

PRESS SERIES.

G.O., No. 862

Dated 9 th October

[Despatch Abstract.]

That
Having the 2 cubic feet of stone-breaking
fixed by Mr. de Winton was not a task for the
original breaking of stone, but for reducing
to the right size stone already broken, &
directing that this task for re-breaking
stone be restored & that the Lt. Schedule
tasks for the original breaking of stone
be insisted on.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Department.

No. 15278

Government of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

No. 8457

Endorsement.

Recd. 30 Sept. 1897

Dg Engineer III Circle, No.

Letter from the Super^r 1897.
3656 W. dated 18th Sep^r
Revenue Department.

It is necessary for me to make any remarks, as my
forw^ding the management of famine relief works is
2. well known. This opinion has had no weight against the
influence of the Famine Commissioner and the Board of Reve-
nue: but I believe firmly (and there are many others of the
same opinion) that if it had been acted on, about 1/3rd. the
expenditure on relief works would have been saved, and the
coolies would have been in just as good condition as at pre-
sent.

It is suggested that Mr. deWinton's report be read in
connection with my note dated 6th September 1897, No. 1305 D.

Mr. deWinton states that in ordinary times a woman can
break 7 cubic feet of moderately hard stone, but that as 4
that are seldom employed on breaking stones, other men
was for more than a woman: but I think it may safely be
and that if a woman can break 7 cubic feet, an able bodied
quarry he 10 cubic feet. He also states that a boy of 14
ic feet. In my note I gave 3.7 cubic feet. I
must coupled before be safely asserted that the task that
that "no added to the work can turn out is
to break n
little work
the Famine

Department

1897

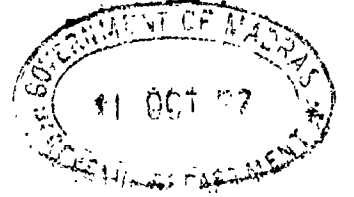
IT.

no letter from the
III Circle ex
Panayam Famine

Man

Revenue (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 8457



- 1 The Hon. Mr. C. S. L.
- 2 The Hon. Mr. H. M. S. C. S. L.
- 3 His Excellency the Governor.

From

The Public Works Department

For orders.

Please see also draft G. O. flagged # which has not been issued pending receipt of the explanation (G. O. 714/20-8-97) from Mr. De Windon as to the circumstances under which he raised the task at Panayam from 1.3 c. ft. to 2 c. ft.

No. 15278

Dated 30th September 1897

Received

Registered

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Tasks

2. It appears from this explanation that Mr. De Windon's task of 2 c. ft. was for breaking stones ~~and~~ forwarding with remarks letter from the and that for breaking unbroken Superintending Engineer, III Circle ex- quarry he "fixed 1.1 c. ft. per" maining how the at Panayam quarry unit coupled with the instruction relief works were set: that "no attempt should be made to break very hard stone". It ~~letter~~ is not clear from the Gamine Comm's process whether

24/10/97

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Read again G.O. 714 in full
 CH. 845 (full)
 It was drafted under orders on the 2nd
 G.O. N. 862 of 7th Oct. 1897
 19th Nov 1897

The order flagged 7 is in-
 correct in some places; it should run
 thus: "Ents found that the task
 of 2 cub ft fixed by Mr. D.W.
 was not a task for the original
 breaking of stone but for reducing
 stone already broken into right size
 (much of it had of course been
 broken into right size originally).
 The F.C. seems to have acted on
 incomplete information, & it is greatly
 to be regretted that he did have, on
 the basis of a single inconclusive
 experiment, interfered with the
 orders issued by the Supt. Engineer.
 The task of 2 cub ft for
 rebreaking stone, & the St. John
 task for the original breaking
 of stone will be insisted on.

RS
 5-10-97

6/10/97

11/9-1897

11/10/97

17/10/97

Examine Commr
 P. W. D.
 12/14/97
 60/3

Extract from the inspection notes of Supt.
 Engineer Mr. D. W. D. April 1897 of

Banganafalle - ~~Bareilly Road~~
 Relief work at ~~Alamur~~
 Condition of coolies. Not so good as usual.
 many look rather weakly and the food they have
 with them is scanty. They must be treated
 here with some leniency.

Metal - much too big as usual. To be rebroken.
 Task 2 lbf per unit. It should then be
 carried to the road side and stacked in
 heaps 6' long in every 100 ft of road. The
 distance, as stepped by me, is 1 1/4 miles = 3
 trips per day. Task per unit. 6. When the
 metal collected at quarry has all been rebroken
 and carried to road side - the Local Fund
 metal already stacked on road side, 6 and 7
 miles, should be broken to proper size and
 also stacked in 6' heaps in every 100, and
 the gravel should be stacked in 2'3' heaps.
 Tasks for rebreaking 2 lbf. When this work
 is completed, metal breaking to 1 1/2" ring, can
 continue at quarry - Task 1.1. No attempt
 should be made to break very hard stone.

Looked

No. 3656W. Superintendent Engineer's Office,

3RD CIRCLE.

Bellary 18 September 1897.

FROM

W.B. deWinton Esq.

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,

IIIRD CIRCLE,

BELLARY.

To

THE Chief Engineer,

P.W. Department,

Coatamand

Sir,

/ Enclosures.

With reference to G.O. No. 2453 W dated 3rd September 1897, I have the honour to forward herewith an extract from my inspection notes for April 3rd which will explain the circumstances under which I set the task referred to in such very unseemly language by the Famine Commissioner.

2. The task set was for rebreaking metal already broken to too large a size, and, as only about 50 per cent of the stones require breaking again, the task is naturally higher than that for original breaking. It will be seen from my inspection notes that I gave the task on this work of 1.1 for original breaking. The Famine Commissioner probably does not know the difference between the two.

3. His experiment is a very touching picture of slave driving, but it only shows how unsafe it is to ^{subject} ~~entrust~~ experiments to amateurs. If the Famine Commissioner had made as many experiments on the subject as I have, with workers in complete ignorance of the fact that an experiment was being made, he would know that

(1) a woman on ^a relief work habitually breaks 3.5 cft of moderately hard stone and 4.5 cft of soft stone per day without any undue exertion.

This is not surprising seeing that a woman accustomed to the work breaks for a contractor 7 cubic feet per day of moderately hard stone.

(2) A man rarely breaks more than a woman, and ^{few} ~~most~~ men are seldom employed to break on relief works because they can more easily do their task by carrying.

(3) A child is seldom or never allowed to break, and practically always carries

carries, but I have records of children breaking 2 x 2.5 cft and a boy of 14, 5 cft.

4. The principle I have pleaded before me throughout is that a woman breaker should be made to break on a famine relief work half the quantity of moderately hard stone per day which a woman accustomed to the work would break for a contractor. This latter quantity is as stated above 7 cft. and 3.5 cft has therefore been taken as the day's task for a woman in this class of stone. Half the quantity of ordinary work is a ^{lighter} ~~higher~~ proportion than is exacted in Bengal where the proportion is $\frac{3}{5}$.

On the adjacent work at Komaravol, inspected by me on April 5, I measured a man and woman's output at the end of day and found it to be as follows

Man 4.75
Woman 4.00
in moderately hard stone, and I have numerous instances, taken quite haphazard, of women turning out between 4 and 5 cft. I take my measurements in a wooden box measuring

cubic

cubic foot so there is no doubt of their accuracy.

5. I trust that the above explanation will convince Government that my tasks are more trustworthy than those obtained by the Famine Commissioner's experiments in slave driving. The emotional famine policy of that officer is already largely responsible for the fact that relief works in Madras have cost from 2 to 3 times as much per unit of outturn as they have in Northern India, and if he is allowed to manipulate the task tables as he pleases, the difference will be even greater.

6. I would call particular attention to his order in Para 7 that Collectors "should see that tasks are within the competency of the average gang." This order has been, and will be again, taken to mean that the proper task for a gang is to be judged by the outturn, i.e. the gang sets its own task. I wonder what body of people of any nation under the sun would do a good day's work under such conditions?

7. If the epithet 'disgraceful' is to be

be applied at all to the organisation of the famine relief operations of 1896-97, it is not deserved by this Department. It is absolutely certain that if the control of relief works had been placed entirely in our hands, their cost would have been far less, and the outturn much greater.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
W. H. Hunter

Supt. Engineer, III Circle.
16/7

From

The Superintending Engineer,
IIIrd Circle,
Bellary.

Man	---	10 cubic feet.
Woman	---	7 cubic feet.
boy	---	4 cubic feet.

5. Famine coolies for the first work they are employed might be made to turn out half the above amounts.

J. R. Lawrence

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

Dated

Received

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Enclosures.

No.

Subject.

To

The Revenue Department.

Engineer,
Circle,
ry.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FAMINE COMMISSIONER.

Complaint having been made to the Famine Commissioner that the tasks for stone-breaking at Panim were excessive and that male coolies were being fined down to 6 pies per diem, he has enquired into the matter with the following results:—

2. The Famine Code task is 1.88 per unit. The District Schedule task for collecting and breaking is as follows for B class labour:—

Stone easily procurable and easily broken	... 1.7 cubic feet.
Do. but difficult to break	... 1.3 cubic feet.

se. The stone was easily procured, s no power to fix tasks, fixed the task

an experiment made under his own d a strong child worked from 7-30 A.M. re quite exhausted by evening, and g under such supervision was literally o, rather stronger than the average of s old.

...	5 1/2 cubic feet.
...	3 1/2 "
...	1 1/2 "
Total	9 3/4 cubic feet.

It may be noted that the woman's work is more than two times that of a child.

ft, per unit, which is just the District but difficult to break. The task at ft. This is just what the child turned he outturn was obtained under some- er than the average.

l to see that all tasks on works are the workers should have been rigidly uthorized officer. Collectors of other ithin the competency of the average on.

sk is for breaking only, not for collect- be taken up in collecting stones for ome further reduction.

Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

Amantapur
BOARD OF REVENUE,
REV. SECT., IN RECORDS & AGRICULTURE,
Madras, 8-8 1897.

Dear Sir:

There has been some fuss raised by the S.D.O. about tasks etc. I have to show H.E. the result of Mr. De Winter's interview. Here was a District Schedule task which, by personal trial, I found to be excessive. It would be raised to 2 cf. per unit from 1.3. If coolies being fined down to 6 pies per diem, an impossible task fixed by an unauthorized officer, I had even to reduce the Dist. task from 1.3 cf. per unit to 1.25. This is the

To the Revenue Secretary to Government.
To the Collector of Kurnool.
To the Collectors of affected Districts.

- 1,000-8-4-97.

Engineer,
Circle,
ary.

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Complaint having been made to the Famine Commissioner that the tasks for stone-breaking at Paniem were excessive and that male coolies were being fined down to 6 pies per diem, he has enquired into the matter with the following results:—

2. The Famine Code task is 1·88 per unit. The District Schedule task for collecting and breaking is as follows for B class labour:—

pose. The stone was easily procured,
has no power to fix tasks, fixed the task

an experiment made under his own
nd a strong child worked from 7-30 A.M.
ere quite exhausted by evening, and
g under such supervision was literally
o, rather stronger than the average of
s old.

...	5½ cubic feet.	It may be noted that
...	3¼	the beams are well
...	1¼ "	more than two inches
...	9¾ cubic feet.	but the beam is
Total ...		shanty 4 inches

per unit, which is just the District

per unit, which is just the District
it difficult to break. The task at
This is just what the child turned
outturn was obtained under some-
than the average.

see that all tasks on works are
workers should have been rigidly
authorized officer. Collectors of other
the competency of the average

for breaking only, not for collect-
taken up in collecting stones for
further reduction.

Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

Smith, stated the fact & agreed that the
task seemed rather low. Now this task
included collecting, & would have
been an ample task even without that,
but, when collecting of any kind is added,
it became an excessive task.

Now it is on the sort of supposition
that Gov. has been misinformed about
taking a reduction.

Highness is quite bowed: I have tried
to before, but no man can come
in an off hand manner like this &
decide whether a task is adequate or
not. As you will see the very task was

To the Revenue Secretary to Government.
To the Collector of Kurnool.
To the Collectors of affected Districts.

in the man who has gone about for months
pretending that tests were inadequate, & that
Linn. Hixson was a criminal. Dr. White placed
Hixson about, forming the same tale of
lies into his ears, & he dull an echo of
Dr. White's lies reached India & the
Kaddanfrats.

less than another interesting case
illustrative of Higham's modes of spread;
Higham got into Shipley & the found-
rial work. They reached it rather late.
Higham has a heap of metal plates
at the time there was 1/3 of per

Engineer,
Circle,
lary.

30-8-4-97.

Revenue Board Office,
(Land Revenue),
Bellary
MADRAS
10 Aug 1897.

My dear Sir...

I beg to report for the information of His Excellency what I have seen during my present tour up to date. The Districts of Endrapur, Anantapur, and Bellary have been visited. I went first to Endrapur, and afterwards stopping at Tadpatri, Rayachoti, and Sunkat, turned southwards and went through Anantapur, Dammam, Kadiri, Madanapalle, and Vayalpad Taluqs to Renigunta, from where I went first to Adoni, and then to Bellary, where I shall be engaged for the next three days going over works and Kitchens. From what I saw in passing through the above long line of country, and from what I was able

-2

19/8/97

very ~~many~~ works. These points involving fund and different principles according to the point from which they were viewed and it is

Eng.

to gather from the collectors and the various officials, it is clear that the monsoon has been somewhat scanty and unequal. But with all that, the red and light soils are very generally under cultivation, and the crops are looking well everywhere. The black cotton soil tracts are still like a wilderness. The rain has not yet been sufficient to justify their cultivation. But if good rain, sufficient to soak them to a depth of $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet, falls within the next 3 weeks or so, they too will be saved. A fairly continuous fall of 3 inches would do. In the purely famine area, the Andapal Taluq and Sooty and Anantapur Taluqs, and the Northwestern portion of Adoni Taluq are distinctly good, but Proddutur, Jammalamadugu, Tadpatri, Patankonda, Alur, part of Adoni, and the Bellary Taluqs are in a bad way. The things are very much as they were in 1896. The collectors tell me that the

Condition of part of Darnasaram, Kalyandurg, and Raichur is threatening.

As to the condition of the people, there is, of course, much destitution; but it is idle to contend that those on works and kitchens are not, as a rule, in very fair condition. There has been ~~some~~ sensible improvement even since I saw them in June, but compared with April the improvement is most marked. It is quite common to find fat children and women and muscular men on works, instead of the very fine drawn people who could alone be seen in April. There is practically no sickness whatever, and of famine sores, dropsy, or diarrhoea there is not a trace. I am aware that Mr. Le Fanu and Dr. King are ventilating different views from these. I have examined some of the same works as they have recently done, and I confess myself

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owing
is at

21/5/97

very ~~large~~ works. These points involving fundamental principles according to the point of view from which they are viewed and it is necessary

En

5.

Revenue Board Office,
(Land Revenue),
MADRAS.

intelligible, and he may visit. There is thus no interchange of views, & the Collectors are left in ignorance of what he wants to be done. Friction and misunderstanding naturally result. For instance, when he inspected some Ballery works, the other day he ^{hinted} to the Collector that he did not require him, and when Mr. Higham came he avoided him also. Mr. Tate, in the same way, complained to me the other day that he was most anxious to give satisfaction, but that Mr. Le Fane ordered him to the other end of the District, while he spent some three weeks or so at the other. At Adoni, the other day, he found great faults with the condition of, e.g., children on the works, 70 of whom he alleged to be dying of starvation on one work alone. Mr. Stewart ^{Mr. Le Fane} asked me to come and see for myself. As he had addressed me as Chairman on the same sub.

totally unable to discover what ^{intelligible} practical, sound, and of physical health they would adopt. As little prepared am I to accept the theory which seems to underlie their opinions, namely that there can be no cause for a human being being thin except underfeeding. Moreover, it appears to me equally shortsighted and impolitic to confess in this most unnecessary manner, that the famine campaign in Madras has been a failure, and that huge masses of treasure have been ~~wasted~~ spent on it in vain. On the other hand, I consider, as the result of repeated inspections, that, in so far as the saving of life and improving the physical condition of the people are concerned, a brilliant success may fairly be claimed for Madras. I fancy that, in the case of Mr. Le Fane, this maintenance of opinions opposed to the knowledge and experience of every one else, is partly due to a morbid avoidance of the company

The Collectors whose Districts he may visit. There is thus no interchange of views, & the Collectors are left in ignorance of what he wants to be done. Friction and misunderstanding naturally result. For instance, when he inspected some Ballery works, the other day he ^{hinted} to the Collector that he did not require him, and when Mr. Higham came he avoided him also. Mr. Tate, in the same way, complained to me the other day that he was most anxious to give satisfaction, but that Mr. Le Fane ordered him to the other end of the District, while he spent some three weeks or so at the other. At Adoni, the other day, he found great faults with the condition of, e.g., children on the works, 70 of whom he alleged to be dying of starvation on one work alone. Mr. Stewart ^{Mr. Le Fane} asked me to come and see for myself. As he had addressed me as Chairman on the same sub.

19/8/97

which ~~works~~ works. These points involving fund and different principles according to the point ^{of view} from which they are viewed and it is necessary

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just, I did so. The results will be found in the enclosed copy of the letter which I addressed to him yesterday.

There is no room for doubt that the extreme views regarding dietary and wages to which I have alluded, have ^{been reflected in} led to a lack of work, and to an inflated expenditure upon relief, which have produced tangible symptoms of demoralization among the people. The latter are very generally refusing to take up field work on the plea that they can get a good wage from Govt. on much easier terms - in one instance, it has been brought to my notice that they told the ryots who wished to employ them that all they had to do was to sit under a tree! My estimate is that about 1/3 of the men on works ought not to be there. A very marked feature is the comparative fewness of men on the works. This is caused mainly by the

due to a natural aversion -

high wage which the women and children can secure. This enables the man of the house to sit at home in idleness. One of the apparently most humane of the arrangements has, ~~in its working~~ to this, almost entirely failed in its object. Boys & girls of 12 & over are allowed the wages of adults. They ought therefore to be in higher competition than any other class of worker, but they are ^{on the contrary,} distinctly lower everywhere. I find from enquiry that their wages are annulled by their idle parents. It is not at all uncommon for one of these to come to the work on pay day, and take away the wage. One girl, who lived in the Yadiaki works, admitted that she remitted most of her earnings to her home. Thus, the ryots have been dragging the families of their farm servants on to the works in order to save the expense of feeding them. A good sized family earns from 7 to 10 annas a day, added to the ~~two~~ above, and the in-

relief ~~with~~ work. These points involving fund and different principles according to the point ^{of view} from which they are viewed and it is necessary

21/9/97

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Trivially high wage that is paid, then the distance allowance and the deductions for the supposed deficient output due to the presence of weakly persons in gangs. The sanctioned task is to commence with only half that which is exacted from similar labour in ordinary times. This is in practice reduced still further by 30 to 40 per cent. Even the remaining fraction has not been properly exacted. An examination of the rolls in the hands of head coolies has shown the columns for "work that ought to be done" & "work actually done" blank for several days, which means of course that the task in such cases can only be guesswork. The result of all this is that not only are the people unwilling to take ordinary employment, but they have also refused to do tank repair which is easily tasked. The last case which came to my notice was the promise at Chudayal of Rayachoti & Kadiri taking people who had refused to do irrigation repairs. It seems to be high time therefore, for

increasing the task and abolishing deductions, as well as for making provision for properly exacting the task laid down. The recent order of Govt, which had this end in view, have now begun to work. On every work which I have inspected there has been a gradual, but appreciable reduction in numbers during the last fortnight. This will, no doubt, be represented by a considerable falling off in the figures which will be telegraphed to Govt from Madras to-day. The orders have not, however, been fully carried out in most places, so that it is too early to judge of their sufficiency. In this connection, it seems somewhat unfortunate that the order of Govt dated 19th July, which regulates the relations of the P.W.D. staff with collectors, has not yet been communicated to the latter. Before being sent to the

Revenue Board Office,
(Land Revenue),
MADRAS.

The 10th of the 19th July was the date when the P.W.D. staff were ordered to begin work on the 10th of the 19th July. The order was issued by the P.W.D. staff on the 10th of the 19th July. The order was issued by the P.W.D. staff on the 10th of the 19th July.

which ~~will~~ work. Then points involving fundamental principles according to the point of view from which they are viewed and it is necessary

21/9/97

Port
 Press, it should have been copied by typewriter in the B.D. Office, and an advance copy communicated to each Collector. The powers conferred by that Order would have much facilitated the operations for the conservation of relief.

I forgot to mention that another cause of the reduction in numbers on works is the substitution of ragi for cholam as the basis of calculation of wages. The retention of the dearer grain rendered the wage unduly attractive, for every one in Anantapur, for instance, was eating Ragi, & saving the difference. In this connection, I may say that my enquiries bear out the correctness of the suggestion, which was made by Mr. Stuart some time ago, to the effect that the absorption of small silters paid as famine wages indicated that what was supposed to be merely a living wage

assigned to each individual on works, really included a surplus which has been hoarded. As a fact, it is at present difficult to obtain small change except from liquor shops. With all deference to the opinions of Mr. Le Fanu and Mr. King, I submit that this must be regarded as strong evidence that the B wage ~~was~~ has not been formed by the people, who received it, to be in any way insufficient.

I go to Kurnool District on the 13th, and thence on to Godavari, Vijayapattam, and Banjam, the state of which will be duly reported. I propose to return to Madras about the end of the month through the Ceded Districts.

Yours sincerely
 C. Roberts

70
 H. A. Sim Esq J.C.S.
 Private Secy.
 H. R. The Governor

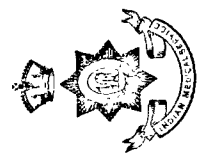
relief ~~works~~ works. These points involving fundamental principles according to the point of view from which they are viewed and it is necessary

c19/8/97

En

Private--

16th August 1897.



Dear Mr Sim,

It may interest you to know certain details regarding my visit to the Bombay Deccan Districts. The Agricultural population is better off than ours owing to the operation of certain Acts ; cooly labour is at

all times dearer. The relief workers are in important respects much better treated than ours as to wages, but an appearance of economy is maintained which is still-
fied by an accumulation of rules and complicity at mild forms of deceit by the District authorities. Where economy at the expense of the relief workers is really attempted on behalf of Govt, all results are prevent-
ed by the most shameless expenditure of the Indian

219/8/97

points involving principles according to the point from which they viewed and it is necessary

interference with factors that upset the intended

correct; the absence of supervision and the dislike to

that no task is properly enforced. The principle was

of the D. P. W. against this troublesome arrangement,

incorrect application of the rules, and the declarations

this has been followed by public opinion misled by

rebellion by the D. P. W. owing to the trouble involved;

occurred in regard to the "distance allowance" a little

orders in consideration of local arrangements, there has

the issue of more favourable but absolutely reasonable

criticism of being unduly harsh at first, and with

tasks still remain a farce. Madras is open to the

present in this respect discipline is much tightened - but

of the most loose discipline and tasking a farce. At

the last three months, discipline of workers has been

grossly excessive in this Presidency. Up till within

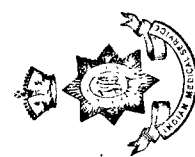
Government cost are on a scale that would be regarded as

an extravagant scale. All famine establishments at

Charitable Fund's allotments, which have been made on

3.

4.
arrangements. If these temporary difficulties be set
aside, it can be clearly shown that ^{whilst} during the long
period from November to April and later, Bombay was thrown



ing away money hither and thither for gratuitous relief
and bloated establishments, Madras has held the plam

as to rigid economy and discretion. My report will

be sent in officially in a few days.

Yours faithfully,

W. S. S. S.

19/5/97

points involving fundamental
different principles according
the point ^{of view} from which they
are viewed and it is necessary

interference with the factors that upset the intended

No.

From

Ac. from the T. L. with enclosures.

Dated

19-8-1897.

FOR ORDERS.

Am. Lit. Soc. C.S.P.

Ben Lie H. H. K. C. A.

"Who shall decide when doctors disagree?" - gave me to get at the bottom of these differences of opinion, the distressed districts must be visited by a member of Gov. - no one else can have the authority to do any good.

As for Mr. de Faur's task of stone breaking, it comes to less than $\frac{1}{5}$ of a c. y? per rim. But I have always understood that a man could break a great deal more than that - The C.E. might be asked what would be a fair task.

20/8/97
Bk 2 by. Pp
Int: 11/21/89

Circulated accordingly.
I broadly stated Mr. L. Farn and
Dr. King want to hold up the
Benevolent theory of Relief
Mr. Cole the common sense and
practical one, which derived
from experience; in other words
that of the Famine Code. There
is a great resemblance between
Mr. Coates' remarks and those
of Mr. Williams who says as it
seems to me very truly that
the distance allowance, the
allowances for weakness, and
the non-enforcement of laws
in the points which have
led to the demoralisation of our
relief ~~work~~ ^{express} work. These
points involving fundamental
different principles according
to the point ^{of view} from which they
are considered and it is necessary

Intelligence with factors that upset the intended

No.

From the P. L. with enclosures.

From

Dated 19-8-1897.

FOR ORDERS.

Mr. Mr. Gove. C.L.P.
Mr. Mr. H. H. K.C.L.



GOVERNMENT HOUSE
Admission
18th August 1897.



My dear Stokes,

His Excellency
thinks that Honble Members
would like to see the three
enclosed papers.

Yours sincerely,

Handwritten signature

"Who shall decide when
doctors disagree?" - I am
not at the bottom of these
differences of opinion, the dis-
tressed districts must be
visited by a member of Govt.
who else can have the author-
ity to do any good.

As for Mr. de Farn's talk
of stone breaking, it comes to
less than $\frac{1}{5}$ of a C. Y. per dim.
But I have always understood
that a man could break a great
deal more than that - The C.L.
might be asked what would be
a fair talk.

20/8/97
Mr. Mr. H. H. K.C.L.
12/11/97

Circulate accordingly.
I should state Mr. de Farn and
Dr. King want to hold on of the
Benevolent theory of Relief
Mr. Cole the common sense and
practical one, which derived
from experience; in other words
that of the Famine Code. There
is a great resemblance between
Mr. Coles' remarks and those
of Mr. William who says as it
seems to me very truly that
the distance allowance, the
allowances for weather, and
the non enforcement of work
on the points which have
to the demoralisation of the
relief ~~work~~ works. These
points involving fund and
different principles according
the point ^{of view} from which they
are viewed and it is necessary

21/9/97

The Farm's action based ~~on~~^{as} it was
a practically inconclusive deter.
at present and I advised.
The will is that though his
opinion is ^{there} inconclusive or
unless his friends will have the
fact of inducing to the humor
is communicated and it is
in accordance with what
find a C.H.S. reduced to
flowing the doctrine of a
C. Eugene ~~written~~ apparently to
since -

FOR ORDERS.

I don't see that it is necessary
for Genl. Wake and crew
or the other. There is no
necessary contradiction between
the two views. The Training
Code of them is benevolent.
I don't see what steps
should be taken other than
Genl. has taken.

25

The report about this has
come officially. I noted to
the effect that Mr. De W.'s
explanation ~~and~~ be taken,
but I do not know what
has been done

23
H. Fischer - called upon
for explanation - 26 7111
J.B.

D 1,000-8.4-97.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No.

From

Dated

189

F O R O R D E R S.

If Dr. King can let both our
half what he says (and it
hits in a large achievement.
In 10 days if no closer) it will
not make us one iota better
or prove us in the right a bit
more. Of course his report
must be awaited.

191877

Of course.

20/8/97

FOR ORDERS.

Recd 23/8/97

Office note No. 77
23-8-97

From the Rev. Secy to Govt
To the Secretary to Govt P.W.D.

With reference to the subject
~~in the subject~~
copy of the note by the Hon. Secy to Govt
the undersigned is directed
to request the C.E.'s opinion
on the subject of the
Govt. for the breaking in
of the (copy enclosed)
10-8-97

in 714
10-8-97 under disposal

13/8/97

22-8-97

24/8/97

Revenue (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 7781

- 1 The Hon Mr. G. E. C. I. E.
- 2 The Hon Mr. H. Bliss - K. E. E.
- 3 H. E. The Governor.

Seen
9/10/97

From
The P. M. D.

For Orders

This is the C. E.'s ~~order~~ reply
some office made sent to him
in accordance with the Hon. Sec.
H. Bliss's order ⁷flashed in connection
with the ~~in~~ Le Gagne's proceedings in
R. E. 714
20-8-97

No. 1305 D.

Dated 6th Sept. 1897

Received

Registered

Enclosures

Spare copies.

RS
8-9-97
just as I thought - Mr. Le
Gagne's task is ^{only} half of a
fair task - I should order the ~~the~~ task
to be reversed. It is a ^{practicality}
that S. P. 714 ^{recording} (i.e.)
20-8-97
practically approving Mr. Le Gagne's
task) issued without any enquiry as
to the correctness of his task

SUBJECT.

Re: tasks of cookies

75 2
Famine labour cannot be expected to be
effective in the P. M. D. system
I think we should revert to the Famine

75 2
- C. E. task of 1.58 per unit. (See E)

8.9.97

9/9/97

10/9/97

8/9/97 + new 8/9/97

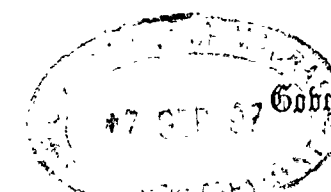
7/9/97
Famine. con.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date
ON 77	714/97		23-8-97

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.



Government of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Botacamund
Madras, 6 September 1897.

OFFICE NOTE.

From
The Secretary to Government
P.W. Department.

To
The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department.

Your Office Note No. 77 dated
23rd August 1897.

It is so long since I have done executive work that I regret ~~much~~ I cannot give the correct task from personal knowledge. I have however examined the P.W. schedule of rates in the Bellary, Cuddapah and Kurnool districts and the highest rate paid for breaking quarts in any of these districts is Rs. 2-8-0 per 100 cubic feet.

The wages of coolies is

Man - 0-4-0
woman - 0-2-0
Boy - 0-1-6

It is therefore evident that 100 cubic feet can be broken by 40/4 = 10 men coolies and that each man can therefore

$$\frac{10 \times 2}{3} = 80/3 = 26.6 \text{ boys or } 3.7 \text{ cubic feet each.}$$

task according to P.V. schedules. according to Mr. LeFanu.

Man cooly	-	10	5 1/4
Woman cooly	-	5	2 1/4
Foy	-	3.7	1 1/4

I am therefore of opinion that the rate of 2 cubic feet per unit is by no means excessive.

J. M. Canham Colonel, R. M.,
Secretary to Government.

~~the Hon. Mr. Hall etc.~~
the Hon. Sir H. Palmer etc. again
H. E. the Governor

I don't think this
order and nine bills
we have more in-
formation before
~~the~~ us. The Cup?
Eargain can't exp² - and
be awaited.

28/9/95

Very well. His best to be
in the safe side - My own
idea is that Col. Campbell
is distinctly a safe advisor in
this instance -

28/9/97

9/26/87
11/28/87
12/15/87

Read C-El's note no. 1305-D

It is obvious that the work
~~fixed~~ by the Famine Comm
is much too light and it is
greatly to be regretted that
he should have, on the basis
of a single inconclusive ex-
periment, interfered with the
orders issued by the Supt of
Engrs. The Famine ad-
just of 1.88 c: ft per min
should be adapted at Panier

Heilig

Note. It is a question for consideration whether the above order should issue at this stage when the information before Govt is incomplete. The C. does not recite with confidence and his ~~data~~ ^{figures are merely} ~~data are merely~~ ^{inferred from figures} are also a question. Having recd.

Dated 11th Sept 1897.

The Hon'ble H. W. BLISS, & C.I.E

For the perusal of

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

L.O. 714 - Mr. Swearington
 20.8.97
 Mr. W.P. Evans I have been and take, since, from that
 the clerk's has been sent, the same seems & have been
 G.O.s. Nos. 13 quite very.

No.

From

Dated

189

FOR ORDERS.

is that Col Campbell's figures are based on the D.T.W. rates which rates are not based on daily labour but on piece work. The D.T.W. pays Rs 2-8-0 for 100 cubic feet: whatever it takes the labourer 10 or 20 or any other number of days to perform it. and the whole matter turns on his assertion that wages are Rs. 0-4-0. Women 1. 2:0 & boy 0-1-6. These are the wages of Professional labourers, if correct: but the Code says a task labourer is supposed to do only $\frac{3}{4}$ of that task while the 13 class labourer's ^{task} is $\frac{1}{4}$ of that of a man = 5. 6. c. ft. while the ditto task table gives 5.2 and the M. L. figures 5.0.

[Signature]

$\frac{D}{4}$ 1,000-8-4-97.

at the stone is difficult

at Panipat ^{no doubt} he rightly ^{reported} takes the highest rates of Rs 2-8-0 per 100 c. ft. for stone-breaking but is it likely that a daily labourer will get as much as 4 annas a day in a rural tract in Karnal where professional labourers can be got for 3 annas in Madras and for 5 annas in such an expensive place as Aahy. Reduce the daily wage adopted in the C.E.'s calculation and the task is proportionately reduced.

2. we have called for explanation from the Engrs. and it will perhaps be safe to wait its receipt when we shall have more certain information before making a definite recommendation. It must be remembered that the district schedule drawn up by the Executive Engineer & approved by the Collector fixes only 1. 3 c. ft. per unit, & judged by this standard the Panipat task (1. 25 c. ft.) is not too low.

Wages, by piece work?

^{BS} the rates given by the C.E. are those of daily labour, not piece work earnings

^{Rs 2-8-0} But these are the rates of daily labour pay - Piece work is quite a different thing

^{BS}

the danger to which the work calls attention

at the stone is difficult

FOR ORDERS.

Government {1897} of Madras.
REVENUE.

Recd.
Regd.

} 1897.

Enclosures
Spare copies

Handwritten notes and stamps in the top right corner, including a date stamp "2/10/97".

G.O., No. 862, 9th October 1897.

OCTOBER.

Task.

Stating that the — of 2 cubic feet for stone-breaking fixed by Mr. deWinton was not a task for the original breaking of stone, but for reducing to the right size stone already broken, and directing that this task for re-breaking stone be restored and that the District Schedule tasks for the original breaking of stone be insisted on.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following G.O., No. 714, Revenue, dated 20th August 1897 :—

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 558, dated, 10th August 1897 :—

Resolution—No. 558, dated 10th August 1897.

Complaint having been made to the Famine Commissioner that the tasks for stone-breaking at Paniem were excessive and that male coolies were being fined down to 6 pies per diem, he has enquired into the matter with the following results.

2. The Famine Code task is 1.88 per unit. The District Schedule task for collecting and breaking is as follows for B class labour :—

Stone easily procurable and easily broken	...	...	...	...	C. FT.
Do. but difficult to break	...	...	...	...	1.7
	...	...	...	...	1.3

3. This is sufficient for the present purpose. The stone was easily procured, but, being quartzite, difficult to break.

4. The Superintending Engineer, who has no power to fix tasks, fixed the task at Paniem at 2 cubic feet per unit.

5. The Famine Commissioner has had an experiment made under his own supervision. A strong man, a strong woman and a strong child worked from 7.30 A.M. to noon and from 2 P.M. to 5.30 P.M. They were quite exhausted by evening, and could scarcely lift their arms. In fact working under such supervision was literally slave-driving. The coolies employed were, also, rather stronger than the average of their class, and the child was fully eleven years old.

The male cooly turned out	...	...	...	...	C. FT.
The woman cooly turned out	...	...	...	...	5½
The child cooly turned out	...	...	...	...	3½
	...	...	...	...	1½
Total	...	...	...	...	9½

6. This divided into 7 units gives 1.39 cubic feet per unit, which is just the District Schedule task for stone easily procurable, but difficult to break. The task at Paniem will, therefore, be reduced to 1.25 cubic feet. This is just what the child turned out, and is not too lenient, considering that the outturn was obtained under somewhat cruel conditions and from coolies stronger than the average.

7. The Collector of Kurnool is requested to see that all tasks on works are promptly overhauled. It is disgraceful that the workers should have been rigidly fined on an impossible task imposed by an unauthorized officer. Collectors of other affected districts should see that tasks are within the competency of the average gang, and are not altered without their sanction.

8. Collectors will note that the above task is for breaking only, not for collecting. If any of the time of the coolies has to be taken up in collecting stones for breaking, the tasks above fixed will require some further reduction.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) L. E. BUCKLEY,
Famine Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

„ Collector of Kurnool.
„ Collectors of affected districts.

Order—No. 714, Revenue, dated 20th August 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. The Superintending Engineer will be asked in the Public Works Department under what circumstances he fixed the tasks.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Famine Commissioner.
„ the Public Works Department.

READ—also the following Endorsement of the Public Works Department, dated 30th September 1897, No. 1527-D. :—

Forwarded to the Revenue Department.

2. It is unnecessary for me to make any remarks, as my opinion regarding the management of famine-relief works is already well known. This opinion has had no weight against the influence of the Famine Commissioner and the Board of Revenue; but I believe firmly (and there are many others of the same opinion) that if it had been acted on, about one-third the expenditure on relief-works would have been saved, and the coolies would have been in just as good condition as at present.

3. It is suggested that Mr. deWinton's report be read in connection with my note, dated 6th September 1897, No. 1305-D.

4. Mr. deWinton states that in ordinary times a woman can break 7 cubic feet of moderately hard stone, but that as 4 unit men are seldom employed on breaking stones, other men seldom break more than a woman; but I think it may safely be assumed that if a woman can break 7 cubic feet, an able-bodied man can break 10 cubic feet. He also states that a boy of 14 can break 5 cubic feet. In my note I gave 3.7 cubic feet. I think it may therefore be safely asserted that the task that coolies accustomed to the work can turn out is—

									C. FT.
Man	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Woman	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Boy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

5. Famine coolies for the first week they are employed might be made to turn out half the above amounts.

ENCLOSURES.

From W. B. deWINTON, Esq., Superintending Engineer, III Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated 18th September 1897, No. 3656-W.

With reference to G.O., No. 2453-W., dated 3rd September 1897, I have the honour to forward herewith an extract from my inspection notes for April 3rd which will explain the circumstances under which I set the task referred to in such very unseemly language by the Famine Commissioner.

2. The task set was for re breaking metal already broken to too large a size, and, as only about 50 per cent. of the stones require breaking again, the task is naturally higher than that for original breaking. It will be seen from my inspection notes that I gave a task on this work of 1.1 for original breaking. The Famine Commissioner probably does not know the difference between the two.

3. His experiment is a very touching picture of slave-driving, but it only shows how unsafe it is to entrust experiments to amateurs. If the Famine Commissioner had made as many experiments on the subject as I have with workers, in complete ignorance of the fact that an experiment was being made, he would know, that—

(1) A woman on a relief-work habitually breaks 3.5 cubic feet of moderately hard stone, and 4.5 cubic feet of soft stone per day without any undue exertion.

This is not surprising, seeing that a woman accustomed to the work breaks for a contractor 7 cubic feet per day of moderately hard stone.

(2) A man rarely breaks more than a woman, and 4 unit men are seldom employed to break on relief-works, because they can more easily do their task by carrying.

(3) A child is seldom or never allowed to break, and practically always carries, but I have records of children breaking 2 and 2.5 cubic feet and a boy of 14, 5 cubic feet.

4. The principle I have placed before me throughout is that a woman-breaker should be made to break on a famine-relief work half the quantity of moderately hard stone per day which a woman accustomed to the work would break for a contractor. This latter quantity is, as stated above, 7 cubic feet, and 3.5 cubic feet has, therefore, been taken as the day's task for a woman in this class of stone. Half the quantity of ordinary work is a higher proportion than is exacted in Bengal, where the proportion is $\frac{1}{2}$.

On the adjacent work at Komaravol, inspected by me on April 5th, I measured a man and woman's outturn at the end of the day and found it to be as follows:—

										C.FT.
Man	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.75
Woman	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.00

in moderately hard stone, and I have numerous instances, taken quite haphazard, of women turning out between 4 and 5 cubic feet. I take my measurements in a wooden box measuring 1 cubic foot, so there is no doubt of their accuracy.

5. I trust that the above explanation will convince Government that my tasks are more trustworthy than those obtained by the Famine Commissioner's experiments in slave-driving. The emotional famine policy of that officer is already largely responsible for the fact that relief works in Madras have cost from 2 to 3 times as much per unit of outturn as they have in Northern India, and if he is allowed to manipulate the task-tables as he pleases, the difference will be even greater.

6. I would call particular attention to his order in paragraph 7 that Collectors "should see that tasks are within the competency of the average gang." This order has been, and will be again, taken to mean that the proper task for a gang is to be judged by the outturn, i.e., the gang sets its own task. I wonder what body of people of any nation under the sun would do a good day's work under such conditions.

7. If the epithet "disgraceful" is to be applied at all to the organisation of the famine-relief operations of 1896-97, it is not deserved by this department. It is absolutely certain that if the control of relief-works had been placed entirely in our hands, their cost would have been far less, and the outturn much greater.

EXTRACT from the Inspection notes of Superintending Engineer, III Circle, for 3rd April 1897.

Banganapalle-Paniem Road—Relief-Work at Alamur.

Condition of coolies.—Not so good as usual. Many look rather weakly and the food they have with them is scanty. They must be treated here with some leniency.

Metal.—Much too big as usual. To be re-broken. Task 2 cubic feet per unit. It should then be carried to the road side and stacked in heaps 67 feet long in every 100 feet of road. The distance, as stepped by me, is $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles = three trips per day. Task per unit .6. When the metal collected at quarry has all been re-broken and carried to road side, the local fund metal already stacked on road side in 6 and 7 miles should be broken to proper size and also stacked in 67 feet heaps in every 100 feet and the gravel should be stacked in 23 feet heaps. Tasks for re-breaking 2 cubic feet. When this work is completed, metal breaking to $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches ring can continue at quarry. Task 1.1. No attempt should be made to break very hard stone. Coolies on this work are very rightly allowed to go when they have completed their task and one man had already broken 8 basket-fulls = 3 cubic feet at 6.30 A.M. beginning at 4 A.M. This should be encouraged everywhere.

ORDER—No. 862, Revenue, dated 9th October 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Government finds that the task of 2 cubic feet fixed by Mr. deWinton was not a task for the original breaking of stone, but for reducing stone already broken to the right size (much of it had of course been broken to the right size originally). The Famine Commissioner seems to have acted on incomplete information, and it is greatly to be regretted that he should have, on the basis of a single inconclusive experiment, interfered with the orders issued by the Superintending Engineer. The task of 2 cubic feet for re-breaking stone will now be restored and the District Schedule tasks for the original breaking of stone will be insisted on.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Famine Commissioner.
" the Public Works Department.

Exd. Shaik Karim.

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