain was carted. In my previous Minutes I have recommended that Government grain should not be stored, for relief purposes, at any depôt within sixty miles of the railway. A similar view has been pressed on the Government of Madras by the Government of India. The Government of Madras, however, is satisfied that their grain is stored at well selected places. On this point I have nothing more to say than what I have already said. But whether these 25,000 tons be sent, as proposed, to places 60 miles distant from the railway, or whether they remain, as at present, partly at railway stations and partly at places at varying distances from the railway, they have to be disposed of to the best advantage as the season advances.

3. The question then remains how should this Government grain* be
* 25,000 tons in the interior.
12,000 " Madras city. be used, so as to cause

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the least possible disturbance to private trade and the least possible loss to the State. This grain has cost, transport and other charges included, about Rs. 32,00,000 to the public treasury. The famine estimates provide for recovering, directly or indirectly, three quarters of this sum before October, 1877.

4. Over a part of the famine-stricken tracts of the Peninsula favourable spring rain has already (2nd April) fallen. If seasonable showers continue to fall in April and May, and if the monsoon opens propitiously in June, then old stocks of grain will come out everywhere, the relief labourers will very greatly decrease, and the need for keeping a reserve of Government grain will be gone before the end of July. If, unhappily, another year of short rain should come, then relief operations might have to be begun again; but for the present plans have to be made in view of the past failure only. It takes some time for orders on a matter of this kind to reach all the distant places where action will have to be taken. It will be more convenient also for the grain dealers of the interior to know beforehand how and when Government is going to use its grain.

5. My recommendation is that the Government grain should be expended in paying wages to relief labourers; and that grain wages should be begun from the 1st May next at all, save certain exceptional, depôts. The principle that Government may, at its discretion and convenience, pay its relief labourers in grain, has been acknowledged by the highest authority. At exceptional places where the Government might consider that, for one reason or another, the grain reserve ought to be kept untouched, later than the 1st May, some later date, such as the 1st June or the 15th June,

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From *R. B. ...*

Dated April 2nd

1877. N. 161

FOR ORDER

See Memo 10/4/77

*as to the reply to the letter to
Richard Temple
sent with the above
letter 7/4/77 L.H.P.*

No. 1392 of 27/10/1877

To C. L. ...

*For the Director to acknowledge
receipt of the letter N. 161 of the 27th
January a minute of the R.
Council regarding the economical
arrangement of the grain market
in the Madras Presidency & to state
that the Govt. does not participate
in the movement of the grain
within the Presidency
in the utilization of which they must
be guided by the varying circumstances
of the country & the intention not to
interfere with private trade.*

10/4/77 L.H.P.

*MM
8/4*

PA

*acknowledge with the
remark that the Govt.
do not interfere at any
embarrassment in respect
to the small reserve
grain within the
Presidency - in the
utilization of which
they must be guided
by the varying circumstances.*

might be fixed, from which grain payments to relief labourers might begin.

6. If this recommendation should be accepted by the Madras Government, with or without modification, then it would be necessary that early orders should issue, so that Collectors and relief officers might be able to have all arrangements complete for beginning to pay grain wages on the 1st May.

7. I trust that it may be understood that this Minute relates only to the 25,000 tons or thereabouts now actually in the Ceded Districts and Kurnool. Regarding the 12,000 tons or thereabouts now in the town of Madras, a decision will apparently have to be formed hereafter.

RICHARD TEMPLE.

(True Copy)

*(Signed) J. W. ...
Ad. ...*

22-11-77

N. 234 a

*GA 10 of 1877
10/4/77*

*Forwarding copy of a minute
made by Sir R. Temple containing
his suggestions regarding
the economical disposal of
the Government grain
in the interior of the
Madras Presidency.*

*For
b. E. ...
Copy to Sir R. Temple
dated 22/3 about
received 4th 1878.*

Rev: 1877 10/4/77

27/10/77

of the scarcity. and
the interference with the
trade -

18/4

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