

(1) Number of pages 14

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(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1587	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	28-4-1877	197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
28th April 1877.*

Famine Relief.

No. 693. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 17th April 1877, No. 1,714:—

Read the following letter from J. H. MASTER, Esq., Collector of Bellary, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chilmatur, 6th April 1877, No. 257.

In forwarding copy of letter, No. 20, dated the 31st ultimo, addressed by Mr. Oldham, in charge of the relief-works in the Adoni Taluq, direct to the Additional Secretary to Government, I have the honor to inquire whether the Government approve of this course being pursued.

2. It is true that I am at a distance from Adoni, but it appears to me that if officers in the district nominally under the Collector are allowed to correspond directly with Government that complications may arise.

3. The question of the supply to Mr. Oldham of Madras Sappers is only dependent upon the reply to my reference to Government as to whether the company is to be considered under the District Engineer or the Collector.

4. Rules as to the respective duties of the Public Works Department Officers and those of the Revenue Department have already been framed by Government.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Copy of Mr. Oldham's letter.

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government.

2. The Board are very decidedly of opinion that Famine Officers should not be permitted to address Government or the Board otherwise than through their immediate superiors except in cases of emergency, which cannot be said to have arisen here.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary.

No. 694.

ORDER THEREON, 28th April 1877, No. 1,587.

Miscellaneous.

THE Government concur with the Board. Mr. Oldham was informed, in reply to his communication, that it should have been forwarded through the Collector, and it was sent by Government to Mr. Master accordingly for disposal.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Exd. A. F. Goodall.



Revenue Department
Proceedings of the Board of
Revenue

Dated 17th April 1877 17/4

N.W. N. N. 3788-

Read the following n^o 257

From the Collector
Bellary
To the Secretary to the
Board of Revenue
Madras

257
In forwarding copy of
letter n^o 20 dated the 31st
Ultimo addressed by Mr. Oldham
in charge of the Relief works
in the Adoni Taluq, direct to
the additional Secretary to Govt.
I have the honor to enquire
whether the government approve
of this course being pursued
2. It is true that I am
at

Govt. of 1877: Madras.

REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Date April, 28th.

Encl.

G.O., 28th April 1877, No. 1587.

APRIL
No. 693-694.

STAMPED PRICE, No. 1045.

Mr. Oldham, employed on Public Relief in Bellary, forwarding direct with Government. - Con-
curring with the Board of Revenue that Famine
Officers should address Government through their
superiors, and intimating that Mr. Oldham has
been informed accordingly.

at a distance from Pooni
but it appears to me that
if officers in the District no-
minally under the Collector are
allowed to correspond directly
with Govt. that complications
may arise.

3. The question of the supply
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whether the Company is to be
considered under the District
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4. Rules as to the Respective
duties of the D.P.W. officers
and those of the Revenue
Department have already

1587
been framed by Government.

Bellary

Collis Office

Dated 6 April 1899

Camp Chilmator

Hindupur Taluk.

I have the

(Mr J. H. Master

Collector

No. 20

To The adl. Sec. to Govt.
Madras.

Sir,

I think it my duty
to bring to the notice of Govt.
the extravagant way in
which supervision over the
fencing works in this Taluk
is managed.

There are now 2000 la-
bours, all employed under
the Civil officers and none
under the D.P.W. They are
supervised by European Super-
intendents on high salaries
of

of whom it may be said generally that they do not understand work, are in fact mere coolies and belong to the broken down class. This Supervision is both inefficient and extravagant but I accepted it as the best to be had.

It was with much surprise that I ascertained that there are three D. P. W. Overseers in the Taluk. One of these is doing his ordinary work - the others are special men, paid from Famine Funds

Funds and are supposed to be directing our labourers how to work.

Now the work is of the most elementary character and could be and is carried on easily without any such agency. The first D. P. W. Overseer whom I discovered, had instructions to see that road metal was stacked outside the water channels and in heaps of a certain size; and yet neither of these instructions had been carried out in his charge.

of charge.

This seems the purest waste: These men are not only capable of taking charge of bodies of labourers, but, from their professional knowledge of taking task work from them.

I have spoken to the Range officer (Mr. O'Ratigan) who says, he does not wish his men to be troubled with labourers. Of course this being so, would be an addition to his work, but I would point out that in the famine of 1874, whenever D.P.W. officers were stationed they

1874
they had charge of labourers, from whom they took task work; and consequently the civil officers were able to draft able-bodied labourers to them, reserving charge of the women and the feeble; the result in my division being that the whole outturn of work cost only 3 times more than at the ordinary D.P.W. rate. Here it costs over 20 times more.

Some time ago, on learning that some of the Madras Sappers were to be deputed for relief works, I applied for the services

services of at least 5- of these
men having had experience
of how excellently native
soldiers and officers can
work; I was informed
that one was appointed to
this duty - I now find that
he has been placed at the
disposal of the Range Officer
to supervise our Superintendents
in supervising the labourers
in stocking metal outside
the water channels.

The three D.P.W. officers
here are, I am told, engaged in
making estimates for our relief
works

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works. I would point out
that this can be done in conjunc-
tion with the supervision of at
least some Relief labour.

I would ask there-
fore, first that such D.P.W.
officers be instructed to take
charge of a certain limited
number of labourers, to be
tasked to the extent of $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{2}{3}$ rd
of the ordinary rate - Secondly
that such Madras Sappers
and native non commission-
ed officers as are available be
placed at my disposal -
instead of at that of the D.P.W.
I

I would gradually replace
by them: $\frac{4}{5}$ ths of the existing
European agency at a calcu-
lable saving of from 60 to 80
per cent, and at a much
greater saving which cannot
be calculated - It is with
full deliberation that I
write that the actual work
done by the D.P.W. Overseers
stationed in this Valley in
connection with relief labor
and apart from Estimates and
is nil.

I have &c
(Sd) W. Oldham
On Special Famine Duty
In Charge, Adoni
Valley
(True Copy)

31st March 1877

(True Copy / 1877)
(Sd) J. H. Innes
Collector
Submitted for the orders of
Government -

2. The Board are very
decidedly of opinion that
Famine officers should not
be permitted to address Go-
vernment or the Board, other-
wise than through their
immediate superiors except
in cases of emergency which
cannot be said to have
arisen here.

(True copies and extracts)
H. H. Innes
Secretary

To
Addl. Secy to Govt R. B.