

CORRESPONDENCE

From July, 1846, to January, 1847,

RELATING TO

THE MEASURES ADOPTED

FOR THE

RELIEF OF THE DISTRESS IN IRELAND.

COMMISSARIAT SERIES.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1847.

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COMMISSARIAT.

APPROXIMATE WEIGHTS and MEASURES as used in the PUBLIC DEPARTMENTS in ENGLAND for purposes of conversion.

Wheat.

1 bushel	= 60lbs	(average).
5 bushels	= 1 sack	= 300lbs.
8 do.	= 1 quarter	= 480lbs.
40 bushels	= 5 quarters	= 2400lbs. = $1\frac{1}{4}\frac{1}{4}\frac{1}{4}$ ton.

Flour.

1 cwt.	= 112 lbs.	
$3\frac{1}{2}$ do.	= 392 lbs.	= 1 quarter of wheat.
20 do.	= 2240 lbs.	= 1 ton = $5\frac{1}{4}\frac{1}{4}\frac{1}{4}$ quarters of wheat.
1 barrel (American)	= 196lbs.	
2 do.	= 392 lbs.	= 1 quarter of wheat.
1 sack	= 280 lbs.	
$1\frac{1}{2}$ sack	= 392 lbs.	= 1 quarter of wheat.
8 sacks	= 1 ton = 2240 lbs.	= $5\frac{1}{4}\frac{1}{4}\frac{1}{4}$ quarters of wheat.

American Indian Corn and Meal.

1 bushel	= 56 lbs.	
5 do.	= 280 lbs.	= 1 sack.
8 do.	= 448 lbs.	= $1\frac{1}{2}$ sack = 1 quarter.
40 do.	= 2240 lbs.	= 8 sacks = 5 quarters = 1 ton.

European Indian Corn

1 bushel = 60lbs. (average). See wheat.

WEIGHTS and MEASURES applicable to IRELAND.

1 stone	= 14lbs.	
14 do.	= 196lbs.	= 1 barrel of flour or oats.
16 do.	= 224lbs.	= 1 do. of barley = 1 bag of flour or oatmeal.
18 do.	= 252lbs.	= 1 do. of oatmeal.
20 do.	= 280lbs.	= 1 do. of wheat, rye, beans, peas, and potatoes * or 1 sack of flour or oatmeal.

* This varies in different counties from 21 to 24 stone gross weight of potatoes.

Note.—An imperial bushel of fine wheat will weigh 63lbs., whilst much of the inferior sorts will not exceed 53lbs. Fine oats will weigh 42lbs.; ordinary oats only 36lbs. per imperial bushel. Fine barley weighs 56lbs., good 51lbs., and ordinary 48lbs. per imperial bushel. Five quarters of wheat at 63lbs. to the bushel, are equal to nine barrels of 20 stone each. A quarter of wheat may be taken at 480lbs. on an average, a quarter of barley at 400lbs., and a quarter of oats at 320lbs. Four cwt., or 448lbs., are equal to one Irish load of hay or straw.

STATEMENT of the DATES of the opening and closing the DEPOTS established in Ireland, for the SUPPLY of PROVISIONS to the Destitute, consequent on the failure of the POTATO CROP in 1845, and showing the quantities Issued.

Depôts with Dependencies.	When Opened.	When Closed.	Pounds Issued of			
			Indian Corn.	Indian Corn Meal.	Oatsmeal.	Biscuit.
Limerick	3rd April . .	20th August				
Banagher	10th	26th . .				
Kilrush	17th	31st . .	67,300	10,327,418	167,501	..
Clare Castle	23rd	31st . .				
Killaloe	27th June . .	31st . .				
(Occasional from . .	27th February)					
Cork (Fully opened . .	11th April . .	31st . .	..	7,752,374	6,720	6,720
Waterford	20th May . .	15th . .				
Cloveland	1st June . . .	29th . .				
Dungarven	30th July . .	31st . .	..	1,247,186	415,946	2,584
Carriek on Suir . . .	7th	22nd . .				
Galway	20th April . .	Not closed .	..	1,542,646	99,855	4,179
Cliffhills Coast-Guard	4th May . . .	Dine . . .				
Oughterard . . . . .	..	..	..	3,451	..	..
Westport and Dependencies	27th April . .	31st August	..	1,470,227	..	..
Sligo	24th April to Coast-Guard					
	13th June to Relief Com-missioners . .	Not closed .	..	1,356,467	349,292	..
Longford	25th May . .	31st August	..	776,461	48,426	..
Dublin	8th	15th . .				
Athy	27th	28th . .	..	1,430,452	96,088	..
Tullamore	5th June . .	28th . .				
Dundalk and Dependencies.	15th	28th July .	..	153,897	..	..
			67,200	25,969,571	1,182,626	13,783

RECAPITULATION.

	Rs.	Tons.	Qrs.	Pounds.
Indian Corn	67,200 or	30	0	0
Indian Corn Meal 25,969,571 or	11,593	11	0	19
Oatsmeal	1,182,626 or	120	0	3
Biscuit	13,783 or	6	3	0
		12,157	15	0

Dublin Castle, November 9, 1846.

R. J. ROUTE, Commissary-General.

RESOLUTIONS of GRAND JURY of the City of CORK.

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY,

That the sincere and grateful acknowledgments of the grand jury of the city of Cork be respectfully presented to the Right Honourable Sir Robert Peel and the members of Her Majesty's late government, for the timely and judicious aid afforded to the distressed population of Ireland, during a period when the deficiency of their ordinary food threatened them with serious privations, but which the wise arrangements of the Government, aided by the generous contributions of our benevolent fellow-citizens, and other charitable individuals, have, under Providence happily averted, and the beneficial effects of which may be traced in the diminution of disease, the lightness of the criminal calendar, and the peaceful demeanour of the people.

RESOLVED,

That having too much reason to apprehend a similar cause for the active agency of the Government during the ensuing year, we would respectfully direct the attention of Her Majesty's present ministers to the impending calamity, and respectfully suggest that extensive employment for the labouring classes, by the construction of useful public works, is the means best adapted to alleviate that privation and distress which must otherwise inevitably follow a deficiency in their ordinary food.

RESOLVED,

That copies of the foregoing Resolutions be forwarded by the foreman to the Right Honourable Sir Robert Peel and Lord John Russell.

Signed for self and fellows,

THOMAS S. REEVES.

City Grand Jury Room, Cork, July 25th, 1846.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

August 7, 1846.

Write to Mr. Reeves, acknowledging the receipt of these Resolutions, and assure him that the attention of Her Majesty's Government is anxiously directed to the state of Ireland.

Mr. HALIDAY to the LORDS of the TREASURY.

Chamber of Commerce of Dublin,

August 4, 1846.

REPORTS being prevalent of the appearance of disease in the potato crop of this year, I am directed by the Chamber of Commerce of Dublin, to solicit to be informed whether Her Majesty's Government intend to continue to import into Ireland Indian corn or other provisions; as an early intimation of the intentions of Government may influence the operations of merchants engaged in, or who might engage in, the importation of foreign corn.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

August 11, 1846.

Write to the Chamber of Commerce, Dublin, that their Lordships have the important subject of their communication under their careful consideration, and the result of their deliberations will shortly be publicly announced.

REV. THEOBALD MATHEW to MR. TREVELYAN.

Cork, August 7, 1846.

It is not on matters personal to myself I now take the liberty to address you, yet my heart is so full of your unmerited kindness, I cannot commence the subject without repeating my most grateful thanks for your goodness to my orphan nephew.

I am well aware of the deep solicitude you felt for our destitute people, and your

arduous exertions to preserve them from the calamitous effects of the destruction of the potato crop last season. Complete success has crowned your efforts. Famine would have desolated this unhappy country were it not for your wise precautions.

Divine Providence, in its inscrutable ways, has again poured out upon us the viol of its wrath. A blut more destructive than the simoon of the desert has passed over the land, and the hopes of the poor potato cultivators are totally blighted, and the food of a whole nation has perished. On the 27th of last month I passed from Cork to Dublin, and this doomed plant bloomed in all the luxuriance of an abundant harvest. Returning on the 3rd instant, I beheld, with sorrow, one wide waste of petrifying vegetation. In many places the wretched people were seated on the fences of their decaying gardens, wringing their hands and wailing bitterly the destruction that had left them foodless.

It is not to harrow your benevolent feelings, dear Mr. Trevelyan, I tell this tale of woe. No, but to excite your sympathy in behalf of our miserable peasantry. It is rumoured that the capitalists in the corn and flour trade are endeavouring to induce Government not to protect the people from famine, but to leave them at their mercy. I consider this a cruel and unjustifiable interference. The gentlemen of the trade have nothing to do with Indian corn; it is, I may say, a creation of the Government, a new article of food, wisely introduced for the preservation and amelioration of the people of Ireland. Insidious efforts were even made to prejudice the people against this new food. Thank God they were in vain, and it is now a favourite diet; and ten thousand blessings are hourly invoked on the heads of the benefactors who saved the miserable from perishing.

I am well aware of the vast expenditure incurred in providing Indian meal as a substitute for the potato, but I humbly suggest a cheaper and more simple plan. I have already laid it before Mr. Redington, our excellent Under Secretary. If Government would purchase in America, and lay up in stores in the several sea-ports in Ireland, a supply of Indian corn, unground, and sell it at first cost to all who would purchase it in small quantities, it would be soon bought up by country millers and farmers, and the unholy hopes of the corn speculators and flour factors, who are gloating over the ruin that has overwhelmed the potato crop, would be completely frustrated. From the vast water-power in Ireland we have grinding mills in every part of the country, and there are, besides, in every townland two or three of the ancient hand-mills called *quearus*. In numerous cases, too, the grain would not be ground, but shelled and boiled whole, and in that way a wholesome and palatable food, called by the Americans *bommainy*. This plan would be a saving to Government of more than cent. per cent., and would be more satisfactory to the people.

I fear, dear sir, I am fatiguing you by these details, but I am so unhappy at the prospect before us, and so horror-struck by the apprehension of our destitute people falling into the ruthless hands of the corn and flour traders, that I risk becoming troublesome rather than not lay my humble opinions before you.

I earnestly entreat of you to look with compassion on the poor of this country, and to exert your justly powerful influence to save them from unutterable wretchedness.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Castle, Dublin, August 11, 1846.

I WENT this morning about eight miles on the Drogheda Railway to examine about a dozen potato fields. The greater number of these fields were, a week ago, in the highest possible condition, and some of them even last Sunday were untouched; this being Tuesday. I saw it, therefore, in all its stages. I allude to the late crop only. The first appearance is a little brown spot on the leaf, which is hardly perceptible, and which gradually increases in number, and then affects the stem, assuming by degrees a darker colour until it presents to you an appearance as if it had been burnt. The stem snaps off immediately it is touched, and is quite brittle. On examining the potato it was not larger than a marble, varying from that to a pigeon's egg. After this blight has seized the leaves and stem, it communicates with the potato, which ceases to grow, and the whole plant above ground withers away rapidly. In some instances the diseased potato throws out a fibre, and at the end of it a small potato about the size of a pea, and a corresponding germ above ground; but there is no further growth in the plant, and all progress to maturity is arrested.

In less than a week the whole process is accomplished.

It is impossible to say whether the disease begins in the potatoes or in the plant. There is nothing certain or positive, though the opinion is that the plant is first attacked. The only part of the country in which I have not heard of the presence of the disease is in some parts of the north, but the plant is there not so much advanced. Another fortnight will determine the question everywhere.

All the small potatoes I saw where the plant was touched I found diseased; and the smell of decomposed or decomposing vegetable matter is undeniable.

Captain PERCEVAL to Sir R. ROUTH.

Westport, August 11, 1846.

I YESTERDAY had an opportunity of visiting the district round Louishurg, which may be considered as the principal source of supply for potatoes in this district, and which made me anxious to ascertain the state of the crops there, before reporting to you generally on the subject.

Between this and Louishurg, a distance of 11 Irish miles, every crop is more or less blighted, and most are withered and blackened beyond hope of recovery.

At Louishurg, their appearance is rather worse than round Westport, and the stalks have more generally withered away, and judging from the external appearance nothing can be worse; but I also examined the state of the tubers, in several plots where the people were digging them up, and I found, in many instances, that the potato itself still continued sound, though under a perfectly blackened stalk, whilst in others the tubers were quite rotten.

This would appear to depend entirely on the description of seed; for in the same piece of ground, and under similar treatment, I saw sound specimens of the red potato, called "Peelers," and some of the white kind completely rotten, whilst others, also white, but of a different sort, were sound as the red.

These facts lead me to hope, that there may yet remain a considerable quantity which will not decay, though at present it is too soon to form a decided opinion, for the full effects of the last blast may not yet have developed themselves.

The oat crop is looking well, and should the failure of the potatoes be as complete as many anticipate, it will go some way as a substitute; but the rents cannot then be paid, and the landlord will do well to prepare in time for a great falling off in their next receipts.

Altogether the prospect is a gloomy one; yet it is surprising how cheerfully the peasantry look forward to the sufferings they anticipate.

Bad as the appearance of the crops are in this district, I hear from Lieutenant Dawson and others, that in Erris the failure is far more complete, and that the oats there are also very indifferent. From Achill the reports are almost as bad, and the same may be said of the Clifden district, including Bodin and Innisturk.

Captain POLE to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Banagher, August 11, 1846.

THE decline and conclusion of such a system of State relief as that which has been now for four months in active existence, will afford to the careful observer many signs from which a judgment may be formed of the amount of distress which has been averted from, and the evils, if any, which have been engendered among, the people in whose behalf it was introduced.

The demand for meal, though it still continues, has much diminished. The causes may be easily traced: the purses of committees are exhausted; that is the chief reason—committees no longer draw so plentifully. Many of them have sent in to me their last pound, sighing that it is their last; and a donation from the Castle, which I was lately ordered to pay, was sent to the committee in meal by me at their request. Committees which are rich in funds still continue their requisitions; for instance, the Parsonstown (Lord Rosse), which, the latest to come into the field of relief, is the last to relinquish it. They have funds, and they draw large quantities of meal still. Another cause is, that the poor are consuming their first crop of potatoes, whatever portion of it is sound; and I wish I could publish an edict among them, warning them to dig them and consume them as fast as possible, to secure them from any ill effects which may arise from blackened

stalks and spotted stems, wherever these fatal signs exist. Another cause is, that the coarser kinds of meal are coming into the market, the harvest being early and generally abundant. In short, was the potato crop, as far as it is matured, unblemished, and not a source of great anxiety, all parties who have been interested in the safety of the poor would now cheerfully relinquish their exertions in behalf of and leave them to the resources on which they have usually depended.

I have had evidence lately of the wisdom of staying the present proceedings, even if it became necessary to adopt similar ones in future; I mean with reference to the gentry and upper classes subscribing. I do not think the upper classes of this country would subscribe to avert an anticipated evil. I think the pressure upon the lower orders must manifest itself distinctly before they would renew their subscriptions; or in other words, I think property must be endangered before property will help the State in a measure of security. The trial has been made in my vicinity; a committee, anxious to renew its efforts in favour of the poor, went round for subscriptions, and scarce any one subscribed. The cloud which threatened is gone; they must be let alone until the horizon is again darkened. All this is very natural; and it makes the relinquishment of the State provision also more natural.

I have lately received a visit from Commissary-General Coffin, and received all necessary instructions for closing the dépôt here. By the end of this week I shall have ascertained exactly what residue of meal will be found in this dépôt; by the same time I shall also receive instructions as to its disposal. Commissary-General Coffin is intent upon that which is most desirable, some plan whereby the peasantry derive, if possible, all the benefit of the remaining stock. I shall be delighted to spread it around so that that object may be accomplished. In the hands of the dealers it will become comparatively useless to the poor.

The early potato crop is now coming into use generally: it is much damaged, and will not, I fear, increase any more in bulk. But the late crop, the winter's stock and the spring's hope, that crop, the past deficiency in which a careful State provision has supplied, is in a state of mysterious blackness. I have examined many fields darkened by this blight; no common rule can be devised respecting it. Under some of the stalks thus blackened the fruit is in abortion; under some corrupt; under some apparently sound, but small. *Whether this crop will continue to grow is still a problem.* Last year, the late crop was large in the fruit before the blight fell upon it; it is now smitten in its youth. "Hopelessly lost," is an expression made use of by a clergyman writing to me from Tipperary this morning, and speaking of the late crop.

Should the late crop fail, I think the confidence of the poor will be shaken in the potato. I inquired of an intelligent man 80 years of age, what food the poor depended on when he was a boy. His reply was, "When I was a boy, the poor planted scarcely any potatoes; they planted peas, and peas keep better than potatoes, and are more nutritious food." This is worthy of remembrance now.

Mr. WHITE to Assistant Commissary-General Wood.

Galway, August 11, 1846.

HAVING been several days lately along the coast of the county Clare, and the western parts of this bay, as well as in the neighbourhood of Galway, I consider it my duty to acquaint you of the unfavourable state of the potato crop; the rapid disease which has taken place within the last week, the stalks and leaves are turned perfectly black, a large quantity of the potatoes are diseased, and a portion perfectly rotten; this I state from personal observation.

I am therefore clearly of opinion that the scarcity of the potato last year will be nothing compared with this, and that too several months earlier.

Last year the disease did not take place until the potatoes were ripe, this year the disease has taken place long before the potato has come to its maturity, consequently there will be an awful scarcity of seed.

The peasantry are so alarmed at the progress of the disease, that they are giving unheard of prices for young pigs, and you may see loads of diseased potatoes selling for 2d. a stone.

I have again been in the county Clare and coast, and find the disease progressing.

Mr. MOORE to the INSPECTOR-GENERAL of the COAST GUARD.

Lochru, Ardara, August 13, 1846.

I beg to inform you, that in order to keep some meal on hand until I received an answer to my letters of the 31st July, No. 41, 4th August, No. 45, and 6th August, No. 46, to which I beg to call your particular attention, I confined the sale to one stone to each person, and selling every other day; we have this day sold the last grain, having sold nine sacks in stones and half-stones, and could we give it to the people as they called for it, in large quantities, 100 tons and more would have been sold. To give some idea of the state of the country, the man with a large farm is as badly off, or worse, than the man who had no potatoes set, from the total loss. I beg further to state, that the people are applying to me constantly to take money from them to send for meal, tendering sums from 10*l.* down to 5*s.* Now this is all for the support of their families, and those persons, you will observe, are all that would be called comfortable farmers. No importation can be expected into this part of the country, so we must trust to the Government, who, if they do not send an immediate and ample supply, will find my statements confirmed with a vengeance. Captain Nesbit has just called and requested me to press for assistance; there are no public works to be looked for here, and as for the poor-house you must put in the entire population, place food within their reach, so that they can get it to purchase as long as their money lasts, and when out they may die.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

Treasury, August 14, 1846.

THE Chancellor of the Exchequer desires me to mention to you his wish, that you should not take any steps to dispose of the remains of our Relief Stores, *merely for the sake of getting rid of them*; and when we meet in London, we will settle what is proper to be done on this, and every other point which requires a decision.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, August 13, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to report to you for the information of the Right Hon. my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, that on the 5th August, in consequence of the sudden influx of the early potatoes into all the markets, particularly on the west coast of Ireland, and the effect produced by it on all species of provisions, and having in view the necessity of affording to the District Committees an opportunity of purchasing the Indian corn meal at a cheaper rate, so as to prevent the premature digging up and sale of their staple food, I reduced the price of the Indian corn meal, from that date up to the 15th instant, inclusive, from 10*l.* to 9*l.* per ton, but I regret to say that the object of this reduction has altogether failed.

The rapid progress of the disease in the potato and the fear of its further deterioration offered a stronger motive; and the desire to realize something before that something shall be utterly lost, still continues to force the potatoes at very reduced prices into the market, and occasions a great diminution in the demands on our stores.

This temporary reduction of price was ordered at the following points,—

Limerick Depôt.	Sligo Depôt.
Galway Depôt.	Athy and dependencies.
Westport Depôt.	Tullamore.

The current rate at the two latter, being 8*l.* 10*s.* to 9*l.*, and all further supply countermanded to those depôts.

There is every reason, however, to believe that the effect of these premature sales of potatoes, applicable only to the early crop, will be very transient.

From the best opinions that can be collected, and all from personal observation, and by parties holding high situations under the Government, the nearest estimate that can be now formed computes at about three-fourths the loss of the late crop, and as the cost of cultivation for an acre of potatoes averages from 7*l.* to 10*l.*, it is impossible for the people to continue this losing experiment, and the change to a

higher food will probably bring about the abandonment of the conacre system and of the small farms, and lead to the introduction of day labour on wages; but whatever advantage this may present hereafter, a great deal of distress must be passed through before it is accomplished.

In the meanwhile, our sales have been for the moment almost suspended, but they may from day to day be expected to be resumed, and our stores to find a ready sale at the former price of 10*l.* per ton; and this plan offers the only means of disposing of these remains, for public auction is out of the question, as a step that would depreciate the character of the supply, at which the poor could not compete, and which would transfer the whole at some insignificant price into the hands of dealers, who would retail it at an extravagant profit.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

August 21, 1846.

Write to Sir R. Routh that my Lords have already caused their desire to be intimated to him, that no portion of the remaining store of Indian meal and other food under the charge of the Commissariat Officers in Ireland should be sold merely for the purpose of disposing of it.

Their Lordships now direct that it may be stated to Sir R. Routh that the Indian corn meal ought, under no circumstances, to be sold at a lower price than 10*l.* a ton, and that it should not be sold even at that price, except in cases in which it is certain that food cannot be procured from other sources at reasonable prices.

In like manner, the oatmeal belonging to the Government should be sold only at proportionably higher rates, and subject to the same condition.

Their Lordships desire that Sir R. Routh will issue instructions to the officers in charge of all the depôts accordingly.

Sir R. Routh will also take the necessary steps to concentrate at the following depôts at the earliest practicable period all the remaining supplies of food belonging to the Government in Ireland.

In the interior,—

Longford,
Bauagher.

On the coast.—

Limerick,
Galway,
Westport,
Sligo.

Commissary-General Hewetson is to be instructed to transfer the remaining quantity in store in the depôt at Cork to Limerick, in the charge of which depôt he will relieve Commissary-General Coffin, who will remain for the present on full pay with a view to his being employed hereafter as the occasion may require.

Subordinate depôts, under the charge of the constabulary, will probably hereafter have to be established at other places on the western coast, as the necessity for taking such a precaution may become apparent in each case.

Transmit a copy of this Letter and Minute to Mr. Redington for the Lord Lieutenant's information.

Captain PERCEVAL to Mr. TREVELYAN.

August 14, 1846.

THE paper you have sent me is well drawn up, and rests on sound principles.

I approve of the proposal, that the whole of the money spent on the public works should be repaid by the counties; it is the only effectual stop that can be put to the plundering and scheming applications which have disgraced the country this season.

I also think well of the proposal of adopting the Poor Law valuation, as that on which the rate for these works should be levied.

There was a very general feeling on the part of the peasantry, that they were working for wages which some, if not all of them, would have to pay in the shape

of cess, and I have no doubt that this feeling very much helped the inclination to be idle, and to do as little as possible for their own money, as they considered it.

I do hope that you will adopt my suggestion as to letting the works out as *job* work; nothing else will ever prevail on the men to work as they should; and when they each find that they must give a fair day's work for their wages, it would act as a test of real want, as the independent idler will lose the temptation of receiving pay for doing next to nothing.

I don't hear that you have yet acted on it; it might have been done at once.

You must adopt some improved system of payment, the just complaints of arrears being very loud—two and three weeks being often due; a weekly system of payment ought to be insured.

Mr. Livingston, a merchant of this town, is now unloading a vessel from Galatz, in Wallachia. He has about 200 tons of the corn on board; other cargoes are expected here.

I hear that they are advising the people about Clannorris to pay no rents. The people naturally look to their oats and other grain as a substitute for their potatoes, and if they are compelled to consume them, where is the rent to come from?

I anticipate that the pinch will be felt most as between landlord and tenant; the only refuge they will have will be in abundance of work; and if well managed, and generally distributed, and supplies of cheap provisions are at hand, the pressure may be got over with tolerable success.

I will send the specimens of diseased potatoes in a day or two.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, August 14, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, copy of the instructions I have given to Assistant Commissary-General Lister to proceed to the West Coast for the purpose of inspecting and settling the Coast Guard accounts and stores.

Dublin, 14th Aug. 1846.

ENCLOSURE.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. LISTER.

Dublin Castle, August 14, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you that I have instructed Deputy Commissary-General Dobree to repair to Dublin to relieve you in the charge of this station.

As soon as you have transferred your duties to Deputy Commissary-General Dobree, I request you will proceed by the Galway mail to Clifden, and inspect the Coast Guard stations on that coast, at which the Indian corn-meal belonging to Government is deposited.

You will judge from the demand at each, whether it would be prudent to collect these stores at one or two of the ports; or, if they are likely soon to be disposed of, to leave them where they now are, as our object is to effect this disposal with due attention to convenience and efficiency at an early date.

The Coast Guard duty should belong rather to the transport than to the detail of issue, as they receive no remuneration.

You will consult Captain Helpman, and consider in your own mind whether it will or will not be better to place a constable at the two largest depôts of Roundstone and Clifden, making arrangements for the speedy sale at the other depôts, or transferring their contents to one of the former, and taking care to avoid unnecessary expense.

The principal Coast Guard depôt on the station is Manning Bay, in the immediate charge of Lieutenant Stokes, a very active and zealous officer, and through whom the chief distribution passes, and you will make a point of seeing him and inspecting his stores.

You will make due observation and report on the conveniences for storing provisions at Roundstone and Clifden, and the Ballecks, and other points on this coast, and the depth of water and protection which they offer as a port, extending your remarks to any other details worthy of report.

You will also inquire into the stores at Bofin and at Innisack, and I believe that there is no regular store at the former, which may require your consideration, but being islands, they belong naturally to the Coast Guard superintendence.

You will inspect the accounts of Captain Helpman, and the demands payable by him, and see that proper vouchers are obtained, and cause a final settlement to be made of all pending or other concerns, leaving the constables in charge, who will report to Assistant Commissary-General Wood if you decide on this course.

From Clifden you will proceed to Westport, where you will afford such assistance as may be required by Captain Percival in the completion of his accounts.

From thence you will proceed to Belmullet, and visit the several Coast Guard stations in its immediate neighbourhood, and which are supplied from that depot.

The same instructions apply to this part of the coast as to Clifden; but I believe that the demand at Belmullet is much greater and more constant, and there can be no objection to continue to those localities a supply from Westport until that depot shall be exhausted; indeed it would be desirable to diffuse as widely as possible the good to be derived from a general issue of those remains.

Captain Percival will give you a full account of the Coast Guard stations, and you will make a point of seeing Captain Nugent who commands, and who is at Newport, from whom you will derive much of the information you are now required to obtain, and which you will verify in person as much as lies in your power.

I do not think it necessary for you to interfere with Captain Nugent, who is so constantly in communication with Captain Percival and the Westport depot, that it is unnecessary to make any change; but you will do right to offer your assistance to Captain Nugent with reference to his accounts, if it should be requisite.

As regards the relief of Lieutenant Dawson by the transfer of his duties to the constabulary, you will observe that the latter arrangement placing the constable under the direct orders and authority of the officer at Westport certainly facilitates our duty, and brings us more in contact with it. I am informed that Lieutenant Dawson is full of zeal and exertion, and your taking this step can never be supposed to throw the shadow of blame on him, but rather to take from him a labour more onerous than it was intended to impose on him.

The principal Coast Guard stations dependent on Belmullet are—

Ballyglass,
Delough,
Tullaghan, and
Dunkeelan;

but the latter has usually been supplied from Sligo, for which communication it is more favourably situated.

You will be able to judge on inspection if these points may not be concentrated, for the defect of the Coast Guard issue is the numerous points at which they have undertaken it; and though it might have been unavoidable, it can hardly now be necessary to continue it.

I leave you a discretionary power in this case to substitute or not the constabulary. The service is near its close, and you will not unnecessarily make a change which is not required.

At Clifden it is understood that Captain Helpman wishes to be relieved, but even there I leave to you the exercise of your judgment.

We wish to terminate the service satisfactorily to all, but still to ensure that it shall be done correctly, and that an accurate account shall be forthcoming of all our proceedings.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

August 26, 1846.

Write to Sir R. Routh that my Lords entirely approve of the instructions which have been given by him to Assistant Commissary-General Lister.

TREASURY MINUTE.

August 14, 1846.

WRITE to the Commissariat officer in charge in Jamaica that Deputy Assistant Commissary-General Bishop being required for a particular service, their Lordships desire that he will immediately apply to the Officer commanding for his authority to relieve Mr. Bishop from his present duties; and that he will direct Mr. Bishop to return to this country by the first opportunity, and issue to him the regulated allowance to enable him to take his passage.

Also state that Mr. Wild is at liberty to employ such temporary assistance as may be indispensably necessary for carrying on the service during Mr. Bishop's absence.

TREASURY MINUTE.

August 18, 1846.

WRITE to the Commissary-General in Canada acquainting him that my Lords having occasion for the assistance of several officers of the Commissariat for a special service, they desire that he will relieve the following officers:—Assistant Commissary-General Adams, Assistant Commissary-General Milliken, Deputy-Assistant Commissary-General R. Routh, Deputy-Assistant Commissary-General Gem, and Deputy-Assistant Commissary-General McCulloch, at the earliest date at which he can make the necessary arrangements for that purpose, and that he will

take the necessary steps for providing them with passages to this country, by the first opportunities that may occur after they have been respectively relieved, instructing them to report themselves at this office on their arrival in London.

Mr. Filder will consider himself at liberty to issue to these officers an advance of two months' pay.

My Lords will direct Assistant Commissary-General H. A. Bailey, Deputy Assistant Commissary-General L. Routh, and Commissariat-Clerk Moore, to proceed forthwith from hence to join his establishment; and if, previously to their arrival, he should find it necessary to obtain temporary assistance, in consequence of the removal of the officers now directed to be withdrawn from Canada, their Lordships authorize him to engage the services of such persons as he may deem essential, to enable him to carry on the business under his charge.

TREASURY MINUTE.

August 21, 1846.

My Lords read their Minute of the 18th instant, directing that certain officers of the Commissariat should be withdrawn from Canada for another service.

Write Sir R. Routh, expressing the desire of this Board that he will direct Assistant Commissary-General Bayley and Commissariat Clerk T. J. Moore, at present serving under his orders, to return to London as soon as they can be spared from the service upon which they are now employed, with a view to their proceeding to Canada to join the Commissariat Establishment in that Colony.

Write Commissary-General Filder, with reference to the letter of this Board of the 18th instant, by which he was informed that Commissariat Clerk Robyns would be transferred to Canada, and state that my Lords have now ordered Commissariat Clerk T. J. Moore to proceed to Canada in lieu of Mr. Robyns.

TREASURY MINUTE.

August 21, 1846.

Write to the Commissariat officer in charge in Jamaica, desiring that he will relieve Deputy Assistant Commissary-General Trimmer of his present duties at the earliest practicable period, and take the proper steps for transferring him to England by the first convenient opportunity after he is relieved, directing him to report himself at this office on his arrival.

Mr. Wild is authorised to issue to Mr. Trimmer two months' pay in advance.

Acquaint Mr. Wild that my Lords have directed Deputy Commissary-General Knowles to transfer a Deputy Assistant Commissary-General from the establishment under his orders to the Department at Jamaica; and if, upon the departure of Mr. Trimmer for England, he should find that temporary assistance is necessary, he is at liberty to employ a clerk, with the usual rate of pay, until the arrival of the officer who may be selected to replace Mr. Trimmer.

Write to the Commissariat officer in charge in the Windward and Leeward Islands, that my Lords have found it necessary to withdraw two of the junior officers of the Commissariat from the establishment at Jamaica, for their services in another quarter; and as it is expedient that these vacancies should be filled up without loss of time, their Lordships desire that he will provide for one of these vacancies by transferring a Deputy Assistant Commissary-General from the establishment under his orders, to the establishment at Jamaica, directing the officer he may select on this occasion to report himself to Deputy Commissary-General Wild on his arrival at Kingston.

My Lords have further to desire that Mr. Knowles will relieve Deputy Assistant Commissary-General Le Mesurier at the earliest practicable period from his present duties, and direct him to proceed by the first good opportunity, after he is relieved, to England, and to report himself at this office on his arrival in London.

Mr. Knowles will take the proper steps for providing these officers respectively with a passage to their destination; and he is at liberty to issue to each two months' pay in advance.

State that my Lords will hereafter appoint officers or clerks to replace the officers now withdrawn; and they are pleased to authorise Mr. Knowles to engage

temporary assistance in the mean time, if he should find that the public service requires it.

Write to the Commissariat officer in charge in Nova Scotia, desiring that he will forthwith take the proper steps for relieving Assistant Commissary-General Inglis at the earliest practicable period of his present duties, and obtaining the sanction of the officer commanding for his being ordered to proceed by the first opportunity to England, where his assistance is required for another service. Mr. Robinson will issue to Mr. Inglis two months' pay in advance, if he should require it, and will instruct him to report himself at this office on his arrival in London.

My Lords are pleased to authorise Mr. Robinson to engage the services of a temporary clerk until they can make arrangements for supplying the vacancy by the appointment of an officer or an established clerk of the department.

TREASURY MINUTE.

August 21, 1846.

WRITE to the Commissariat officer in charge in the Ionian Islands, acquainting him that my Lords have occasion for the services of Deputy Assistant Commissary-General Osborn for a particular duty; and they desire that Mr. Eppes will take the proper steps for relieving Mr. Osborn of the duties in which he is employed under his orders, and for providing him with a passage by the first opportunity for England, directing him to report himself at this office on his arrival in London.

Mr. Eppes is at liberty to issue to Mr. Osborn two months' pay in advance; and my Lords are pleased to authorise Mr. Eppes to employ the assistance of a temporary clerk until they can send an officer or clerk of the establishment to replace Mr. Osborn.

Commissary-General HEWETSON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Cork, August 15, 1846.

No demand for meal this week, except an occasional ton. There is a good deal in the hands of the trade; and I do my utmost to encourage their importing, for a considerable supply will be wanting.

Employment, with wages in cash, is the general outcry.

Colonel M'GREGOR to Mr. TREVELYAN.

1, Constabulary Office, Dublin Castle, August 15, 1846.

Not having had time to give to the paper which you lately sent me so careful a perusal as its importance demands, I shall only offer at present one or two observations, rather upon the general subject to which it relates, than on the details in the paper itself.

You must now be fully aware of the gloomy prospect presented by the failure of this year's potato crop in Ireland; the blight upon which has begun much earlier, and will, I fear, be much more extended than it was last season, while I apprehend, notwithstanding your experience, you will not have the same facilities for counteracting the coming calamity; yet unless speedy measures be adopted, the most serious consequences will ensue.

Looking to the past, there is no doubt that your judicious arrangements, in interposing the Indian corn, had the effect of preventing food in many places from rising to famine prices, and of producing a wholesome moral result, by softening the hearts of the great mass of the peasantry, indeed I may say of all classes, towards the Government.

But you should not be ignorant, on the other hand, that traders in all descriptions of food have accused you of violating the first principles of political economy, by thus interfering with the natural course of commerce, and insist that a continued competition with the regular traders would have the effect of defeating their best calculations, or probably paralysing their efforts altogether.

The problem, therefore, which you will soon be called upon to solve, is, whether you can venture to avow that the supplies required for the Irish people shall in future be left at the mercy of private speculation, or you will undertake the enormous task of feeding the people yourselves, or adopt a medium course, by post-

poning your intervention until provisions shall have reached a certain specified price.

It is very questionable whether there be in this country sufficient enterprise or capital to meet the approaching dearth, or even, with the assistance of some of the great capitalists in England, whether, in numerous cases of emergency in particular districts, the poor might not be overtaken with absolute starvation before it was in the power, or deemed consistent with the interests of private dealers, to forward the necessary supplies.

It is indeed to be expected, from various causes, that money wages will be higher and more general next year; but depend upon it that, unlike the last season, which only produced an unequal distribution of abundant food, the next spring and summer will witness a positive scarcity of it.

The disease is more general, the breadth of land planted with potatoes is probably one-fifth less, and the crop less productive on the land planted, while no unusual support can be expected from the crops of wheat and oats.

It is to be remembered, too, that, on the recent occasion, the potatoes had reached maturity before they became affected, and the diseased being separated from the sound parts of the potato, a large portion of the root was used as human food, or the whole was consumed by cattle. Besides, you obtained last year upwards of 100,000*l.* by private subscriptions, which not only materially aided the funds contributed by Government, but, what was perhaps of more consequence, served as a guarantee that the public money in particular localities could not be recklessly expended; but you cannot expect, in time to come, anything like so large a sum as voluntary offerings, and you will be driven I think to have recourse to compulsory assessment.

It is a matter of rejoicing that you have increased the strength of the Board of Works, upon whose impartiality, judgment, and exertions, much of the success of any scheme must necessarily depend: and now that the constabulary are about to be paid exclusively out of the Consolidated Fund, I am of opinion they may be more extensively and advantageously employed than heretofore in working the details of any machinery you may think fit to put in operation. But I feel that, without more time than I can command, it would be difficult to discuss, except in conversation, the various topics adverted to in your able Memorandum.

Captain POLE to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Banagher, August 17, 1846.

DURING the past week I have issued 61,000 pounds of the Indian meal to such Committees as still find themselves in a position to protect their poor, some from too early an application to their potato grounds, some from the wretchedness consequent on their not being able to plant any food this last spring, and some from that starvation which at present the poor of this land will not avert from themselves by application to the workhouses provided for them. The retail sale at my depôt has been an active one, and the poor naturally enough utter their lament at its coming close.

I am now awaiting orders respecting the final disposal of my "remains in store," which amount to 90 tons, all ground in Banagher, and an excellent specimen of this article of food.

The state of the present crops is now mingling itself, in the people's mind, with all matters connected with this closing service; and it is impossible to disconnect the two subjects. The early crop, smitten when nearly mature, is partly fit for food, and the poor are using it; but being smitten, it has lost the property of keeping, as a stock. Some of this crop, good in appearance and fit for food, I laid on my table, and in a week it became diseased, and emitted a bad savour. The late or grand crop is in such a state, that no man can tell at this moment whether it will ever come to useful maturity. These things I know from my own experience as regards this locality; and where I cannot inspect, they receive confirmation from my correspondence with Committees. Whatever the system of relief may be which this country may require from the parent state hereafter, I fear that little dependence can be placed at present upon any support as to food from the crop of potatoes now in the ground, and intended for use during the winter of 1846-7. In fact, the growing crop; divesting it of some healthy fruit, is struck with hereditary disease; and it would be a great barrier against future

distress if this people could be persuaded to plant peas or beans, or any kind of grain, and to abandon dependence on a plant which appears to be palsied in its vital functions.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, August 18, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the following reductions made by Deputy Commissary-General Dobree, at Waterford, on the breaking up of that dépôt.

Mr. Dobbs, Temporary Clerk, at 4s. per day, on 15th August, 1846; Constable Nagle, at 2s. 6d. per day, on 15th August, 1846.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

Write to Sir R. Routh, approving of these reductions.

Sir E. COFFIN to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Limerick, August 18, 1846.

AN arduous task is ended, at least for the present occasion, and it now only remains to make some kind of disposal of our large residue, and close the accounts. For the former I wait instructions, which I suppose I shall receive on Sir R. Routh's return from England; and in the mean time I am preparing for it, by calling in the remains in the smaller dépôts, and making a sale by auction of all the damaged and objectionable corn and meal, so that there may be nothing to put in reserve, if that course should be decided on, except what is perfectly good, both in quality and condition. A considerable proportion of the meal requiring to be thus got rid of, has been recently landed from one of the schooners that sprang a leak at sea, and is in almost too bad a state for any use, but the remainder is for the most part still wholesome food, though not so palatable or so nutritious as what we have generally supplied. It would therefore be impossible, as experience has proved, to sell it to the Committee at full price, and as long as it is known to remain in the store, it causes suspicion of the quality of the whole, the effect of which must be felt, in whatever way it is ultimately to be disposed of, until the notoriety of a public sale satisfies the purchasers that a complete separation has been made.

The gratification which I should have felt in the successful conclusion of this new and difficult duty is more than counterbalanced by the gloomy anticipations of the coming season. The prospect of the present potato crop is so uniformly and so decidedly bad, that I can scarcely enter into any details on the subject. The whole melancholy truth is comprised in two facts, varied, as far as I can yet learn, by no exception worth notice; the rapid progress of decay in the early crop, and the almost total failure of produce from the late sown plants. The extent to which the disease has proceeded varies somewhat in different districts, but it seems to be equally present in all, and the effect is accordingly reduced to a question of time. Estimates of the duration of the actual produce of course differ, but the most sanguine do not expect that it can subsist the people beyond the end of the year, and very few believe that it will last so long; but some entertain a hope that the late crop may yet improve in some degree, though the ground of hope appears to be very precarious, the plants having in most cases lost their vitality before the tubers had attained any size.

I have been too much confined to this place, and to my office, to make much personal observation either on the progress of the disease, or on the temper in which it is regarded by the people; but consternation at the magnitude of the threatened evil, seems to be the feeling of those with whom I have conversed. At a somewhat later period of last year, the alarm was perhaps equally great, with the difference that it then arose from the uncertainty, while it now proceeds from the all but certainty, of the expected calamity. The fear then was, lest a produce actually realized should perish prematurely, and the event was less disastrous than the anticipation, the excess of produce compensating a large portion of the loss; now, the danger is seen to arise from a more than probable deficiency of produce, which no countervailing causes can remedy. Men capable of

foreseeing the evil consequences of an artificial system of employment and subsistence for the people, and others who, without much reflection on consequences, dislike the present cost and trouble, are loth to admit the necessity of a renewal of providential measures for another season, but a greater number consider them unavoidable; and the poor, with whom I have less opportunity of communication, have generally, I am told, made up their minds on the subject. "We know your Honour will help us again," is the consoling remark with which they wind up their tale of disappointment and prospective want, and this seems to them, after their late experience, a sufficient security against the risk of famine. It is a characteristic feeling, but one replete with mischief to themselves and to the community; and it is only to be hoped that the changes likely to ensue from the abandonment of potato culture, will gradually induce habits of greater energy and self-dependence.

I hope in the course of this week to complete most of my final arrangements, and to be ready, if nothing new intervenes, to close my accounts and take my departure before the end of the next. I am in want of respite and change of scene, and feel the effect of my labour more now than I did when under the influence of its excitement.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, August 19, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to report to you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, that Major Wainwright, at Galway, and Major Simmonds, at Limerick, having been relieved from all duty, by order of the Commissary-General, on the 15th instant, have since arrived at Dublin, and they have been directed to proceed forthwith to England to report themselves, on arrival, to their Lordships' Board.

Commissary-General HEWETSON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Cork, August 19, 1846.

THE specimen of diseased potatoes you will have, ere this, received. The late crop seems to have been struck almost everywhere by one sweeping blast in one and the same night. I mentioned a hope that the tubers might yet rally; many of the stalks having thrown out fresh vegetation: I fear it is but a futile hope. In some districts, the end of September is the period given to which the early crop will hold out; in others the end of October, and even later; but this must depend upon how far they will keep as sound as they now are. I forward another batch of Reports. I have been inquiring what the dealers are doing in Indian corn and meal. There are about 1500 tons in their warehouses in this city, and if I can rely upon the statements, large orders, conditional, have gone to the Mediterranean for corn (Indian). I have 7000 sacks, equal to 875 tons, and there is the same quantity in our dépôt at Limerick; at present there is no demand for meal, either from me or from the trade, who offer at 9*l.* 10*s.* to 9*l.* 15*s.*; they are rather discouraged by this falling off, but I tell them it is of course to be expected the people will be anxious to consume what potatoes there are available.

Captain PERCEVAL to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Westport, August 19, 1846.

I HAVE to thank you for a copy of the "Blue Book," which reached me on Sunday evening.

I hope to send your potatoes to-morrow morning; the crop is fast failing. Whilst I am writing the man has brought in the basket with the specimens. I have written on a piece of folded paper the description of each layer on which it rests, numbering them from the bottom; but as the moisture may destroy the writing, I will add a list here.

At the top lies a specimen of the potato in connection with the stalk, some of which are broken off; then a layer of red potatoes which were taken from under the healthy stalks; then a layer of the same kind of potato taken from under a

blackened stalk; next a layer of French potatoes, taken from under the green stalk; and last a layer of the same sort from under the blackened stalk.

I believe you will find them all rotten by the time they reach you, though many of them are at present sound. The man said he was unable to wash those with the stalk attached, as they broke off in the process, and he was anxious to preserve them *in statu quo*.

I shall write again to you to-day or to-morrow, and must now leave off to complete the packing of the basket for this morning's mail.

Deputy Commissary-General DORRIS to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin, August 19, 1846.

I beg leave to report to you my arrival here on the 17th inst., in compliance with my instructions. On the 15th I finally closed all my duties at Waterford by shipping the empty sacks and magazine implements for Cork, leaving Mr. Cummins, C.C., to exhaust his remains at Clonmel—say 40 tons of oatmeal—with the assistance of the constabulary depots at Carrick and Dungarvan; by the end of this month he will be released.

It is superfluous to make any further report on the potato crop, for I believe the failure is general and complete throughout the country, though the disease has made more rapid progress in some parts than in others. In a circuit of 200 miles I have not seen one single field free from it; and although it may be very speculative to attempt a calculation on what is not yet absolutely realized, my belief is that scarcely any of the late potatoes will be fit for human food. The very heavy rains which have fallen since the 16th, and are continuing to fall, will assist the ravages of the disease.

I think the public has laid a greater stress on the undue interference with trade caused by the late relief measure than is deserved. In the parts of the country where the greatest issues were made, there is scarcely any trade at all; and in the others the trade was in no ways prepared for the pressure. At and about Waterford I never heard a complaint on the subject, and I have uniformly afforded merchants and dealers, who frequently consulted me, every information in my power, to enable them to see their way as clearly as possible; nor have I ever heard one of them dispute the indispensable necessity of the measure.

Captain PERCEVAL to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Westport, August 20, 1846.

THE failure, I am sorry to say, is progressing rapidly: the markets are full in consequence of the eagerness of all to make the most of them whilst they last. Yesterday I saw some sold at 1½d. a stone, the price having been, the day before, as high as 4d.; to-day, which is the market, 2d. appears to be the ruling price, but some have been offered as low as ½d. per stone; one woman, who had some for sale, told me her price was 2d., "but to tell the honest truth, sir," she added, "they are not worth 1d."

The accounts from all sides is, that they are rapidly decaying; it requires, in many instances, a length of time to dig sufficient for a meal; and I begin to fear, that there will be but very few, if any, remaining after a few weeks.

Whilst these low prices last, the people will continue to buy from day to day, and I find on enquiry at the meal shops in the town, that there is no very great demand at present upon them, for either "yellow meal" or oatmeal; the merchants are selling the former at 9s. and the latter at 14s. per cwt.; the greatest demand is for the "yellow," and this rather increasing than otherwise.

The demands from the Coast Guard stations has recommenced since last week; Achill Island, Newport, and Rosstrunk, have each been supplied within the last few days, and Belmullet also, which station has been a regular customer throughout; though latterly, owing to the uncertainty of the weather and the changes in the revenue cruisers, her demands have not been as regularly furnished as I could have wished; and, to-day, I received a letter from Lieutenant Dawson, at Belmullet, who states that 500 or 600 men had assembled, and threatened the merchant's stores, in consequence of the supplies having fallen off.

We now have nothing but a miserable little cutter, which cannot carry more

than three tons at a time, the "Squirrel;" but I sent a hooker with five tons on Tuesday, and another with ten tons yesterday; which latter one, however, I am sorry to hear, remains wind bound at Innislyre; neither can the "Squirrel" take her tiny cargoes so long as this wind prevails. I am, therefore, rather anxious on account of that station; the fact is, that a steamer is absolutely necessary here, if regularity in the supplies is to be maintained.

I have been considering what measures will be required for the supply of this district during the coming scarcity, including the coast line between Clifden and Belmullet, together with the islands off this coast.

If the merchants continue to introduce the Indian corn, as they are now doing, I consider that the agency of the Government may be limited to a very narrow field of action, comparatively, to the extent of the late arrangement.

I assume, that Westport and Newport will be amply supplied by private enterprise; Clifden likewise, where there are ample stores; and Belmullet also, where there is a merchant or two, and sufficient accommodation for the provisions. These points being well stocked, would leave the intervening stations to be most cared for, which would be less accessible to the private traders, who might not be willing to incur the risk and expense of conveying and selling supplies at unusual points; at the same time, the people in those localities might find a difficulty in sending so far as either of the forementioned towns, for the constant quantities required for their sustenance.

Hence some extraordinary agency might still be required to supply the intermediate localities, more especially Achil, Clare Island, Bifin, and Innisturk; and you would probably have to send provisions for sale, as heretofore, by the Coast Guard, and if you pleased by the constabulary also where necessary.

In the event, however, of a more extended interference becoming necessary, I conceive that this dépôt well worked, and with a steamer of small burthen, which could come up to the quay to take in her cargo, would keep the whole of the district between Belmullet and Clifden constantly replenished. The presence of a steamer would not only enable the service to be more regularly performed, thereby saving much unnecessary hurry and fatigue, which otherwise is often required to supply the exhausted dépôts; but it would also diminish the labour, getting rid of the amount for boat hire, besides saving that expense, which has been a considerable item in the expenditure of this dépôt. The only drawback would be the loss of the employment to the poor fellows here, who have seldom such good customers as we have been throughout the summer.

Much money would also be saved by the presence of a steamer; for I can speak from experience, that the greatest source of anxiety has been the improbability and uncertainty of the arrival of the supplies at the distant stations, a week or more sometimes elapsing before they reached their destination. I hope, however, that the enterprise of the merchants may remove the necessity of much being done in this way by the Government, and I am glad to hear that another 600 tons are expected shortly to arrive here.

I have constantly impressed on the minds of the merchants here, the necessity and the wisdom, as regards their own interests, of bringing in ample supplies, and I see there is evidently a disposition to act accordingly.

There is but one all-absorbing topic here now, with high and low, viz. the prospect before them, and I observe a general expectation, or rather desire, that Government should continue the present system on an enlarged scale; which I have combated with the arguments contained in your memorandum, the justice of which are self-evident, and generally meets with acquiescence.

I am shortly expecting Mr. Lister to come here, which I hope will lead to my speedy release from these quarters; and I am looking forward with much anxiety to my return home. Lord Sligo is here; he has a noble field before him if he avails himself of it—the regeneration of a vast population, and the reclaiming as vast an extent of waste; and it is a question which is most required; but, happily, the two processes may be simultaneously carried on with reciprocal advantages.

I discovered yesterday such a disgraceful corner of the town! cabins more filthy, more miserable, more barbarous than any thing I have yet seen in the most outlandish parts of the county of Mayo; so horrible that I would not venture to enter them, as they appeared to be the nest of fever and vermin, with all due respect to St. Patrick. If I have an opportunity I shall bring them under the notice of the Marquis, whose eyes ought to be open to the misery and disgrace of many of his tenantry.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, August 21, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of the Right Hon. my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the following reductions under date of the 15th instant, viz.,

At Limerick, Constable Brennan, at 2s. 6d. per day.

At Kilrush, Temporary Clerk, J. P. Trowsdell, at 5s. per day.

I beg further to report, that the lighter hired from the Dublin Steam Packet Company, and the house hired as a store at Kilrush, at 15s. per week, were given up on the 16th instant.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

Write to Sir R. Routh that my Lords approve of these reductions.

TREASURY MINUTE.

August 21, 1846.

WRITE to the Secretary to the Admiralty, that it having been determined to transfer to Limerick a large quantity of meal remaining in store at Cork, their Lordships request that steamers of war or other transport may be provided at Cork for the execution of this service.

Commissary-General Sir R. Routh will furnish every necessary explanation as to the stores to be so transferred.

My Lords farther request that a vessel capable of storing a large quantity of meal may be placed at the disposal of Sir R. Routh, for the purpose of being used as a store-ship at the mouth of the Shannon.

Their Lordships also request that the necessary steps may be taken for the accomplishment of both of the abovementioned objects with the least practicable delay.

TREASURY MINUTE.

August 21, 1846.

WRITE to the Secretary to the Admiralty, with reference to the request contained in the letter from this Board of yesterday's date, that a store-ship may be stationed at the mouth of the Shannon to receive supplies of Indian corn-meal, provided for the relief of persons suffering from the failure of the potato crop in Ireland, and state that it would much facilitate the satisfactory performance of this important service if a large ship could be stationed for the same object off the Bar of Sligo, and another in Clew Bay, at a convenient distance from Westport; and their Lordships request that the necessary arrangements may be made for this purpose, provided it can be done without serious inconvenience to the naval service.

Also state that it is of importance that the store-ship to be stationed at the mouth of the Shannon should be there in time to receive the supplies to be transferred from the depot at Cork.

TREASURY MINUTE.

August 25, 1846.

WRITE to the Secretary to the Admiralty in continuation of the letters from this Board, dated 21st and 22nd inst., on the subject of the transfer to Limerick of the meal belonging to the Government remaining at Cork, and of the employment of three large ships for the purpose of storing meal at the mouth of the Shannon, in Clew Bay, and in the neighbourhood of Sligo; and state that, in order to complete the measures required for furnishing supplies of food to those districts on the western coast of Ireland, which the ordinary operations of the provision trade cannot be expected to reach, it is necessary that a powerful Government steamer

should be stationed in connexion with each of the three store ships above adverted to, in order to convey with promptness and certainty the supplies of meal to the points at which they may from time to time be required; and request that he will move the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to give directions for this service being properly provided for.

MR. WARD to MR. TREVELYAN.

Admiralty, August 25, 1846.

In reply to your letters of the 22nd instant, relative to the stationing of store ships on the western coast of Ireland, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to request you will state to the Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury that their hydrographer has reported "that a frigate could well be placed "in Foynes Harbour, about 20 miles below Limerick, and on the south bank of "the river Shannon.

"That neither at Sligo nor in Clew Bay could a large vessel be moored in "safety and kept afloat; but that they must be run in at high water and kept "upon the ground.

"That at Galway a good berth might be found, and that he knows of no other "port north of the Shannon, except Blackrod Bay and Broadhaven; but that as "they lie at the extreme north-west angle of Mayo, those places would probably "not answer the intended purpose."

My Lords have, therefore, given directions that two frigates shall be prepared at Devonport, one of which may be placed at Foynes Harbour, on the Shannon, and the other near Galway; but as those ships must be caulked and prepared to receive the provisions, three or four weeks will elapse before they are ready to be sent to their destination.

As large ships cannot be placed near Westport or Sligo, my Lords would recommend that a merchant vessel, which would take the ground without inconvenience, should be hired or purchased for those or any other smaller ports where they may be required.

The steam transports named in the margin are already under the orders of Rear-Admiral Sir Hugh Pigot, at Cork, for the purpose of conveying Indian corn, and other provisions, to the west coast of Ireland, and they will continue there for that purpose, which it appears is all that will be required to effect the object the Lords of the Treasury have in view.

Rhadamanthus,
Dee,
Alban.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

August 25, 1846.

Write to the Secretary to the Admiralty that under the circumstances explained in his letter their Lordships request that the two frigates which have been destined for this service may be prepared with all practicable speed, and that one of them may be sent, without waiting for farther directions, to Foynes Harbour, in the mouth of the Shannon; while, with respect to the other, their Lordships will cause a further communication to be made to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, after they have consulted Sir R. Routh.

Transmit a copy of this letter and minute to Sir R. Routh, and desire that he will report to my Lords whether, under the circumstances explained in the letter from the Secretary to the Admiralty, the second store ship may, in his opinion, be employed with advantage on the western coast of Ireland, and if so, where and in what manner.

Also desire that he will report to my Lords what arrangements are made by him for the transfer to Limerick of the remainder of the store of meal at Cork, and for the employment of the "Rhadamanthus," "Dee," and "Alban," Admiralty steamers, and the "Vulkan," Custom-house steamer, on the western coast.

REV. T. MATHEW to MR. TREVELYAN.

Cork, August 22, 1846.

I THANK you for your considerate kindness in directing for me a copy of the Correspondence, &c., &c., which I have read with the deepest interest. The

amount of your duties is astonishing; but it is a mystery to me how you are able to accomplish everything with such infallible success. The suggestions you have given in the two letters, to which you called my attention, are the dictates of profound knowledge of the state of this country, and the habits of our people; and I unqualifiedly assent to your opinions, and hope they will become the rule of action. In defiance of the sophistry with which it is attempted to lull the Government into a false security, I would not intrust our—soon to be foodless—millions to affected sympathy. Desperate cases demand desperate remedies. More than 3,000,000 acres of potatoes, valued on an average at 20*l.* the acre, are irrevocably lost; besides, the unhappy cultivators are all in debt to the small country usurers, the loan funds, or the cruel sellers on time of seed potatoes and seed corn, at a profit of cent. per cent. I hail with delight the humane, the admirable measures for relief announced by my Lord John Russell: they have given universal satisfaction. But of what avail will all this be, unless the wise precautions of Government will enable the toiling workman, after exhausting his vigour during a long day to earn a shilling, to purchase with that shilling a sufficiency of daily food for his generally large and helpless family. The bonds of blood and affinity, dissoluble by death alone, associate in the cabins of the Irish peasantry not only the husband, wife, and children, but the aged parents of the married couple, and their destitute relatives, even to the third and fourth degree of kindred. God forbid that political economists should dissolve these ties! should violate these beautiful charities of nature and the Gospel. I have often found my heart throb with delight when I beheld three or four generations seated around the humble board and blazing hearth; and I offered a silent prayer to the great Father of all, that the gloomy gates of the poorhouse should never separate those whom such tender, social chains had so fondly linked together.

REV. T. MATHEW to MR. TREVELYAN.

Cork, August 25, 1846.

WHEN I had the honour to address you a few days ago, I was much hurried, as is generally the case; and instead of two millions of acres of potatoes, I wrote three. Some may imagine 20*l.* the acre too high an average. That sum of money would not place the poor cultivator in as good a position as he was before the fatal blight.

This country is in an awful position, and no one can tell what the result will be. For the sake of our common humanity, I anxiously hope that Her Most Gracious Majesty's Government will adopt the wise precaution of providing as large a supply as possible of Indian corn, to protect the wretched people against famine and pestilence.

With Indian meal, at 1*d.* per pound, we could, with the Divine blessing, set both the one and the other at defiance.

At the present price of Indian corn, the Government loss would be trifling. But you know all these matters a thousand times better than I do, and I only fatigue your attention. Pardon all this intrusion on your too-well occupied time.

Captain PERCEVAL to MR. TREVELYAN.

Westport, August 23, 1846.

I HAVE just witnessed the first "*demonstration*" on this unhappy state of the crop; a large and orderly body of men marched in sections of fours into the town about three o'clock, and, after some little delay, obtained access to Lord Sligo's domain, and marched up to Belfast House, having first intimated to the inspector of police that they were going there, and requested his presence.

They thronged the steps, and the front of the house, and Lord Sligo, accompanied by a few gentlemen who was staying with him, came out and spoke to them. I could not hear the address of their leader, but the purport of it was, that they wanted food and labour; when, on Lord Sligo's saying that he had already, and would continue strongly to represent the necessity of measures being taken for the supply of both, they seemed satisfied, and quietly retired. Something was said

about the payment of rents, but his Lordship would not allow that subject to be entered on; and he told them that they had much better avoid these large meetings, and trust to the good intentions of those who were fully alive to the state of the country, and anxious to do every thing that was best to meet the present emergency.

I was much struck at the subjection under which the mass of the mob appeared to be, for, on some one's crying out "kneel," "kneel," the greater part dropped down as if the Host had been raised amongst them.

The greater part came out of the parishes of *Islandsay* and *Aughagowna*, and I have little doubt that it has been at the instigation of Master *Henry*, the parish priest of the former place, that this peaceable demonstration has been got up. He is a fire-brand, and has been holding out threats for some time past as to what he would and would not do, if he did not get all he wished for his people.

There were many of a very respectable class amongst them, who, I am told, showed by their manner that they had been forced to fall into the procession. Lord Sligo did wisely to allow them to have an interview, and I hope that they may rest satisfied for the present on the assurance that the care of Government has been bestowed upon the question.

The minds of people are much agitated at the grave prospect before them; and the uncommon rapidity with which the potato has fallen away within the last few days, renders them justly apprehensive for the immediate wants of the moment. Men begin to calculate on the quantity of provisions in store, not with a view to the prices of the market, but to the possibility of their lasting out before additional supplies, either from the harvest or the importer, come to hand.

I much fear that there will be severe cases of want ere many days, if, indeed, there are not already; the small earnings of the people, where a family is large, can provide but a poor meal for them.

Mr. Livingstone sold thirty tons of Indian meal to various people yesterday and to-day; it is most fortunate that his cargo has arrived in time to meet the demand that has recommenced; he sells at 9s., and I refer all the applicants that come to me to his shop, as our price is 1s. higher, and I wish to encourage the merchants to import more; there are some who are now sorry they did not take my advice two months ago to import largely, but they will lose no more time to give their orders.

It is calculated that there are about 1000 tons of provisions—wheat, oats, barley, and Indian corn—in the stores, including our supplies, and the new wheat will soon be coming in, and, I hope, additional cargoes of Indian corn.

The harvest is very general now round this town, and the crops are promising. Wheat remarkably good.

P.S. I open this to add, that I have just learnt that there has been an assemblage of people at Ballahadreena, in County Sligo, which burnt Lord Duffrin in effigy, opposite his hall-door, at French Park. These, I fear, are "the beginning of sorrows."

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, August 24, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of the Right Honourable the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the following reductions made on the Cork Establishment, under date of 22nd August:—

Mr. Nash, Warehouseman,
Mr. Dalton, Weighmaster,

and the whole of the establishment of night-millers, stone-dressers, foremen, and labourers employed in the Lee Mills.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

Write to Sir Routh approving of these reductions.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

Treasury, August 26, 1846.

MR. ERICHSEN has just been with me to inform me that the arrival of numerous Irish orders, principally from Cork and Waterford, has caused a decided rise in the London market, and that all the cargoes expected to arrive in September and October, which were offered for sale have been bought up, with one exception, which I shall refer to hereafter.

He has purchased the following quantities in the London market:—

470 quarters white }
180 quarters yellow } at 34s. 6d. f. o. b.

630 quarters. Freight and insurance to Sligo to be added.

614 quarters white, at 33s. 6d. f. o. b. Freight and insurance to Sligo to be added.

Being in all 1264 quarters already purchased in the London market, and about to be shipped for Sligo.

Besides this, he has ordered his Liverpool correspondent to buy 150 tons in meal or corn, and to ship it to Westport without delay, as we arranged with him.

The further directions I gave him were—

1. To buy a small cargo, consisting of 750 quarters, with the oldest bill of lading in the market, and which is therefore expected to arrive at Cork soonest, and to send it on without delay to Sligo. He had offered 34s. per quarter for it; but the owners refused to take less than 35s.

2. To go on purchasing corn now in London, so far as he can do so without raising the market, and to hold it at our disposal for grinding or otherwise.

3. To follow precisely the same course at Liverpool.

4. To buy the cargoes first expected from abroad, which have not already been bought up; for if we cannot get corn as soon as we wish, we must get it as soon as we can.

It is, however, satisfactory to know, that whether we or others buy it, the whole of the Indian corn goes to the supply of Ireland.

The eagerness with which it is purchased is, on the other hand, a painful symptom, confirmatory of our other bad accounts.

I again cautioned Mr. Erichsen to keep it secret as long as possible, that his purchases are on account of the Government, and to take great care to ensure a proper examination of the corn purchased by him in this country, for we must take our chance with regard to the cargoes expected from abroad, as you will remember we fully satisfied ourselves was the real state of the case in the conference we had with Mr. Erichsen at the Treasury.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

August 26, 1846.

You will see by my official letter of to-day's date that the store-ship cannot reach the Shannon for some time, and you will therefore agree with me that it will be advisable to ship off the remains of the Cork dépôt to the mouth of the Shannon, *without any delay*, in the "Rhodamanthus," and the other steamers, and to direct them to remain there until the store-ship arrives.

After that, they should be stationed on the western coast as you may arrange, having their head-quarters at the Shannon, and other dépôts, wherever they may be.

There is one point in Lord Montagu's speech, in the House of Lords, last night, which is deserving even of more serious consideration than we have hitherto given it, namely, by what means grain is to be ground for so large a population, which has hitherto subsisted on the potato.

You and Mr. Coffin will give your early attention to this subject, and in the meantime it has occurred to me, that it might be advisable to instruct our broker to buy up all the Indian corn in the London market, which, you will remember, only amounts to some 4000 or 5000 quarters, and to contract for the grinding of

it without delay; and the same might be done, to the extent required, at Liverpool. Pray tell me what you think.

As the distress this year has first broken out in the western districts, the course we agreed upon, of transferring to that quarter the *dépôt* of our experienced officers, is clearly the best, and their places may be supplied, when necessary, by new persons.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, August 27, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to notify to you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, my arrival, this morning, in Dublin.

I beg to submit to you a first report from Assistant Commissary-General Lister. There are some points in this report, in connexion with the Coast Guard accounts, to which I shall hereafter draw your particular attention; but I wait in the meanwhile for more precise information on this subject.

I write to Assistant Commissary-General Lister this day to procure for me a detailed statement of the mill power on the coast, and the ruling prices.

Clifden,
August 25, 1846.

ENCLOSURE.

Mr. LISTER to Sir R. ROUTH.

Clifden, August 25, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to transmit for your information, copy of a letter addressed by me to Assistant Commissary-General Wood at Galway, which I believe to be in accordance with the spirit of your instructions to me under date, the 14th instant.

The greatly reduced demands for the meal at the several coast-guard stations, immediately dependent on Galway, appeared to me to render it desirable to concentrate, without loss of time, the supplies at that post, even although it may hereafter become necessary to re-establish small *dépôts* at most, or all, of the stations from whence the meal has been withdrawn.

This step will perhaps tend, in some measure, to dispel the somewhat too general illusion that the Government intend to feed the people, and may possibly stimulate individual exertion.

Whilst at Galway I secured the services of a constable of the constabulary.

He accompanied me here on Sunday, and it is my intention to place him in charge of this *dépôt*.

His pay should, I think, commence from the 22nd instant; constable Ferry left Clifden yesterday to bring to this *dépôt* the supplies at the Killeries and intermediate coast-guard stations.

Accompanied by Captain Helpman, I have visited Roundstone; it is 14 miles from Clifden. The last of the meal was sold at Roundstone on the 22nd instant.

There will, I fear, be much distress in this locality.

At Clifden, potatoes sold on Saturday at 2d. per stone.

Captain Percival came here yesterday evening to assist me in the examination of Captain Helpman's accounts, and we have had a severe day's work in going through those connected with the Westport *dépôt*. Gratuitous issues to a considerable extent have been made at several coast-guard stations, on the authority, it appears, of Sir James Donbraine, of which I shall report more fully hereafter.

Captain Percival informs me that the demands on Bellmullet continue urgent; and from what he says, I do not think it will be advisable to withdraw our supplies from that post, or, indeed, any of the coast-guard stations under his superintendence; although, I think, the entire responsibility of making the sales should be transferred to the constabulary. To-morrow, I hope to visit Clingarr and Ballinakill, taking the Killeries en route to Westport.

Sir,

Galway, August 22, 1846.

COMMISSARY-GENERAL Sir R. J. ROUTH being desirous to relieve the officers of the coast-guard service from the onerous duties which have for some time devolved upon them, in the sale of Indian corn meal to poor people, at the under-mentioned coast-guard stations connected with responsibility, viz.:

Arran Island,
Ballyvaughan,
Barna,
Kilcorgan,
Listermore,
Recorders' Quay,
Spiddal,

and as you inform me that the demands at these posts are now greatly reduced, I beg to

suggest, in furtherance of Sir Randolph's wishes, the necessity of concentrating the supplies at these depôts with the least possible delay, at this station, reporting fully to the Commissary-General on the subject.

As it also appears that the sales of meal at the constabulary depôt at Outerard are failing, I would recommend that the meal in store at that station, be likewise brought forthwith to Galway.

I beg to add, that I have mentioned before verbally, that on my arrival at Clifden, I shall make immediate arrangements to concentrate the supplies remaining at the several coast-guard stations in that neighbourhood, at the Clifden depôt, placing the whole under the charge of a constable of the constabulary, who will, in obedience to the orders of Commissary-General Sir R. J. Ross, report and render his accounts to you at Galway.

I have, &c.,

*Assistant Commissary-General Wood,
Galway.*

(Signed)

AMOS LISTER, A. C. G.

TREASURY MINUTE.

August 25, 1846.

WRITE to MESSRS. Baring Brothers and Co., that their Lordships, fully concurring in the honourable testimony borne by the late Board of Treasury, in their Minute, dated 30th June last, to the important public advantage derived from the assistance of their firm, in the late operations for the relief of the people suffering from scarcity in Ireland, are anxious to secure their continued co-operation in the measures of precaution which it has unfortunately again become necessary to adopt, in consequence of the new and more complete failure of the potato crop in Ireland; or if from any cause they should be unable to pursue the same course with reference to this subject, which was adopted by them at the request of Her Majesty's late Government, their Lordships trust that they will, in that case, assist this Board by recommending a person, in whose integrity and experience entire reliance can be placed, for procuring at reasonable prices and of good quality, such supplies of food as it may become necessary to purchase on account of Government.

Messrs. BARING BROTHERS and Co. to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Bishopsgate Street, August 27, 1846.

WE have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of yesterday, and we beg to assure you that we feel extremely flattered by the wish which you express, that we should either ourselves take charge of the purchases of Indian corn which the Government may find itself under the necessity of making, in order to alleviate the distress which may exist in Ireland from the failure of the potato crop; or recommend to you some person on whose integrity and experience you may rely, for procuring the supplies of food which it may become necessary to purchase on account of the Government.

As the Government excludes from its plan of operations all purchases in Foreign countries, and intends to confine its transactions to purchases of Indian corn or meal in the United Kingdom, or of floating cargoes already on their way to this country, it appears to us that the active co-operation of a mercantile house of general business, such as our firm, is no longer required, and that as it would be desirable that any agency which is useless should be dispensed with, the alternative which you mention would be the best course to pursue, namely, to communicate your orders to some corn factor, in whose integrity, zeal and knowledge you can confide, and to receive from him all the accounts of his purchases, which the Treasury would settle directly with him.

It would undoubtedly be easy for you to find many parties connected with the corn trade, who possess the qualities required, and several occur to us of whose ability to give you all satisfaction, we have ourselves had experience; but as you call upon us to mention a capable agent, and having recently transacted similar business through Mr. Erichsen, we can say, without hesitation, that we consider him perfectly qualified to execute such orders as you may give him for the purchase of Indian corn here, and having known him for a great number of years, we have the greatest reliance on his honour and integrity.

In declining, for the reason already stated, to act ourselves in the purchases which you may wish to make, we beg to assure you that we feel, as in the transactions of the past year, the greatest readiness at the present time to tender to the Government

our gratuitous services, as far as they can be useful or offered with propriety, for the purpose of co-operating in the execution of any measures to meet the evil apprehended in Ireland, and we shall at all times hold at your command any information which we may possess of the supplies of Indian corn, and be happy if such should be your wish, and that of Mr. Erichsen, to aid him with our advice and assistance, as well as to give you our opinion, if you required it, on the results of the accounts of purchases.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

August 28, 1846.

Write to Messrs Baring, that my Lords, acting on their recommendation, will employ Mr. Erichsen to make such purchases as may be necessary, with a view to the measures of relief in progress in Ireland.

Also state that my Lords feel indebted to Messrs. Baring for their offer to continue to give such aid as may be in their power, and they will rely upon Messrs. Baring furnishing this Board, from time to time, with any information which they may consider likely to be of use in reference to this service, and also upon their giving Mr. Erichsen such advice and assistance as he may require.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

Treasury, August 27, 1846.

MR. MEER informs me, that orders have been issued by the Secretary of State, at the instance of the Lords Justices, to withdraw the whole of the biscuit, new as well as old, laid up at the different military stations in Ireland.

We have always relied upon this biscuit as a last resource, and it will now be for you to consider, in communication with the Lord-Lieutenant, whether the state of your prospects, as compared with that of your supplies, requires that you should retain for relief purposes the whole or any portion of it.

As the biscuit is distributed at eighty-two different stations, in different parts of Ireland, portions of it may be conveniently situated for our purposes, without the delay or expense of carriage.

Captain PERCEVAL to Mr. TREVELYAN.

August 27, 1846.

THOUGH there are many instances where the potatoes can be no longer used, still, generally, they are continued to be eaten, though their decay progresses rapidly.

The Indian meal continues to be sold at 9s. by the merchants; but the demand has not increased to any extraordinary extent.

Potatoes sold at 4d. and 4½d., which prices denote a comparative decrease in the supply, as they were last week at 1½d. and 2d.

I was informed, yesterday, by Mr. Browne, of Mount Browne, that a day or two ago, numbers of men refused to work on some public works in that neighbourhood at 8d., as they might, by standing out, get a higher price.

I hope, when these works are generally resumed, that you will insist on *task-work* being adopted.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

August 28, 1846.

I SEND, in continuation of my letter of yesterday, a detailed list of the biscuit in store at the different military stations in Ireland.

Mr. Erichsen, who is now with me, has made a further purchase of about 1000 quarters of white Indian corn, and he is about closing for 2000 more; but he says that the Irish demand meets him at every point, and that there were orders in town to-day from Ireland for 20,000 or 25,000 quarters, which could not be satisfied.

They are buying cargoes to be *shipped* as late as December.

The farther inquiries he has made about grinding, lead him to think that he had overrated the mill-power of London.

The enclosed sample and offer is for 3s. 3d. a quarter, and he calculates that at present prices the article may be turned out from the mill at about 10s. 10s. a ton.

He states that there is extensive mill-power in the Channel Islands, where flour used to be prepared for the biscuit contracts during the war, and I have requested him to write to ascertain terms and quantity. If the answer is favourable, we might send to Guernsey and Jersey one or more cargoes to be ground and sent on to Ireland.

Up to the present time we are shipping only 1800 quarters from London to Sligo, and 800 quarters from Liverpool to Westport; and we await your wishes as to whether you wish the whole of the remainder to be shipped, or part of it to be ground and sent to Ireland in the shape of meal. If we grind to any extent in London, it might be a good plan to contract with a large miller to do our business in preference to everybody's else.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, August 28, 1846.

I SEND you copy of a letter from the Coast-Guard officer at Lochrus. I also send you another paper, which I think may be useful. It is a list of the land holdings in Ireland, specifying each county, and the size of the different holdings.

You will observe, that those counties which contain the largest number of small holdings, are those most exposed to the present want.

For instance, in Connaught: Galway, 28,000 holdings, below five acres each; Mayo, 33,700 holdings, below five acres each; and in Munster, the small county of Clare has nearly as many small holdings as either of the two large counties of Cork and Tipperary.

I have had them drawn up from the Records of the Commission Office.

I shall make a daily report to the Treasury of the state of our information in regard to the country; and in order to have it all before you, I shall commence it from a prior date.

ENCLOSURE.

Mr. MOORE to Sir R. ROUTH.

Lochrus, August 25, 1846.

Ardara, County Donegal.

I REPEAT to inform you that, since Saturday, the disease in the crop of potatoes has made such rapid strides, that I may say they are completely gone. Persons who on Saturday thought from the appearance of the disease, that they might struggle on for a short time longer, have not been able to get a potato they could use this week. We are in a frightful state, with a large mountain district, the population of which can sow no corn, and must trust solely to the potato, which is gone. They have commenced KILLING THE SHEEP on the mountains that were sent there to graze, and the people from the lowlands are withdrawing the sheep in consequence. In fact I may say famine is already upon us. May I humbly request the Government to send me an immediate and ample supply of food for the people? I received five tons of meal yesterday, commenced sale to-day, giving one and two scones to those who came from a distance, endeavouring to give a share to all; and at that rate, I have sold 21 sacks this day, and would have sold as many tons, and more than I sold sacks, if I had it to give as the people wanted it. I must state that I am greatly obliged to Assistant Commissary-General Stevens for his prompt attention in sending me the meal by a private boat, as he had no other mode of transport at the time.

RETURN taken from the Census of Ireland for 1841, showing the Number of Barones, size of Farms, and the Arable, Pasture, and uncultivated Land, for each County.

COUNTIES.	Number of Barones.	LAND HOLDINGS.				LAND.	
		Acres.				Arable and Pasture.	Uncultivated.
		From 1 to 5	From 5 to 15	From 15 to 50	Above 50		
ULSTER							
Antrim*	75	6,991	10,766	4,314	1,922	515,771	180,423
Down	10	11,632	9,428	2,072	666	265,243	35,117
Cavan	8	10,897	12,308	1,956	668	375,473	71,918
Donegal	6	18,567	12,931	3,527	1,699	393,191	769,587
Drogheda	10	18,753	11,991	3,865	1,506	514,180	78,817
Fermanagh . . .	9	7,371	8,540	1,696	529	389,228	114,867
Longford	6	7,896	8,755	2,675	1,143	312,282	180,709
Monaghan . . .	5	12,275	9,703	1,216	317	285,883	21,585
Tyrone	4	14,555	14,671	3,776	1,189	450,286	311,867
Total	73	100,817	98,992	25,099	9,591	3,407,539	1,764,370
MUNSTER							
Clara	12	11,498	12,049	2,234	1,052	455,099	296,083
Cork	23	13,683	15,790	10,362	5,691	1,308,882	465,899
Kerry	8	8,689	10,830	4,068	2,172	414,614	726,775
Limerick	13	6,841	6,844	3,700	2,346	328,676	121,101
Tipperary	12	13,032	12,787	4,938	2,960	843,887	178,183
Waterford	7	3,190	3,024	2,179	2,335	328,345	106,496
Total	75	57,028	61,890	27,481	16,567	3,874,613	1,896,477
LEINSTER							
Carlow	7	1,933	2,357	1,066	950	184,059	31,249
Dublin	9	1,866	1,285	749	1,102	196,063	19,312
Kildare	14	3,104	2,123	991	1,845	366,787	51,854
Kilkenny	11	5,121	5,752	3,601	2,006	470,102	21,126
King's	12	5,657	4,502	1,874	1,213	337,256	145,836
Longford	6	4,395	4,880	1,045	411	191,823	68,937
Louth	6	3,992	2,589	628	622	178,972	15,608
Meath	18	5,339	3,971	1,637	2,554	547,391	16,033
Queen's	11	5,629	4,825	1,818	1,384	342,422	69,289
Westmeath	12	4,286	4,076	1,618	1,885	365,218	56,392
Wexford	9	5,219	6,813	4,161	2,467	510,709	45,591
Wicklow	8	2,690	2,922	1,891	2,000	280,393	200,754
Total	123	49,152	45,096	20,584	17,889	3,961,188	731,896
CONNAUGHT							
Galway	18	27,993	12,663	2,030	1,645	742,805	708,000
Leitrim	5	9,373	7,971	877	202	249,330	115,889
Mayo	9	23,790	10,331	1,265	1,133	497,587	690,111
Roscommon	9	17,472	8,066	913	895	440,522	130,259
Sligo	6	11,291	6,190	705	398	290,696	151,723
Total	47	99,918	45,221	5,790	4,275	2,220,960	1,906,002
Gross Total	318	306,915	251,128	78,954	49,512	13,464,309	6,295,736

* Including the County of the Town of Carrickfergus.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, August 28, 1846.

BROADHAVEN and Blacksod Bay are both in the midst of a furnished population; but there is no resource that I am aware of for converting grain into flour.

There is much valuable mill-power at Galway, from the immense and never-failing water-power from Lough Corrib.

Sligo has also immense mill-power, and above Sligo, at Ballyshannon, the outlets of Lough Erne, at no great distance from Killybegs, nearly opposite to it, there is a never-failing water-power. The fall of water is very great.

Thus you see, as this is a new field for us, it will be nearly a week, from yesterday, before I can decide. I must wait the return of the mail, allowing time for inquiry.

I have secured the same magazine at Longford, and wait to ascertain the extent

of their mill-power, and if not sufficient, Longford must be supplied from Dublin. I calculate, that it must receive the larger part of its supply through this channel.

I think the resource of grinding in London is admirable; but pray give Mr. Erichsen the extract on grinding from my letter of July 31, and order that it should be shipped in sacks, of twenty stone, or 280 lbs. in each sack.

I think Westport and Galway are two most important depôts, and must be confided to experienced accountants. We cannot venture on an experiment with an unknown man in such difficult positions.

You must, therefore, give me a week before I can write to you conclusively on this point.

There is no time lost in considering before we act; and, having determined on good and solid grounds, the subsequent progress will be rapid.

I see, at the same time, the absolute necessity of prompt action, and that the exigency of the case will suffer no delay.

I am too anxious to bring forward our preparations to admit of any hesitation.

I see Mr. Erichsen's present purchases for Sligo amount to 250 tons. The mill-power in Sligo is capable of grinding about 400 tons per week. I calculate on securing sufficient power for 150 tons, perhaps more. It takes a little time to set all these things going. I have not yet the mill-power of Galway.

As a general remark, military men would be more useful in superintending and inspecting Committees, and reporting on the country, than when employed in connection with accounts. The service here will come so immediately upon us, that there will be no time to acquire experience.

A few days will give you a fair insight into our prospects, and the facilities which the country is likely to afford.

I calculate that we shall require 400 tons, or thereabouts, for Longford, and about the same for Banagher, where we have secured other and better stores than the premises selected last year by Mr. Wood.

Thus you see we shall look to you for 800 tons for these two depôts, via Dublin, independently of the 2000 tons for Westport and Sligo, of which, say 1000 tons for Sligo, 500 tons for Westport, and 500 for Galway, so as to obtain more facility of mill-power.

Major BEAMISH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Cork, August 24, 1846.

I THINK it right to lay before you the enclosed copies of communications received by me, as Chairman of the Southern and Western Mining Company, and Treasurer of the Gustivalley Relief Fund, from the Superintendent of the Mines, who have also undertaken the distribution of the food, and to whom I had forwarded the private instructions issued by the Dublin Relief Commission.

The western part of this county is, at the present moment, in a very alarming position; and, I fear, that unless some steps are promptly taken by the Government to relieve the people during the interval which must necessarily elapse before the new measures of Lord John Russell can be brought into operation, serious suffering—if not outbreak—will arise.

A reserve depôt of Indian meal in this part of the country—say, Skibbereen, Bantrey, or Castletown, would be of great value to the people, for however competition may keep down prices among the enlightened merchants of a city, where the number engaged in the same trade operates as an enforced check, it is to be feared that in small provincial towns, where the supply is in the hands of one or two individuals, the poor will be at the mercy of the grasping and covetous.

ENCLOSURE.

Mr. THOMAS to Major BEAMISH.

Cowless Cottage, Skull, Skibbereen, August 21, 1846.

It was past time last night when I received your favour with the official documents of the 19th, and I had hardly time to acknowledge their receipt. With regard to the printed circular, requiring the names of all the families, number of each family, large families, small families, and all other persons requiring employment on public works, &c., &c., I cannot see how or which way it is to be done. If Government had given us a grant of a thousand

pounds, to enable us to proceed with some works of importance, there would be some reason in it; but having received only 35*l.*, it would not be worth while to employ a person officially to get the necessary information. From my own knowledge of the district west of Kilosshane, I can state, for the information of any one, that there are at least 1700 men, women, and children, resident in it. At present, there are about 100 poor men who, with their families, have no means of living; in another week there will be 100 men; and in three weeks from this date, there will be 500 men, and their families, wholly dependent on public works for the means of support! This is a melancholy, but an undeniable fact.

Small farmers who, in former years, had plenty of provisions, are as badly off now as the poorest labourer. Every one, however, as I stated in my letter of yesterday, will stick to the few small and black potatoes, as long as they will keep body and soul together; but this unwholesome food, at a moderate calculation, will afford the people a supply only for about three weeks more. Bad as it is, it is better than none; but when this fails, how are they to live? As to a few Relief Committees in a corner here and there, they are utterly inadequate to the sufferings of hundreds, thousands, nay, millions of starving people. You might just as well attempt to feed the people with a puff of wind from a bellows! I defy any one living to exaggerate the misery of the people—it is impossible. I will wait your reply to this note before we make an attempt to furnish the lists, according to directions in the printed circular. In the mean time we will employ those on the new road who are most distressed.

From the SAME to the SAME.

August 22, 1846.

I REALLY am—and with heartfelt sorrow do I say it—afraid that I shall be obliged to look out for another place; for whatever is done by Government, or Public Works, will be too late, after people are driven to desperation by hunger. The whole country is nothing but a smoldering volcano. It will soon burst.

N.B.—The funds of the Relief Committee (Gustivalley) do not admit of their employing more than 40 men.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Major BEAMISH.

Treasury, August 28, 1846.

I HAVE duly received your note dated the 24th instant, with the enclosed painful communication from the superintendent of your mines in the barony of West Carbery.

It has already been determined to establish a reserve dépôt of Indian meal in that part of the country, and I shall write to Sir R. Routh, by to day's post, to express to him my opinion that this measure should be carried into effect without loss of time.

We rely upon the merchants of Cork to lay in ample stores of Indian corn, and other kinds of food, for the supply of that city and the adjoining country, without assistance from the Government, and our interference will be confined to remote districts, which cannot be expected to be sufficiently provided for by the ordinary operations of trade.

Mr. M'DAVITT to Sir R. ROUTH.

Glenties Union, Glenties,
August 29, 1846.

I AM directed by the Board of Guardians of this Union to inform you of the melancholy distress which at present exists in this Union, in consequence of the total loss of the potato crop. The large majority of the inhabitants of this Union principally consists of small farmers and occupiers, whose existence at all times depended upon potatoes, and, as they are now deprived of this food, a famine, with its baneful consequences, presses, if the people be not immediately relieved by the speedy and benevolent intervention of Government in affording them provision at first cost price.

Captain PERCEVAL to Mr. TREVELYAN.

August 29, 1846.

I JUST write one line to say that things remain in *status quo*. The quantity of Indian meal sold daily averages about 12 or 13 tons. Potatoes have been

scarce in the market, and the best sort hardly fetch 4*s.* and 4½*s.*, as people are unwilling to buy.

All is quiet, and no symptoms that I hear of to the contrary.

Since writing this, I have received the return of the constable in charge of the dépôt at Castlebar for the past week, where it appears that the demand is increasing rapidly. 13,123 pounds were sold from the 21st to 27th inclusive, which must exceed any previous week's consumption there.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, August 29, 1846.

I HAVE seen the Lord Lieutenant about the biscuit, and we shall come to an immediate arrangement about it, so as to retain the biscuit and give up the salt beef. I shall let you know how it is settled. I am drawing up, with the advice of the Lord Lieutenant, a new set of instructions to Committees. The changes are not great, but I think you will agree that they are judicious. They are not yet complete. I expect Mr. Cumming early next week, and I shall send him to relieve Captain Percival, *pro tempore*, until Mr. Lister is ready. I saw a deputation from Westport yesterday, of which the Marquis of Sligo and Sir Richard O'Donnell were the principal gentlemen. I hope we shall do better in regard to grinding in that quarter than I expected. Of these details, you will be advised hereafter. Mr. Coffin comes up immediately to give me a meeting here, but he says he must return to close his accounts. We must prevail on him to give up his intention of going to England. We have no time for a vacation. But I propose, in the meanwhile, to send Mr. Dobree to county Donegal to report. It is a duty to be executed at once without delay. Our measures are waiting for it.

I feel that we are employed on a difficult and hazardous service, and we must leave no stone unturned to make our preparations as perfect as possible. Be assured, however, that the demand on you will be very great for supplies, greater than you now anticipate, and any step that you now take to prepare for these demands will be a wise and judicious precaution.

As Mr. Osborn, from the Ionian Islands, is one of the nearest recruits, I hope you will urge his being sent here immediately.

I enclose to you an application from a Mr. Dobbins, who is highly spoken of, and has much local knowledge of the west coast, where he has been serving 23 years. I have not seen him yet, but if he proves all that he says, would you object to my employing him as a temporary clerk when the occasion presents itself?

I have just settled with Mr. Dobree, that he starts for county Donegal on Monday evening, and I shall send you his reports.

This Commissariat inspection is indispensable. He will visit Ballyshannon and Killibegs, and Ardara, and Glenties, and Rusland, and if he finds it expedient, Gweedore Bay. The Admiralty, I think, offered us a floating dépôt at Killibegs, if we require it.

Commissary-General HEWETSON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Cork, August 30, 1846.

I RETURNED here last night, and shall be busily engaged in arrangements of all kinds, for at least the next three weeks. Our supplies are rapidly moving down the river to Haulbowline, for shipment to Limerick, so soon as the large steamers, now engaged in carrying troops, arrive, and I am preparing to form dépôts at Skibbereen and Dingle.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, August 31, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the Weekly Return of the Commissariat dépôts in Ireland.

ENCLOSURE.

WEEKLY STATE OF PROVISIONS in the several Depôts in IRELAND on the Evening of Saturday, August 29, 1846.

Depôts.	Tons of Oatsmeal.	Indian Corn Meal.			Remarks.
		Bushels.	Sacks.	Fowds.	
Cork and dependencies . . .	30 ^{1/2}	..	7,389	2,069,040	40 tons Indian meal issued to Limerick.
Clonmel and dependencies . .	5 ^{1/2}	..	..	..
Limerick	2 ^{1/2}	3,866	1,349	1,138,145	1037 lbs. Indian corn in store.
Banagher . . . . .	..	..	675	188,942
Clare Castle . . . . .	..	1	60	16,994
Kilrush . . . . .	..	..	622	174,160
Galway and dependencies . . .	44 ^{1/2}	1,871	1,478	780,707	
Westport and dependencies . .	21	3	857	100,754	
Sligo and dependencies . . .	44 ^{1/2}	254	57	65,777	
Dublin	131 ^{1/2}	..	332	92,060	
Longford . . . . .	..	..	12	3,431
Tullamore . . . . .	..	..	117	32,742
Totals	241 ^{1/2}	5,995	12,448	4,638,711	

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, August 31, 1846.

MR. DORRIS starts for Donegal to-night. I shall send to you his instructions to-morrow. I hear this minute that there are some large private importations into Skibbereen, and I write to Mr. Hewetson to pause, at least in the quantity he was proposing to send, which will now be 1000 sacks (8 sacks to a ton).

There is no doubt that we shall have every facility of grinding at Sligo; and you cannot do wrong in continuing to ship to that port. A very few days only can elapse before I shall lay before you a complete statement of all our means.

I should think it would be unnecessary to refer to the Channel Islands for grinding, unless we fail here, which I have reason to hope will not be the case.

If we grind anywhere out of Ireland, we should limit it to London or Liverpool.

You will be curious to hear the estimated loss in the potato crop of this year. It is computed that one-fifth of the land in Ireland is planted in potatoes; and it one-sixth. The cultivated land averages about 12,000,000 of acres; and taking 2,000,000 as the number planted in potatoes, and estimating the cost of each acre at 8*l.*, and it is in reality frequently 10*l.*, you have at 8*l.* per acre 16,000,000*l.* sterling. What a loss for a poor country!

My accounts from Galway and Clare are very bad.

I expect a full statement of the mill power of Galway to-morrow; and as they have no corn unground, we shall require some at that port to keep our mills occupied.

Your enclosure of the advices is most satisfactory, and they are such as I was led to expect.

I observe what you say in regard to the large steamer in connection with it, which is excellent; but still we want a small steam-tug for towing, drawing little water, for the entrance into all the ports in the upper part of the Shannon mouth, towards Limerick, is difficult of access; so much so, that even the "Vulcan" is too sharp, and in danger of running foul of the mud banks.

The worst part in Clare will be from Mall Bay to Kilrush.

Mr. Lister is still at Clifden, but will be here shortly. He has had a great deal of labour in settling the accounts of that port.

I expect Mr. Cummins daily, to relieve Captain Perceval.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

Treasury, August 31, 1846.

I SHALL send you, without delay, three hundred copies of the Instructions for the approaching season of Relief, contained in the Treasury Minute of this day's date, and more shall follow if required.

The reason for sending so many is, that it will be desirable to promulgate

them extensively *at once*, in order to give *from the first* an uniform and beneficial direction to the efforts of the country; the machine which we have to put in motion and regulate being, not only the Government officers, but the whole body of society in Ireland, from the nobleman and gentleman down through the middle classes to the poorest peasant, who must all make one united effort to get through the approaching calamity, and to avoid as many of the contingent evils, and secure as many of the contingent advantages to be expected from it, as possible.

You will probably be of opinion that it will be advisable to send a few copies to each of the Relief Committees, together with copies of the Poor Employment Act, an early impression of which Mr. Redington has already caused to be made by the Queen's printer.

It would, on the contrary, be unadvisable for us to promulgate the Grant Act, which is of limited and exceptive operation, and the advantages offered by it are such that the parties interested will soon make themselves acquainted with it, without any assistance from us.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer desires me again to express to you his wish that you should furnish us with constant and full information, both of the state and prospects of the country, and of the measures taken, from time to time, either by the Government or by private individuals (as far as these last come to your knowledge), to alleviate the distress.

Besides your private letters, which are written off hand as the occasion requires, and may be considered to supply the absence of personal communication, you should send me officially, with your comments upon them, copies of every report or letter of interest which you receive, either from your subordinate officers, or from any other person, and of your replies to them, and a periodical summary (which, I think, had better be at the end of each week) of the progress of the distress, and of the measures of different kinds taken to relieve it, and the returns of subscriptions and deposits may form appendices to these weekly reports.

Since writing the above, I have received two letters from you, dated the 28th, and one dated the 29th August.

My impression is, that a *daily* official report on the state of your information, &c., is more than you would be able to maintain with advantage, unless it were kept in the form of a journal, and then we should lose the benefit of a connected view of past proceedings. On the whole, I am inclined to think that it will be better to adhere to the plan I have suggested in the former part of my letter, with this modification, that the concluding summary, instead of being weekly, should be twice a week, say, to be despatched on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Mr. Bromley cannot be spared from his duties at Somerset House, after the expiration of his leave of absence, and we must make the best arrangement in our power for supplying his place. My impression is, that we had better depend upon the assistance of the Commissariat officers expected from the Colonies, for the means of strengthening your account department.

I have written to Mr. Voules, to desire that he will immediately proceed to Dublin, to place himself under your orders.

I have also written to Lord F. Somerset, to request that he will inform me what answer is returned to Colonel Archer; and if it is favourable, I shall immediately direct him to proceed to Dublin.

You are authorized to employ Mr. Dobbins as a Commissariat clerk, reporting it for official sanction.

You will be surprised, and I fear, somewhat alarmed, to hear, that the Chancellor of the Exchequer finds it necessary to request that you will direct Mr. Coffin to return *immediately* to the Treasury, where he will receive detailed instructions for conducting an inquiry into the state of distress, and the means of relieving it, on the Western Coast and Isles of Scotland. This resolution has been come to with a full knowledge of the inconvenience it may occasion to the service in Ireland, and we rely upon you to make the best arrangement in your power, for rendering this inconvenience as small as possible.

Fortunately Mr. Coffin is already in Dublin, or will shortly be there. Mr. Dobree has been ordered by you, for the present, to undertake the duty which you had assigned to Mr. Coffin in the north-west of Ireland; and Mr. Hewetson is transferring his stores to Limerick, and preparing to take charge there. All this is very satisfactory; and it is particularly gratifying that we have such an able officer as Mr. Dobree to replace Mr. Coffin in the west of Ireland. It only

remains to have Mr. Coffin's accounts made up for him, which should be done, if possible, before Mr. Hewetson takes charge; but if not, as soon after as may be; and, in the meantime, I understand that no issues are to take place from the dépôt at Limerick.

At any rate, order Mr. Coffin to come to me at the Treasury, without going back to Limerick.

Assistant Commissary-General LESTER to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Westport, August 31, 1846.

I BEG to observe that in the country through which I have passed the oat crop is considered very good; it is, however, in many fields already over ripe, and yet comparatively little has been cut, attributable, it is stated, to the almost utter impossibility of hiring labourers, in consequence of their being enabled to obtain employment in the public works; a question, which it appears to me, is not undeserving the attention of the authorities.

Since I arrived here, I am informed by Captain Perceval, that in consequence of a deputation to the Lord Lieutenant from Westport, active steps have been taken to lay out immediately additional works in this neighbourhood; but which I hope will not be prematurely commenced.

Commissary-General HEWETSON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

August 31, 1846.

I SEND a newspaper containing reports of several large and influential meetings to address the Government. An important one is again to be held here next week; but what I am most anxious to see is *action*—the people put on work, and the trade importing food. In passing over the large tract of country between this and Limerick, a few days ago, I could not but observe the contrast—fields covered with corn and oats in sheaf, the labourers everywhere busily occupied with the harvest, and *their* food, the *potato*, without exception, *everywhere* blighted and withering.

Major Beamish alludes to a note from you about the destitution in their mines. I advised him, some time ago, to purchase a supply of food (that is, the Company), and form a dépôt for their people, giving him, as an example, a similar plan pursued by the Mining Association in Nova Scotia. It is the proper course in such remote places.

Mr. ROSS to Mr. TUFNELL.

Rosstons, September 1, 1846.

I HAVE been requested by respectable parties to forward the accompanying memorial, with a view to its presentation to the Lords of the Treasury.

ENCLOSURE.

To the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, London.

The Petition of Richardson Brothers, and Co., of Belfast, and Alexander Dickson, and Co., of Belkurbet, Merchants,

HUMBLY SHewETH,

THAT, your petitioners being the most extensive importers of Indian corn into Ireland, are anxious to enter into arrangements which would ensure them freightage for such quantity as they may consider it necessary to import.

From the extensive orders which have been sent out to the United States, and the continent of Europe, (petitioners themselves having ordered upwards of fifty thousand quarters,) they have every reason to fear that many orders will remain unexecuted, either for want of vessels to ship the corn, or from the extravagant rates of freight demanded putting it beyond their reach, thus depriving the poor of this country of a large supply of Indian corn, which they would otherwise have received, and which is now so vitally essential, in consequence of the almost total destruction of the potato crop.

These circumstances induce your petitioners to suggest the propriety of your placing some

Government steamers, or other transport vessels, at their command, which they guarantee to keep constantly employed in the transmission of Indian corn and grain into Ireland, and your petitioners will ever pray.

RICHARDSON BROTHERS, and Co.
ALEXANDER DICKSON, and Co.

Dated in Belfast, this 26th day of August, 1846.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

September 4, 1846.

Write to the parties that their Lordships cannot comply with their application.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, September 1, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to report to you for the information of the Right Hon. My Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, that a payment has been made this day, under the authority of the Lord Lieutenant, to the Commissioners of Public Works of 3,500*l.* for preliminary expenses connected with relief works for the employment of the people.

I have also to state, for their Lordships' information, that requisitions have been received for the advance of 100*l.* for works at Cape Clear Island, and 100*l.* for works in the Island of Sherkin, county of Cork.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

September 15, 1846.

Write to Sir R. Routh, and state that my Lords would wish to be furnished with some explanation of the nature of the preliminary expenses referred to.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, September 1, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the annexed copy of a letter from Assistant Commissary-General Stevens, dated Sligo, 31st ultimo, with six enclosures, with copy of a communication from the Glenties Union, so as to afford to you a view of the state of that part of the country.

I am not aware of the object of withdrawing the "Racer" from the Sligo station; but I write to Sir James Donbrain on the subject.

There appears to be a difficulty in obtaining the use of the "Warrior" Excise steamer; and in the present critical position of the north of Donegal, it is most important to obtain the services of that vessel for about two or three weeks. May I request that their Lordships will be pleased to direct a letter to be written to the Board of Excise to authorise this arrangement.

Deputy Commissary-General Dobree will reach Sligo this day. I lay before you copy of my instructions to that officer, whom I shall probably find it necessary to detain on that station until Mr. Coffin can assume the superintendence.

Mr. Coffin seems desirous of transferring Captain Pole's assistance, so that he may continue to act under his orders; and it is probable that his station will be Ballina, which is a large town, with considerable mill power, in county Mayo.

I apprehend that Mr. Stevens rather overstates the sufficiency of his remains in store; but I calculate on the arrival of the new supply before his present stock is exhausted.

ENCLOSURES.

Assistant Commissary-General STEVENS to Sir R. ROUTH.

Sligo, August 31, 1846.

In consequence of there being scarcely any meal but what is in our dépôt, the greatest alarm is felt throughout the country; and I continue to receive from all directions most urgent requests to keep up a sufficient supply in the several sub-dépôts for the immediate wants of the people.

The potato crop is almost entirely gone, and the oats (to any extent) will not be available for the next four or five weeks. The merchants, as yet, have not imported any grain (although I understand a large quantity has been ordered); so that everything depends on us to prevent starvation.

I enclose for your information several letters which I have received on the subject.

You will perceive from the weekly state, transmitted yesterday, that upwards of 100 tons were distributed during the week; and I think I have a sufficiency to last for four or five weeks to come.

I earnestly request that I may be supplied with public transport to keep up the necessary supplies at the several coast-guard stations, as neither the "Racer" Revenue cruiser, nor the "Warrior" steamer is available at present; the former, I understand, is at Dublin, and the latter returned to Lough Swilly.

I have just received a letter from Lord George A. Hill (which I enclose), requesting that a further supply may be immediately sent to Gweedore Bay, as the five tons shipped on the 26th instant, on requisition from the Coast-Guard Office in Dublin, are entirely disposed of.

It would be most desirable if the "Warrior" could be spared for a couple of weeks, which would enable me to send a sufficient supply to the whole of the coast-guard stations, and the "Racer" might be employed to replenish them at occasion required.

Sir R. ROBERT to Deputy Commissary-General DORRIS.

Dublin Castle, August 31, 1845.

THE great distress which now prevails in Donegal makes it necessary that we should take immediate steps for the relief of that locality.

Our present exertions are limited to the formation of a large dépôt at Sligo; but our progress at this season of the year is necessarily slow.

I have already advised Assistant Commissary-General Stevens of 1264 quarters of Indian corn, and 765 quarters expected immediately from Maradilles at either Cork or Falmouth.

I have also advised a purchase of 800 quarters for Westport, but which will be chiefly meal.

These, however, are very small quantities compared with the necessity of the demand; and it will be necessary to select two localities for dépôts in county Donegal.

As far as I can judge from the information I possess, I should say those points should be Killbegs and Gweedore Bay; but the object of your mission is to judge locally, and carefully to examine and select the situations most practically useful.

It will not be necessary for you, as far as I am informed, to go further than Gweedore Bay, although the distress prevails beyond that locality.

I think you should visit Ardara and Glenties and Retland, and inform yourself of the state of Ainan Island.

As far as I can judge, the most important point is Killbegs. It is an admirable port, and the Admiralty have offered to place there a floating dépôt if we require it. The village contains about 150 houses, and I believe there may be some vacant storeroom.

On these points you will obtain for me explicit information.

But the most important object of your mission is to obtain a correct and complete statement of the mill power.

I believe there are several mills in the immediate neighbourhood of Killbegs and also of Donegal, but more especially at Ballyshannon, with all which you will acquaint yourself, and also with the storage to be procured at Ballyshannon, and the means of conveyance from thence to Killbegs and Sligo, and how far the prevailing winds, during the fall and winter, favour or retard the communication between Ballyshannon and these two places.

I have already written to Mr. Stevens on these subjects, and I have no doubt that he will be prepared with much useful information on your arrival.

It will be necessary also that you should visit Ballina, county Mayo, and inform yourself of the mill power there and in its vicinity.

In detailing the mill power, be pleased to state the name of each mill and of its proprietor, and the number of tons which each mill establishment can grind per week, and what extent of storage is attached to it.

I have caused the regulations adopted by Commissary-General Hewatson to be printed, and I furnish you herewith with several copies, that you may distribute them as you find necessary.

I also beg to furnish you with a sample of the oatmeal ground at the Admiralty Mills at Depford, which is too fine to please the taste in this part of the country; but I am told that in county Donegal this is considered as a quality entitling it to preference.

It is, however, too highly kiln-dried, and has a parched smell and flavour, so that the Irish on the south coast prefer to it their own coarse meal, which is fitter for stirkout, and is without this burnt flavour.

Hitherto we have been unable to dispose of it either at Cork, Limerick, or Galway.

The stores now occupied by Assistant Commissary-General Stevens at Sligo are the property of a Mr. Kermighan, but he has only a part of the building; and you will inquire whether we can obtain the whole, and on what terms, and the quantity they are calculated to contain.

In conclusion, I am anxious to learn what description of persons may be collected for the local committees, whether proprietors or men of business, and if I may encourage a hope that they will be well conducted.

There is another class of persons, not less essential to the ultimate success of our duties, which are the small corn-dealers, whom we must endeavour to encourage, and to increase their respectability and their numbers, for they must succeed us hereafter; and even now they must be employed by the committees, under a proper control, which will be defined in the instructions, so as to prepare the way for the transition to a grain food, incident on the probable extinction of the potato.

Pray report to me as you proceed, for the emergency is most pressing, and the representations from all parts of Donegal, particularly in the neighbourhood of Ardara, Ruland, and Glenties are most urgent.

His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant has expressed to me much anxiety on the subject. I shall submit your reports to him, and I shall send copies to the Lords of the Treasury, and it is necessary that we should act without delay.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

September 4, 1846.

Write to the Commissioners of Excise that, owing to the critical state of the north of the county of Donegal, it is important that the "Warrior" Excise steamer, which is reported to have returned to Lough Swilly, should be employed in connexion with the dépôt of Indian corn meal at Sligo in conveying meal to the different places on the coast at which it is required; and their Lordships desire that the commander of the "Warrior" may be *immediately* instructed to place himself in communication with the Commissariat officer in charge of the dépôt at Sligo, and to comply with such requisitions as he may receive from him for the conveyance of the supplies belonging to the dépôt.

Transmit a copy of this minute to Sir R. Routh for his information, and state that their Lordships entirely approve of his instructions to Deputy Commissary-General Dobree.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

Treasury, September 1, 1846.

I ENCLOSE copies of two letters received last night from Mr. Erichsen.

And that we may perfectly understand each other, I shall now proceed to give you a summary of all that has been purchased up to the present date, and of the manner in which we propose to appropriate it.

26th August, London	Qrs. 600 600	
		1200, which are now being shipped for Sligo.
26th August, Liverpool	800, shipped for Westport.	
Afloat	760, being the cargo of the "Margaret," from Marseilles, which is expected to arrive at Cork or Falmouth about the end of this month, and will then be ordered to Sligo.	
28] 31] August, London	290 570	
	860, which I have instructed Mr. Erichsen to consider as appropriated to grinding in London, and he will at once close with the offer which has been made him to grind about 80 quarters a week, at the rate of 3s. 3d. per quarter; and I have sent for Mr. Meek who will, I hope, undertake to set the Admiralty mill at Deptford at work without delay, to help us to get it all ground as soon as possible.	
Liverpool	1000 ordered to Sligo. 4620	
Afloat	1300, being the cargo of the "Mary Stuart" from Trieste, expected to arrive at Cork or Falmouth about the middle of October.	
	5920, or rather more than 1184 tons, of which 3860 quarters, or 772 tons, are at our immediate disposal, and 2060 quarters or 412 tons are to arrive at or after the end of this month.	

The following memorandum calls for very serious attention in the present and expected state of prices.

For Sir R. Routh's answer, see p. 68.

We cannot avoid buying to the extent necessary to fulfil our responsibilities, but we must be most cautious where, when, and at what price we sell, lest we should again bring a pressure upon us, which we might not a second time be able to resist or to bear through.

Of course we must not sell, even in the west of Ireland, except in cases which imperatively require our interference; and I request you to consider whether it ought not to be understood that when we are obliged to open our depôts, it will probably be at a decidedly higher price than 10*l.* a ton.

Mr. Erichsen has, up to the present time, so managed his purchases as to make them all at the current prices, without raising the market; but it must sooner or later be known that the Government is in the market, and then it is to be feared there will be a rise.

We shall go on buying for Longford and Banagher, as we have opportunity, but we must take care how we raise the trade prices here, or lower our own in Ireland.

ENCLOSURE.

COPY OF MEMORANDUM enclosed in the foregoing.

In making purchases of Indian corn on behalf of Government, it must be borne in mind that 30*s.* per quarter is the highest rate that dealers can afford to pay, in order to retail the meal at 10*l.* per ton, or about 1*d.* per lb.

Any operations of the Government in buying whilst the supplies are not equal to the demand, must necessarily tend still further to assist an upward tendency, thereby obliging the dealers to raise their retail prices to the Irish poor, not only to the extent of the increase in the first cost, but with 30 per cent. added to cover the outlay of capital.

Take the present average rates at 35*s.* per quarter, or 8*l.* 15*s.* per ton,
add for grinding 8*c.* 1*l.* 4*s.*

gives 9*l.* 19*s.* as the cost price to the dealer; add 30 per cent. to cover profit and loss, and the price at which the dealers can afford to sell to the Irish poor will be 12*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.* per ton, or nearly 1*d.* per lb.

Now, it is manifest that if, under these circumstances, the Government retail their provisions at 1*d.* per lb., private trade will be ruined—dealers will be driven out of the market, and the burthen of feeding the whole pauper population of Ireland will be thrown upon the Government, because the whole weight of the Government will be brought to operate against the dealers in their own markets, and, secondly, by underselling them with their customers.

It is, therefore, a matter for serious consideration how far the system of Government purchases should be carried. The natural limit would seem to be only just sufficient to meet cases of *downright necessity*, inasmuch as private trade, if left to itself, would effect ten times as much as the whole efforts of the Government with its agents could accomplish.

SIR R. ROUTH to MR. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, September 1, 1846.

I SHOULD be very glad to receive some Indian corn at Dublin, to be forwarded to Longford and Banagher. We have had some very pressing demands from the former, chiefly as a supply to Longford and Cavan counties, where there are no potatoes left, and you may include Fermanagh in the same predicament.

We shall be hard pressed until our reinforcement arrives.

I find that our old instructions to Committees are not applicable to the present occasion. They must be prepared anew, and this will occupy me three or four days, for it requires caution, before I can submit them to the Lord Lieutenant.

We can hardly be ready for our officers before these instructions are prepared.

I do not press immediately for the corn for Longford; but we shall require it hereafter when Sligo is more advanced.

SIR R. ROUTH to MR. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, September 2, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, copy of a report from Assistant Commissary-General Lister, dated Westport, 31st ultimo.

Westport, 31st
August.

So far, Mr. Lister has ably conducted the duty entrusted to him, and I draw your attention to the gratuitous issues which appear to have been made under the authority of Sir James Donbrain, and on whom, I shall call for explanation, and submit his reply to the consideration of my Lords.

The five enclosures accompany the report.

ENCLOSURE.

Mr. LISTER to Sir R. ROOTH.

Westport, August 31, 1846.

In reference to my letter of the 25th instant, I have the honour to inform you that I arrived at this station, late yesterday evening.

After much labour, trouble and difficulty, the accounts of Captain Helpman were completed yesterday morning, and with the sums remaining due on his sales, transmitted to the officers from whom the various consignments were received. I beg to enclose for your information a statement which exhibits the aggregate gratuitous issues of Indian corn meal at Clifden and its dependencies, together with a copy of the order on which they were authorised as well as of the certificate of the officer making the issue.

It is, I conceive, proper to state that out of 11,563 lbs. so issued, there were 6682 lbs. at the Claggan station.

The total quantity of meal sold at all the stations, is 562,627 lbs.; the loss on the sales, in small quantities to the poor, 18,505 lbs., (including the deficiency in the barrels, which on the average, is not less than from one to two per cent.) A result, I think, very creditable to the officers and men on whom the retail issues devolved; indeed, their exertions, generally, have been highly meritorious.

The officers and men, however, in charge of the Coast Guard stations, are but little acquainted with accounts, and it certainly appears to me, desirable that the custody and sale of our supplies should not in future be entrusted to the Coast Guard service, when it can possibly be avoided.

I cannot conclude this part of my report, without stating that I found in Lieutenant Stokes, a zealous, active, and intelligent officer; he has had charge of the Mammín Bay, or Clifden Dépôt; the duties have been most satisfactorily performed, and his accounts in all essential points correctly rendered.

I am not aware to what extent it may become necessary to employ persons not belonging to this department, on this service, but if an accession of strength becomes indispensable, I would take the liberty to recommend Lieutenant Stokes to your favourable notice. Agreeably to the intimation communicated in my former letter the whole of the supplies have been brought from the out stations to Clifden, and transferred, in my presence, from the charge of Captain Helpman to that of Assistant Commissary-General Wood, to whom I have forwarded a copy of the enclosed instructions to Constable Robinson.

During the time that Captain Helpman had charge of the supplies, he had the store at Mammín Bay guarded every night by one of his men, who came three miles for that purpose. This protection, although utterly inefficient, has now been withdrawn, and as this store is upwards of half a mile from the constabulary barracks, and as that force cannot furnish a permanent guard, I have taken upon myself under these circumstances, the responsibility of hiring another store contiguous to the constabulary barracks, and then Sub-Inspector Ireland, is enabled to guarantee the security of our supplies.

It is a very much better store than that taken by Major Walswright, and will hold about 80 or 90 tons.

The rent is the same; 2*l.* 10*s.* per month, as long as required. I enclose the tender for approval.

I transmit for your information, copy of a letter addressed to me by the secretary of Clifden Relief Committee, in reference to the hire of the store at that place, together with my reply thereto. The President of the Committee, is brother to the gentleman to whom the store belongs. There are no troops, or barracks for them, at Clifden. At Roundstone, (two miles south of Clifden), the meal heretofore, was deposited in, and sold from, a small store belonging to the Coast Guard service. There is, however, a school-room (at present unoccupied) belonging to Mr. Martin, M.P. for Galway; it is well situated, being on the water side, between 2 and 300 yards from the quay, and within 40 yards of the constabulary barracks. This building is 16 feet wide and 32 feet long, and is, I think, sufficiently large for the purpose, for which it may be required.

I presume, that Mr. Martin, would under the circumstances, allow the Government the use of this building.

Vessels drawing 12 feet can unload at Clifden, Roundstone.

On Thursday last, I visited Claggan, Tully, and Ballinakill. In lieu of the dépôts, heretofore established at these places, and the Kileries, I would propose the formation of a constabulary dépôt at Litterpark, which from its central position would, it is supposed, suffice for these four stations, as it is not more than nine miles from any one of them. A stable close to the barracks can be hired here, which would answer our purpose.

Litterpark is nine miles from Clifden, and the same distance from the constabulary barrack of Leenan, in which, in case of emergency, I have reason to believe, a room will be appropriated for the reception of meal.

These depôts could be supplied with meal from Clifden.

Mr. Blake, J. P., of Renyle, Tully, Galway, strenuously urged me to suggest the expediency of retail dealers being permitted to purchase a sack or two of meal at one time, from the constabulary depôts, on the production of a certificate from influential men that they had every reason to believe the meal would be sold out in small quantities, and at a reasonable profit, to the poor at places some distance from any depôt.

I beg to observe, that in the country through which I have passed, the oat crop is considered very good, it is however, in many fields, already over ripe, and yet comparatively little has been cut; attributable, it is stated, to the almost utter impossibility of hiring labourers, in consequence of their being enabled to obtain employment in the public works, a question, which, it appears to me, is not undeserving the attention of the authorities.

Since I arrived here, I am informed by Captain Perceval, that in consequence of a deputation to the Lord Lieutenant, from Westport, active steps have been taken to lay out immediately additional works in this neighbourhood, but which I hope will not be prematurely commenced.

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 10, (C. 964.) to which I shall duly attend.

P.S. The proprietor of the store, given up at Clifden, has been paid his rent in full to the 4th proximo, inclusive.

STATEMENT OF GRATUITOUS ISSUES OF INDIAN CORN MEAL made at CLIFDEN and its Dependencies, under the command of Inspecting-Commander Helpman, R.N., between the 22nd June and 19th July, 1846, to "the destitute sick in fever," on the authority of the annexed order, dated Clifden, June 22, 1846.

Station.	Pounds of Indian Corn Meal.
Mannin Bay	3,469½
Clagran	6,682
Ballinakill	105
Tully	42
Killeries	1,365
Roundstone	"
Total.	11,663½

(Signed)

AMOS LISTER, Assistant Commissary-General.

Westport, August 31, 1846.

Clifden, June 22, 1846.

IN pursuance of an order from Sir James Donabrain, Inspector-General, you are to issue meal to the destitute sick in fever, on a certificate from Dr. Saffield, M.D., after being countersigned by me, at the rate of 2 lbs. for each member above 10 years, and 1 lb. to each under, for the number of days specified in the certificate.

(Signed)

P. A. HELPMAN, Inspecting-Commander.

I HEREBY certify that I have issued Indian meal to the under-mentioned number of sick families, agreeably to the above memorandum, from _____ to _____, 1846, out of the supplies received from _____ depôt.

No. of families relieved.

No. of pounds of meal given to the above No. of families at the _____

Coast Guard Station.

Clifden, August 25, 1846.

(Signed)

EDWARD GROUNDS, Chief Boatman

Approved,

(Signed) P. A. HELPMAN, Inspecting-Commander, Clifden.

CONSTABLE ROBINSON,

Clifden, August 29, 1846

As you have been selected to take charge of the Commissariat Depôt at Clifden, it is necessary that you should strictly attend to the following instructions.

The supplies, &c., remaining at this station will be transferred to your custody, in my presence, and for which you will be required to give a receipt.

You are to report, and render your accounts, to Assistant Commissary-General Wood, Galway. You will copy the forms of weekly state of meal, certificate of loss in retail sales, and of the accounts to be furnished, monthly into a constabulary book, and to which you will closely adhere.

The meal is to be sold only to poor people, and in small quantities. The price to be paid is 1s. 3d. per stone, or 7½d. per half stone. You are not on any account or pretext whatever to issue meal gratuitously.

Sacks are not to be sold for less than 1s. 8d. each.

You will pay the money received for the meal sold daily, to the Sub-Inspector, Mr Ireland, by whom the amount will be forwarded at the time you transmit your weekly accounts of sale to Assistant Commissary-General Wood, Galway.

I observe that some of the meal in the sacks has sustained a little damage: this you will

carefully separate from that of good quality, reporting as soon as possible the quantity found damaged to Assistant Commissary-General Wood.

A very important part of your duty will be the constant inspection of the meal in your charge, opening two or three barrels or sacks in order to ascertain its quality, and reporting weekly to Assistant Commissary-General Wood the result of your examination.

You must not incur any expense without the authority of Assistant Commissary-General Wood, except for labour and transport, and then only when it is actually indispensable.

You will remove the supplies, if possible, on Monday, from the store in which they are at present deposited to that hired from Mr. Creighton.

You must keep your work up to the day, and if ever in doubt or difficulty, write to Assistant Commissary-General Wood for instructions.

(Signed) AMOS LISTER, A.C.G.

(Copy of Tender.)

Clifden, August 29, 1846.

I HEREBY offer to let to Her Majesty's Government a stone store, slated roof, 60 feet long by 16 feet wide, surrounded by a large wall, with iron-fastened windows, for the sum of 2l. 10s. per month, for so long a period as the Government may require it: possession to be given on Monday the 31st of August next.

To Mr. Lister, Assistant Commissary-General.

(Signed) A. J. CREIGHTON.

Sir,

Clifden, August 29.

On the other side you will find a copy of a resolution which was adopted at a meeting of the Clifden Relief Committee, held this day, and to which I have the honour to direct your notice.

Assistant Commissary-General Lister,

Esq. Esq. Esq.
Clifden.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) W. H. SUFFIELD, M.D.,
Secretary Relief Committee, Clifden.

Sir,

Clifden Court House, August 29.

Clifden Relief Committee met. Hy^d. D'ARCY, Esq., in the chair.

It was resolved,

That it having come to the knowledge of this Committee that the Commissary (Mr. Lister), now at Clifden, is about to remove the Indian meal from Mr. J. D'Arcy's store on the quay, that our Secretary be requested to communicate with that gentleman, stating the great sacrifice Mr. J. D'Arcy has already made, he having given his store for many months gratuitously; that depriving him now of any benefit that might arise would be both unjust and ungrateful; and that the Commissary be requested to continue to rent Mr. J. D'Arcy's store.

(Signed)

Hy^d. D'ARCY, Chairman.
Wm. H. SUFFIELD, M.D., Secretary.

Sir,

Clifden, August 29, 1846.

I HAVE this evening had the honour to receive your note, together with a copy of the resolution of the Clifden Relief Committee, to which my notice is directed.

I beg in reply to state to you, for the information of the Committee, that previously to the receipt of your communication I had considered it my duty to hire the store to which you make allusion.

I am, however, satisfied that the motives which induced Mr. J. D'Arcy to give the Government, for some time, the gratuitous use of his store are appreciated.

Dr. Wm. H. Suffield,
Secretary Relief Committee, Clifden.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) AMOS LISTER, A.C.G.

THEASURY MINUTE on the above.

September 8, 1846.

Write to Sir R. Routh, that their Lordships concur with him in opinion, that Assistant Commissary-General Lister, has so far ably executed the duty entrusted to him.

State that my Lords await the explanation called for from Sir James Dombrain, regarding the gratuitous issues of Indian corn meal, reported to have been made under his authority, previously to expressing any opinion on the subject.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Castle, Dublin, September 3, 1846.

YOUR memorandum is strictly correct, and I have been carefully watching the same principle. At Westport there are private sales at 9d.; but I have written

to inquire into the character and messes of the dealers. The only point which occurs to me as requiring comment in your memorandum is the 30 per cent. This is a ready-money business; and I think that calculations, applicable, perhaps, generally, cannot fairly be estimated so high in this transaction. A sale, under such circumstances, of an article of first necessity is so rapid, that it cannot be judged on so high an estimate for the outlay, &c. This, however, does not affect the principle, and it is evident we must raise our price; and I shall bring the subject immediately under the notice of the Lord Lieutenant.

I hope next week to send all my store accounts in to 30th June, and I am well on with the store accounts to July; but I have not yet received those from Cork, which are, however, nearly ready.

Mr. Hewetson talks of being able to complete his removal by the 15th. The "Rhodananthus," the "Dee," the "Stromboli," and the "Alban" have been moving troops, and are still doing this duty.

The coast-guard squadron have been all brought to Dublin for their annual survey, and will only return to their stations on Monday next. This has been very inconvenient. Mr. Coffin will leave the engagement of mill power at Limerick to Mr. Gelston. We are likely to get good mill power at Westport.

Commissary-General HEWETSON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

September 3, 1846.

I SEND you another Cork paper, reporting meetings to memorialize the Government. You will see all are anxious to throw the support of the people on the State; but your Minute, which appears in the same paper, and which I see for the first time, will have immediate effect. I like it much; it only remains for the landed proprietors, and what is of permanent importance, *the Trade*, to do their part.

The steamers are unfortunately at this moment, engaged in moving troops, but I am promised the whole force next week, and in the mean time we are busily employed in sending our supplies down the river in lighters to Haulbowline, for shipment in the steamers, as they cannot come up here. I believe I mentioned, I am also providing the new depot at Skibbereen, where I am happy to say, a cargo on private account recently arrived.

Circumstances, at the time unavoidable, having made me *in person* a store and cash accountant, to a considerable extent, now hamper me much in winding up the multiplicity of my transactions. I must not be so clogged again. I trust between the 15th and 20th, to be in Limerick. I see my ground of operation, and with fitting assistance, have no sort of fear but to do well.

Messrs. ERICHSEN to Mr. TREVELYAN.

110, Fenchurch-street, September 3, 1846.

WE have the honour to wait upon you with the contract entered into for grinding Indian corn at "King's Mills," Rotherhithe, where we commence operations immediately.

We are happy to have it in our power to state that we shall most probably be in a position to secure a more important mill-power, having just had some conversation with a person who has been many years in the United States as a miller, and who has lately taken a mill a few miles from town, which he is willing to use solely for grinding Indian corn. We hope to be able to submit the particulars to-morrow.

ENCLOSURE.

MR. KID to Messrs. ERICHSEN and Co.

King's Mills, Rotherhithe, September 2, 1846.

IN reply to your favour of yesterday, I beg to state that I will grind the Indian corn you mentioned at 3s. 3d. per quarter, to be received and delivered in your sacks.

Concurrently with the other work in the mill, I will not engage to do more than 50 quarters per week at present. You will have no objection to send the corn in manageable quantities, say 100 quarters per week, or so, that it can be received into the mill, as room can be made for it; of course any engagement to do a certain quantity per week is always subject to any unforeseen accident befalling the machinery of the mill. If you determine on sending the corn here, the sooner a parcel arrives the better.

F

TREASURY MINUTE ON the above.

September 4, 1846.

Transmit a copy of this letter and of its enclosure, and of their Lordships' separate minute of this day's date, to Sir R. Routh, for his information, and state that their Lordships have for the present appropriated the 860 quarters of Indian corn purchased in London on the 28th and 31st ultimo to be ground, with all possible dispatch, at the Admiralty Mill at Deptford and at the "King's Mills," Rotherhithe, and then to be shipped to Sligo without delay, packed in sacks of 280 lbs. each.

State that the attention of the superintendents of the above-mentioned mills has been called to the instructions for kiln-drying and manufacturing Indian corn into meal, printed at pages 117 and 118 of the correspondence laid before Parliament, descriptive of the late relief operations.

Let a copy of their Lordships' separate minute of this day's date, and of this minute, be given to Mr. Erichsen, for his information and guidance.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, September 3, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you, for the consideration of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the annexed letter from Commissary-General Hewetson, submitting the high opinion he entertains of the valuable services rendered by Mr. N. Cummins, the managing partner of the house of Messrs. N. and J. Cummins, whether as the agent of Messrs. Baring and Co., or on relief service distinct therefrom; and hoping that my Lords would be pleased to mark their sense of his conduct by some expression of their approval.

I beg to add my full belief that Mr. Hewetson's encomium is in every way merited.

ENCLOSURE.

Mr. HEWETSON to Sir R. ROUTH.

Les Mills Depot, Cork, September 1, 1846.

As I am now winding up the relief service in Cork, preparatory to removal, I have the honour to request you will do me the favour to bring under the notice of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the high sense I entertain of the usefulness of Messrs. N. and J. Cummins, throughout all my arrangements in any way connected with that firm, and which, as correspondents of Messrs. Baring Brothers, of London, have been most extensive. I feel I was fortunate in having had such an intelligent and upright man to set with as the managing partner of the house, Mr. Nicholas Cummins, his assistance on many occasions has been most valuable to me; and whether in his performance of duties connected with Messrs. Baring's house, or on relief services distinct therefrom, he has invariably shown the most anxious and untiring solicitude.

Should their Lordships at any future period need the intervention of a commercial house in this city, I can, with great confidence, name Mr. N. Cummins as a person on whom every reliance may be placed; and I should feel gratified at any favourable expression made to him on the part of their Lordships, in approval of his exertions.

TREASURY MINUTE ON the above.

September 8, 1846.

Write to Sir R. Routh that the zealous and able manner in which Mr. Nicholas Cummins co-operated with the officers of Her Majesty's Government in the arrangements for the relief of the suffering arising from the failure of the potato crop in 1845 and 1846, as well in his capacity of agent of Messrs. Baring Brothers as in the execution of separate services, has repeatedly come under the observation of this Board, and their Lordships desire that a communication may be made to Mr. Cummins, expressive of the approbation with which his conduct has been regarded by them.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

September 3, 1846.

I HAVE secured the Admiralty mill at Deptford, and have engaged with a private miller to grind fifty quarters or more a week, at 3s. 3d. a quarter, besides which the whole of a large mill is offered to us capable of grinding 200

quarters weekly, and we may have the whole of the Admiralty mill at Plymouth, and half that at Portsmouth. We commence grinding at the two first mentioned mills immediately.

I shall write to you more in detail on this subject to-morrow, and in the mean time I send these few lines, in order that knowing what resources we have here, you may not yield to extravagant demands in Ireland.

TREASURY MINUTE.

September 4, 1846.

WRITE to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and state that it being of importance to obtain additional mill power for grinding Indian corn in aid of the operations for the relief of the suffering arising from scarcity in Ireland, my Lords request that their Lordships will give directions for such quantities of Indian corn being ground at the Admiralty Mill at Deptford as may, from time to time, be sent for that purpose.

It is requested that the whole of the grain may be kiln-dried previously to its being ground, and that after it has been properly cooled, it may be packed in sacks of 20 stone, or 280 lbs. each.

The grain will be delivered by Mr. Erichsen, of-110, Fenchurch-street, and the meal should be held at his disposal.

SIR R. ROUTH to MR. TREVELYAN.

Castle, Dublin, September 4, 1846.

I DREW up yesterday upon a plan that Mr. Coffin and I considered together, a paper to be addressed to the Relief Committee, pointing out to them the two difficulties the country was likely to experience in the insufficiency of mill power, and of small dealers, to grind and distribute the meal, and preparing them for the necessity to which the Government would be subject, even on the west coast, to sell at such a price as should admit the trade to compete.

Our issues of meal as part of a donation, were made under other circumstances than the present, when we had remains in store, and would not now be repeated. The disposal of those remains was then a question, which it is not now.

I shall propose to his Excellency, to fix our price at 11*l* on Monday next. I think 15 per cent. on outlay, &c. is enough for a ready money business like this.

You speak of re-opening our depôts. We have never been able to shut them at Galway, at Westport, or at Sligo, and we are sending off what we have at Dublin to Longford, where the distress is very great, and the trade altogether unprepared.

You can have no idea of the demand in Galway, Mayo, Roscommon, Sligo, Longford, and Donegal. I think you had better extend the powers of Mr. Erichsen, and allow him to buy the 2000 quarters from the Mediterranean, which he suggests.

You must bear in mind, that the trade are waiting for arrivals from America, in the hope that prices may fall in November, but if we do this, we lose the fine-weather, and the use of the few mills the country now affords to us.

SIR R. ROUTH to MR. TREVELYAN.

September 4, 1846.

I SEND you the enclosed copy of a letter from Mr. Stevens, which may be interesting.

ENCLOSURE.

MR. STEVENS to SIR R. ROUTH.

Sligo, September 3, 1846.

I THINK it proper to inform you that a merchant called upon me, to know whether I would sell him 40 or 50 tons of Italian meal, which I of course declined to do, his object being to send it away for sale about Longford, from the scarcity of provisions in that neighbourhood, and there having been some serious outrages committed by the peasantry, for the want of food at Roscommon, as will appear from the enclosed extract of a letter received from Longford, on the 30th of August, which he was kind enough to favour me with.

I think it also necessary to acquaint you of a circumstance that occurred here. Being about to ship a small supply of meal to Ballina, it appears that a party of men (unknown) proceeded to the vessel at the quay, at midnight, and by intimidation, frightened the captain to such an extent, as to cause him to relinquish the voyage, but as they had no objection to his proceeding

to Killybegs, or any other port in that direction, I am led to believe they were some of the carmen whom I have generally employed to cart the supplies to that part of the county Mayo.

The people here are generally very peaceable and quiet, but when hunger commences, there is no knowing to what extent of violence they may resort, and the military here, if unfortunately there should be any occasion to call upon them for assistance, would be very inadequate to repel any sudden outbreak, the force numbering only to about 40 men.

P.S.—I have just received by post, the enclosed letter from the Secretary to the Relief Committee of Trevor, county Donegal, requesting a supply of Indian meal may be sent to the coast guard station of Dooran, to relieve the wants of people in that neighbourhood.

Extract from a Letter dated Longford, August 30, 1846.

"I regret much to write that a partial famine cry is raised here; not as much as a loaf of baker's bread, or as I have heard, and believe, $\frac{1}{4}$ cwt. of meal from any one seller, even a *Aucater*, could be obtained here to-day (although Sunday, it was anxiously looked for). The feeling of the poor here to-day, is certainly strong, and not lessened by an express from Roscommon arriving with an order for the commanding officer and forces to repel a banger movement of the peasantry. It is asserted that they broke open all the provision shops in Roscommon, and killed a deal of cattle there last night. One thing is certain, that if the people are not aided, it will end badly."

TREASURY MINUTE.

September 4, 1846.

My Lords have before them Commissary-General Sir R. Routh's General Report, dated July 31st, in which he describes the system adopted for the relief of the suffering arising from the failure of the potato crop in Ireland, in the year 1845-6, and notices the services of the officers employed in these operations.

In the first place their Lordships have much pleasure in acknowledging the additional claims which Sir R. Routh has established upon them by the able manner in which these remarkable operations have been conducted by him; and when the novelty, difficulty, and delicacy of the service, and the degree to which judgment and foresight, united with great practical ability, were required for its successful execution are considered, the highest praise their Lordships can bestow on Sir R. Routh is, that he has completely justified the opinion and answered the expectations which induced them to select him for the service.

Commissaries-General Coffin and Hewetson are entitled to their Lordships' approbation in the next degree.

Commissary-General Coffin was selected to assume the charge of the large dépôt which it was determined to form at Limerick, and to superintend the relief operations in the neighbouring counties; and in the performance of the varied and arduous duties which this trust involved, Mr. Coffin acquitted himself with his usual judgment and ability. The heaviest and most continued pressure which took place throughout the whole operations was upon the Limerick dépôt; and the letters from Mr. Coffin printed in the correspondence laid before Parliament give only an imperfect idea of the labour and anxiety he underwent.

Commissary-General Hewetson was selected to take charge of the central dépôt at Cork, and superintend the relief operations in that city and the neighbouring district. In the execution of this important trust, he had to discharge the cargoes of the vessels laden with Indian corn, as they arrived from America and elsewhere; to kiln-dry and grind the grain; to sack and store the meal; to dispatch it to the subordinate depôts in different parts of Ireland, as it was required; and to communicate with upwards of eighty relief Committees in the neighbouring counties.

The able and successful manner in which Commissary-General Hewetson acquitted himself of these duties is considered by their Lordships to reflect great credit on that officer.

The exertions of the superintending officers would, however, have been of no avail in contending against the difficulties of the service, if they had not been zealously supported by the Commissariat officers acting under them, and by the military officers and other gentlemen who were employed in aid of the department.

The cheerfulness with which an extraordinary degree of labour, both of mind and body, has been supported; and the zeal and unanimity with which persons of every rank have acted together to ensure the success of operations, the object of which was to secure their fellow subjects from famine, confer honour on all who were called to take a part in this service.

Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to confer the honour of knighthood on

Commissary-General Sir Edward Coffin, as a mark of Her royal approbation of valuable services rendered by that officer to the public in many different parts of the world, the last and not the least distinguished of which was the charge of the relief operations at Limerick and on the west coast of Ireland.

As some compensation for the extraordinary labours and privations connected with this service, their Lordships have been pleased to determine that every person employed in the Commissariat department during the late relief operations in Ireland, from Sir R. Routh to the most subordinate store-keeper, shall receive a donation equal to half the net pay which may have been received by him from the commencement of the operations to the last day of August, 1846; and Sir R. Routh will furnish a statement of the donation to which each individual will be entitled according to this rule, upon the receipt of which the order for payment will be given.

Transmit a copy of this Minute to Sir R. Routh for his information, and for promulgation to the department.

MR. TREVELYAN to MR. LEYBURN.

Treasury, September 4, 1846.

BESIDES the directions for grinding Indian corn which I pointed out to you in the Irish Blue Book, I shall be obliged to you to call the attention of Sir John Hill, and of the superintendent of the mill at Deptford, to the detailed instructions for kiln-drying and manufacturing Indian corn into meal, printed at pages 117 and 118 of the above-mentioned "Blue Book."

You of course understand, that it is wished that the grinding at Deptford should proceed with *all possible despatch*, and that you will furnish, as soon as you can obtain accurate information, a complete statement of the extent to which we can rely upon assistance from the three Admiralty mills.

SIR R. ROUTH to MR. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, September 5, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, a report from Assistant Commissary-General Lister, of the mill power in the vicinity of Westport.

Mr. Lister appears to be of opinion that the whole will be required by the trade, and that it is desirable not to interfere with these facilities, and I concur with his view on the subject, but not to the full extent; and I still think it will be necessary to engage a proportion of the mill power at that station, and which may be accomplished, without inconvenience, as both Mr. Levingston and Sir R. O'Donnell are building additional mills which will be ready in a month. We cannot abandon altogether the facility of grinding at Westport, though we may avail ourselves of it to a limited extent, for the mill power at Limerick is very uncertain, dependent on the weather, and much in demand.

The magazine now occupied at Westport is comprised of two stories, only part of a building, and we now require to take the whole building, which is of stone, and consists of six stories, exclusive of the vaults. Its length is 120 by 24 feet, situated 120 yards from the quay, separated from other buildings, and thoroughly ventilated, with a large yard walked round in its rear.

We paid, last year, 50*l.* for the two stories, for six months; and I now enclose to you a tender for 120*l.* for the whole building for one year, capable of containing 8,000 sacks or more, on an emergency, and I recommend the same for approval.

ENCLOSURE.

MR. LISTER to SIR R. ROUTH.

Westport, September 3, 1846.

ADVERTING to your letter (No. 10), I have the honour to enclose in a tabular form the information you require in relation to the mill power at Westport, Newport, and along the coast of county Mayo and Connemara. This information was obtained, in the first instance,

from Lord Sligo's agent, Mr. Hildebrand, and has since been verified in a great measure by personal inquiry.

I am told that large consignments of Indian corn have been ordered here by two or three leading houses, and as it is, I conceive, of vital importance that importations on a large scale should be countenanced and encouraged to the utmost possible extent by the Government, and as I believe that the whole of the mill power at this place and Newport, and along the coast, will be required by the trade, I respectfully submit that it would be injudicious and impolitic to interfere with its arrangements; indeed, I am thoroughly satisfied, unless the strictest non-interference is observed in this respect, that a species of distrust will be excited sufficient to paralyse mercantile enterprise. Under these circumstances I am induced to suggest for your consideration, whether the great end sought to be attained would not be more effectually accomplished by forwarding meal only to this station, taking care, however, by a well-filled depot, to possess the power of checking the market whenever it may be necessary to do so.

Captain Percival informs me that, from the character of the leading merchants of this place, he is not apprehensive of an unfair advantage being taken of the necessities of the people. He tells me that one of them, Mr. Livingston, having sold a cargo of oats to a merchant in Liverpool, and a scarcity arising before the vessel sailed, he made an arrangement to cancel the bargain, and discharged the vessel, selling it here at a loss of 21 per ton. Captain Percival mentions likewise that, on another occasion, Mr. Livingston sent a supply of oatmeal to Castlebar, and sold it at 14s. per cwt. in order to check the rise of that market, which then ranged from 17s. to 17s. 6d. per cwt.

The store accommodation at this station is, in my opinion, altogether on too limited a scale to meet the probable wants and exigencies of the present service. It consists of the two lower stories of a stone building of six stories, exclusive of the vaults. The length of this store is 120 feet by 24 feet wide. It is advantageously situated, being within 120 yards of the quay, standing clear of other buildings, thoroughly ventilated, and has in its rear a large yard, which is well walled in, and might be useful. This building will, in case of need, hold from 7000 to 9000 sacks, or, in case of emergency, a greater quantity. The rent for the two stories is 50*l.* for six months, and as I have been enabled to obtain a tender for the whole store (vaults included) for one year, from the termination of the existing agreement (the 15th instant) for 120*l.*, I have not the slightest hesitation in recommending it for acceptance.

I think it is absolutely indispensable that a small steamer should be attached to this depot to convey the supplies to the different stations along the coast from Clifden to Belmullet.

P.S.—Captain Percival and myself only returned to Westport this evening at eight o'clock, and therefore I have merely had time to take a glance at the Treasury Minute under date the 31st ultimo, in which I find it stated that "the depôts will not be opened while food can be obtained by the people from private dealers at reasonable prices." To delay resorting to this alternative, and in order to stimulate exertion, it is, I beg to repeat, absolutely essential that the trade should have the full and exclusive benefit of all the mill power in its own locality.

Accompanied by Captain Percival, I shall start to-morrow *viâ* Achil and Belmullet.

MILL POWER IN WESTPORT, NEWPORT, and along the Coast of MAYO and CONNEMARA.

Name of Owner and Situation of Mill.	Distance from Westport.	Number of Mills.	Number of Poles of Stones.	WH. Grind Tons of Oatmeal per Day.	Observations.
Mr. Livingston's, Westport	..	2	11	55	One of these now used for wheat will be ready on the 1st of October for Indian meal, 15 tons per day.
Mr. M. McDonald, Westport Quay.	..	1	4	14	One used for wheat; both capable of being used for Indian corn.
Classon	2	2	8	34	Not so.
Mr. C. McDonald, Bros. .	4	1	2	6	Do.
Mr. Garvey, Murrisk . .	3	1	1	5	Do.
Louisburg	12	1	About.	10	Capable of grinding Indian corn.
Mr. Swayne, Newport . .	6	1	About.	8	Do.
Clifden	35	1	About.	20	Do.
Small "Gig" Mills . .	In various parts.	20	..	20	Oatmeal only.
Total	63	50	26	170	

Sir,

Westport, September 2, 1845.

I HEREBY propose to let to the Government the store they now occupy of mine, in length 140 feet, breadth 24 feet (six stories high, exclusive of seven vaults) with the large yard attached, for the sum of 120*l.*, including all cess and taxes, for one year from the 15th instant. The Wharf, &c. &c., to be thoroughly repaired by me.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FITZGERALD HIGGINS.

I am receiving at this moment rent for two stories of this store, 100*l.* per year.

As the whole of the store alluded to will most likely be required, and as it is advantageously situated, and the rent asked considered very reasonable, this tender is recommended for acceptance.

Recommended

R. J. ROUTH, C. G.

Westport Sept. 2, 1836,

(Signed)

AMOS LISTER, A.C.G.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

September 8, 1846.

Write to Sir R. Routh, that considering the limited mill-power in the neighbourhood of Westport, and how important it is that the private merchants, who have ordered consignments of Indian corn to that port should have ready means of grinding it, their Lordships are of opinion that the supplies intended for the Government Dépôt at Westport should, if possible, consist only of meal, and they will give directions for the consignments sent from this country to replenish the dépôts in Ireland, being made in that article, to the utmost practicable extent.

Sir R. Routh will report what arrangements are made by him for stationing the smaller steamers, which have been placed at his disposal ("Dee" and "Alban," Admiralty steamers, "Warrior," Excise, and "Vulcan," Custom-house steamer), in connexion with the different dépôts on the western coast, leaving the "Rhadamanthus," and other more powerful steamers, to be employed in replenishing the dépôts, or otherwise, as the occasion may require.

State that my Lords have requested the Commissioners of Customs to cause the "Vulcan" to be repaired with the least possible delay, with a view to her being sent to any station on the west coast of Ireland at which Sir R. Routh may require her services.

Their Lordships approve of the acceptance of the tender for one year, at a rent of 120*l.*, of the whole of the store at Westport, a portion of which was used as a Government Dépôt during the past season.

Write to the Commissioners of Customs, to the effect stated in the last paragraph but one.

Major SIMMONDS to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin, September 5, 1846.

DURING the present week I have made two short trips into the counties of Dublin and Wicklow, and from all I could learn the working classes have full employment.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Castle, Dublin, September 5, 1846.

I THINK I told you yesterday that our prices on Monday would be 11*l.* for Indian corn meal and 14*l.* for oatmeal until further orders.

I shall ask the Lord Lieutenant about the medal. It would be an object to give it to O'Brien through his Excellency's interposition, and produce a beneficial effect.

I make the best progress by going quietly forward, without intermission, from one subject to another, each in its turn.

Though we could not obtain the floating dépôt for Clew Bay, near Westport, I should hope we might get a small steamer there to run between Westport and Belmullet, and Westport and Clifden.

The "Vulcan," I see, is gone to refit, she would do for that duty, though she is too much in the yacht style, and the "Alban," or "Dee," might answer at Killybegs, reserving the "Rhadamanthus" for the Shannon. There ought to be three steamers on the coast besides the "Vulcan."

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, September 5, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, copy of a letter

from Commissary-General Hewetson, detailing the arrangements which he had concluded for the establishment of depôts at Skibbereen and Dingle, under the temporary superintendence of Mr. Hughes and Mr. J. B. Hill.

Mr. Coffin had, at my desire, dispatched Mr. C. C. Deagan to examine and secure, subject to approval, a store at Dingle, and I wait the report of Assistant-Commissary-General Gelston.

ENCLOSURE.

Commissary-General HEWETSON to Sir R. ROUTH.

Lee Mills Depot, Cork, September 3, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your letter of the 31st ultimo, No. 228. You are already aware that I have engaged a store at Skibbereen, and that Mr. Hughes (temporary clerk, late inspector of meal,) has been dispatched to take charge of the depot there, which will for the present be to the extent of 1000 sacks of meal.

I enclose copy of my instructions to him, and as I am about to quit this district, have desired he should, until other arrangements are determined, report direct to you for further directions. He is equal to this charge. I have also re-engaged Mr. T. B. Hill (who was landing-measurer, and recently packer at Haulbowline) for Dingle. He is an active, intelligent man. It is arranged that his appointment will be that of assistant storekeeper: viz., 4s. per day, with such allowance as may be hereafter granted to that grade, subject of course to approval. I shall again communicate with you, as soon as I get his report touching the hire of fitting premises: his instructions are similar to those given Mr. Hughes, except he will report to me. 1000 sacks of meal will be the present extent of that depot.

I do not calculate upon immediate necessity for issuing from either of these depôts, though no doubt we shall be pressingly urged to do so, especially by the clergy.

Assistant Commissary-General Bayley cannot be removed until the heavy accounts of this station are finally settled. To expedite my exchange to Limerick, I propose transferring to him the balance and accounts for the current month, thus I trust, by the 30th at latest, I shall be enabled to reach Limerick, by which time the whole of the supplies will have been sent forward.

The people here are aware of the removal of the supplies, and that my establishment will be withdrawn; they, however, only express deep regret, feeling assured the measures of the Government are for the best.

Some of my old relief committees have already applied to me for meal, but are satisfied to be transferred to the trade. The present market price is 11s. per ton.

I was aware of the arrival of a cargo of Indian corn at Castletownshend, which is close to Skibbereen. The Mining Company of West Carberry have also sent some supplies to their people.

Mr. Robertson's services I cannot dispense with, nor can I with Assistant Commissary-General Gelston in Limerick, until he can be relieved by an efficient officer. You are aware, without fit assistance, our measures, which call for prompt action, cannot be carried out as desired by Her Majesty's Government.

P. S. I would suggest a small supply of stationery, and such printed forms as may be necessary, being sent by coach direct to Mr. Hughes, at Skibbereen, my stock being nearly exhausted.

Sir,

Lee Mills Depot, Cork, August 31, 1846.

You will proceed to-morrow morning to Skibbereen. Your first step will be to take over the storehouse belonging to Mr. W. Baldwin, situated in North-street, on the bank of the river; it has been reported to me as fit for our purposes. You will, however, look to its fitness and security for containing Indian meal, which you are aware requires ventilated and dry premises. The rent is 40s. per annum, to be paid quarterly, and the premises are to be engaged for six or twelve months certain; a notice of one month previous to the expiration of either period to be given of intention to quit.

You will be charged with the care of the depot to be formed therein, and you will have to assist you a police constable, for whom, the Inspector-General having notified the same, you will apply to the proper officer of the constabulary at Skibbereen. Whatever cartage or labour is required, you will engage on the spot on the usual terms.

I now hand you an impress of 20l. for current services, for which, as well as your supplies, you will account monthly to Commissary-General Sir R. Routh, Dublin, with whom you will place yourself in immediate communication, in order to receive his further instructions as to the disposal of your supplies, and other matters connected with your charge. Your experience in the department renders it unnecessary for me to enter into further details. I hand you an account-book, with instructions printed therein, as used at the coast-guard depôts, for your guidance in your issues, accounting to Commissary-General Sir R. Routh, for both cash and stores. 1000 sacks of meal will be immediately dispatched to Skibbereen, which you will be prepared to receive.

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

W. HEWETSON, C.G.

Mr. Thomas Hughes, Temporary Clerk Commissariat,
in charge of Skibbereen Depot.

TREASURY MINUTE ON the above.

September 8, 1846.

Write to Sir R. Routh, approving of these arrangements, it being understood that Messrs. Hughes and Hill will be furnished by him, or under his authority, with detailed instructions, in order to secure the sales of the meal in their respective depôts, taking place only when absolutely necessary, and even then at such prices as will not interfere with the disposal at reasonable rates of any existing stocks belonging to private dealers in the neighbourhood.

Also desire that Sir R. Routh will provide for these and the other subordinate depôts being inspected at uncertain intervals by competent officers, who will report any irregularities that may appear in the accounts, as well as any deviations from the instructions of this Board that may come to light, which reports should be forwarded for their Lordships' information, with any observations that Sir R. Routh may have to make upon them.

MR. TREVELYAN TO SIR R. ROUTH.

Treasury, September 5, 1846.

THE first of the accompanying offers is from an experienced miller from the United States, the only one in London, who has just taken a large mill, and is ready to grind Indian corn for us at 3s. 3d. per quarter, to the extent of 200 quarters a-week.

The other letter is the answer which Mr. Erichsen has received from Jersey, and it shows a great extent of available mill power in that island.

I shall shortly send you an exact statement of the Admiralty mill power at our disposal at Deptford, Portsmouth, and Plymouth.

It happens fortunately that the Admiralty have not much occasion at present for the services of their mills, owing to the large stock of biscuit which was accumulated for military purposes in Ireland, and is now no longer required for those purposes.

All this in addition to the mill power available on the Western Coast of Ireland, places us at ease as to the means of grinding, and I await your advice as to how far we should grind in London, or direct whole cargoes to proceed from Falmouth to Plymouth, Portsmouth or Jersey, and then to be re-shipped for our Irish depôts.

SIR R. ROUTH TO MR. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, September 7, 1846.

ADVERTING to my letter No. 359, dated 2nd September, submitting the Report of Assistant Commissary-General Lister, I have now the honour of laying before you, for the information of my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the explanation of Sir J. Donbarrain in regard to the gratuitous issues distributed under his authority at Clifden. *Dublin, 2nd Sept., 1846.*

ENCLOSURE.

SIR J. DONBARRAIN TO SIR R. ROUTH.

Coast Guard Office, Dublin, September 5, 1846.

IN reply to your letter of the 2nd instant, D. 170, I beg to acquaint you, that when on my inspection of the coast, the officers of the Killeries, Ballinskil, Claggan, and Clifden stations stated to me that sickness had become very prevalent, arising, as they were convinced, from a total absence of food, and without the means of purchasing it on the part of the sufferers, which, they informed me, was authenticated by the Dispensary Surgeon. I told them they must not allow the people to starve; and in any case where they knew any family so circumstanced, I was quite convinced Her Majesty's Government would justify the issuing of small quantities of food upon the certificate of the Dispensary Surgeon; but, I confess, I was quite unprepared for the quantity that had been issued on that account, which the officer, however, states was not done in any instance except on the doctor's certificate.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

September 8, 1846.

Write to Sir R. Routh that their Lordships regret to have to express their opinion that the explanation which has been furnished by Sir James Donbrain of the large gratuitous issue made by the officers of the Coast Guard (amounting altogether to 11,663 lbs of meal) under an order given by him, is not satisfactory.

Sir J. Donbrain was not vested with any authority to order issues to be made from the Government depôts, and his giving such an order could only have been justified by circumstances of very pressing emergency, and ought to have been reported without any delay, to give the proper authorities an opportunity of reversing or modifying his order, or taking any other steps which might appear to them to be necessary.

It must also be observed that Sir J. Donbrain entirely overlooked the instructions which had been repeatedly issued, prescribing the mode of proceeding to be adopted under circumstances similar to those brought under his observation during his inspection of the coast of Mayo and Galway, namely, to call upon the leading persons in each distressed locality to form themselves into a local committee, and to raise by private contribution a fund which might afterwards be increased by a Government donation.

Desire that Sir R. Routh will furnish a copy of this letter to Sir J. Donbrain.

STATEMENT of the extent to which INDIAN CORN can be GRIND at the VACTUALLING ESTABLISHMENTS.

Establishment.	WELL PREPARED			Number of Stones at Work.	Remarks.
	In 12 Hours.	In 18 Hours.	In 24 Hours.		
At Deptford . .	50	70	90	10	One side of the mill; but when the dressing machine is put in there will be only 9 pair grinding. There are 10 pair of stones at this mill, but it is only possible to appropriate 8 pair for this purpose; the other 2 pair will be continually under the operation of dressing. East Mills to be wholly appropriated for the next month or six weeks, and 7 pair of stones is all that the power of the steam-engine is safely equal to perform.
At Royal Clarence, Plymouth . .	35	54	72	8	
At Royal William, Plymouth . .	45	65	90	7	
	131	189	252	25	

September 10, 1846.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Castle, Dublin, September 7, 1846.

I HAVE spoken about the gold medal, and I begged of his Excellency's private secretary to explain the matter to him, and he informed me that he would have no difficulty in doing as you wished, and delivering it in some public manner at the Castle to O'Brien.

You are aware we have raised our price to 11*l*., but we must increase it still to 12*l*.. A Mr. Culbertson is selling at Sligo a small quantity of Indian corn meal at 12*l*., and I desired Mr. Stevens to stop his sale, and refer the demands to Mr. Culbertson.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, September 7, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the first and second reports of Deputy Commissary-General Dobree. With respect to Bally-

Shannon and Donegal, it will not, I think, be necessary to occupy either: our main dépôt must be at Killibegs, and the harbour is so admirable and land-locked, and the supply necessary to be laid up there must be so considerable, that I think we cannot give up the advantage of the proposed floating dépôt at that station, and a powerful steamer to be attached in connexion with it.

Two good dépôts are all that we shall require in Donegal, and my information has been correct, which led me to suggest Killibegs and Gweedore Bay.

I shall not now enter more upon this subject, but I shall reserve my report until Mr. Dobree shall have completed his inspection.

ENCLOSURES.

Deputy Commissary-General DOBREE to Sir R. ROUTH.

Killibegs, September 4, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you with my arrival at Killibegs this afternoon. It was my wish to have reported to you the result of my inquiries from each place before I left it, but I found, from the absence of individuals and other causes, such an impossibility of obtaining accurate information without devoting more time than I could well spare, that I determined on generally ascertaining the resources of each station as far as I could, and on leaving further details to be collected by some confidential person, which I would verify on my return. As, however, it may be useful to you in the mean time to have a superficial report as far as I have gone, I beg to acquaint you that at *Sligo* there is storage to any extent, well situated on the quay, which Assistant Commissary-General Stevens could secure when required. In the four miles in the neighbourhood, Government could depend on having 200 tons ground weekly, independent of the consumption of the country, if the necessary arrangements are made betimes.

County Donegal.

At Ballyshannon there is ample storage.

At Donegal ample storage.

At Killibegs one large store for 300 tons, well situated, *disposable*; another excellent store, 80 feet by 30, with a cross loft 40 feet by 30, belonging to the estate of the late Alexander Murray, Esq.; to the agent for which, who resides at a distance, I have written for particulars. If this store can be had, I presume the proposed floating dépôts could be dispensed with, and a steamer substituted. Such a vessel permanently stationed on this coast seems to be indispensably necessary for securing our operations against the many disappointments and obstacles to which it will be subject. There are only two flour mills in the county of Donegal; one at Rathmollen, at the head of Lough Swilly, out of our beat,—the other at Cooctown, six miles from Ballyshannon, on the Donegal road, near Ballintra; it has five pair of French stones, can store 500 tons of Indian corn, and grind about 100 tons weekly; the half of this power being required by the inhabitants. Vessels of 200 tons can land their cargoes at the distance of an English mile from the mill, at the spot called Mullinascree. The inhabitants pay the twentieth stone for grinding, which would amount to about 2s. 6d. per sack of 280 lbs.

There is at Ballyshannon a distillery mill with very good water power, which the proprietor talks of converting into a flour mill, and which would be very convenient for our purposes. All the other mills in the county are oatmeal mills with Irish stones, which are not adapted for Indian corn, in their present state, but may be easily made available by obtaining the French stones from Liverpool. I shall start for Ardara to-morrow morning.

FROM THE SAME TO THE SAME.

Gweedore Hotel, September 6, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to report my arrival at Gweedore this morning. I am awaiting the arrival of Lord George Hill, the public-spirited proprietor of this neighbourhood, from Letterkenny, as I could not submit to you the arrangements I have to propose with any certainty without first ascertaining that he will agree to them. Gweedore Bay is admirably situated for a central dépôt; it is quite accessible to vessels of 200 tons up to a quay which has been constructed by Lord George Hill, and on which stands an excellent magazine capable of storing 300 tons of meal; there is also an oat mill with two pair of stones* alongside, which could grind for Government ten to twelve tons of Indian corn weekly, and the whole of these premises are admirably situated for the object you have in view. The officer in charge could reside at the Gweedore Hotel, and the storekeeper on the spot. There is a very intelligent Englishman, a Mr. James, located there, who offers his services, and who would, I think, be very well fitted for the latter situation. Should you wish to deposit more than 300 tons at Bunkbeg (which is the name of the store and mill, for there is no village), the person in charge assures me he could find means of storing a hundred tons more.

At Glenties there is every accommodation for a subsidiary dépôt, should you think one

* The stones are Irish, but Indian corn has been ground, and the meal, though coarse, approved of by the people. His Lordship will replace them by French stones.

necessary, and I would recommend it in preference to Ardara, as being more central. The result, then, of my inquiries is superficially this,—that you may make your arrangements depending on ample storage at Sligo, Ballyshannon, Donegal, Killybegs, Glenties, and Bunbeg (or Gweedore Bay). I shall return this afternoon by Rutland, and write to you from thence.

So total is the destruction of the potato crop in this locality, that proprietors freely allow their neighbours to dig gratis where they can find them; and so scanty has been the sowing of oats this year, that a great portion of the crop will be required for seed. As yet few relief committees have been formed, nor any measures taken to provide for the impending crisis; therefore the question of establishing small dealers cannot be entered into, for it is evident that in this part of the country the necessity will not create them. The clergy and gentry are, from all I can collect, very well disposed to do their duty when called upon, but they seem to await orders from the Lieutenant of the county. So abundant must have been the last year's crop of potatoes in this vicinity, and so little affected by the prevalent disease, that the poor-house of Glenties, which was opened on the 1st of May, has only had up to this time one inmate, who did not belong to the union, and who was consequently turned out.

I am greatly delayed in my progress by the absence of individuals whom I must confer with, and without a conference with whom I could not afford you information that could be depended upon. ~~MS. 1846~~

P. S.—Lord George Hill has arrived, and cheerfully consents to all these arrangements as far as he is concerned, and earnestly requests that you would be pleased to consign some meal to Bunbeg as soon as possible, for the use of the poor, between the exhaustion of their potatoes and the incoming of their oats. I am now starting for Rutland, 4 p. m.

The people of this country prefer coarse oatmeal to fine, and I would recommend that for the future all Indian corn should be ground without the extraction of any bran.

TREASURY MINUTE ON the above.

September 11, 1846.

Acknowledge the receipt of this letter and its enclosures, and state that their Lordships await the receipt of the further report which Sir R. Routh intends to make when Mr. Dobree shall have completed his inspection.

MR. TREVELYAN to SIR R. ROUTH.

Treasury, September 7, 1846.

I SEND herewith copies of papers received from the Admiralty, showing that the three Admiralty mills will, for some weeks to come, be able to grind for us at the rate of from 131 to 252 quarters a-day according to the extra labour put on.

I await your advice as to the degree and manner in which it will be desirable to avail ourselves of this assistance, and I will only observe, that, as owing to the large stock of Admiralty biscuit in hand, we can have the use of the mills for some time to come to a greater extent than will afterwards be the case, we should set them to work at the earliest possible period.

MR. TREVELYAN to SIR R. ROUTH.

Treasury, September 7, 1846.

THE accompanying is a small portion of several alarming communications which the O'Connor Don has this morning received from his correspondents in the county of Roscommon, descriptive of the state of extreme destitution prevailing in that quarter.

I am happy to perceive from your letter to me of the 4th instant also received this morning, that you are aware that "the distress is very great" in that neighbourhood, and that you are sending off what you have at Dublin to Longford.

The O'Connor Don thinks that no time should be lost in establishing a branch depôt at Castlereaugh, and certainly if that part of the country is so destitute of necessary food as it appears to be from the accounts received, you cannot too soon take measures for establishing branch depôts in *all the principal towns*, so as to bring the means of subsistence nearer to the people's homes, and to reassure them and prevent their congregating in large and riotous masses.

The O'Connor Don will be glad to purchase, at your fixed price, two tons for his own people, and I shall be obliged to you, if you are not aware of any objec-

tion, to give directions to the officer in charge of the dépôt at Castlereagh, to sell that quantity to the O'Connor Don's agent.

I shall arrange with Mr. Erichsen for sending a considerable supply to the Dublin dépôt at the earliest possible date from Liverpool, or elsewhere, in order to enable you to push it on by the canal into Roscommon, and I will take care that as much meal shall be sent as can be procured in that state, or can be speedily ground.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

Treasury, September 7, 1846.

Is the state of Roscommon be so urgent as represented, would not this be a proper case for transferring to dépôts in the towns the biscuit in store at the neighbouring military stations? This could be done at an early date through the constabulary, and it would allow time for our supplies of Indian meal to come up.

Captain POLE to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Banagher, September 8, 1846.

My present feeling is, that the difficulties which are to be surmounted during the coming winter are of the gravest character, and the duties which every official person will have to perform must be met with firmness of no ordinary stamp, much zeal and intelligence, which experience alone can render effective.

In the coming Winter, when labour (not by presentment) is finished, when the fine weather is passed, and winter skies damp the cheerfulness of the Irish mind, I anticipate such a state of destitution and impatience as will almost mock the wisdom of institutions carefully adapted to avert the one and soothe the other.

I perceive a dread of the future in the minds of men of property, and a degree of subtlety at work between men in the relative position of debtor and creditor, which argues the former bold from distress, and the latter in fear from the contrary. The wish "that it was well over, and the money lodged in the Bank," is the sensation respecting the large annual cattle sale, which takes place in Banagher on the 15th instant. A dealer, who trades largely in meal, lately addressed me in terms by which he intended to impress me with apprehension for the safety of my stores, little imagining how thin the veil appeared to me which he thought so well concealed his own fears for his own mills and property. His chief allusion was that I would do wisely to apply that a stipendiary magistrate should be stationed in Banagher. The services of such a gentleman I do not think I shall require, but his presence would no doubt calm the apprehensions of the individual who gave the hint.

In the neighbourhood of Laurencetown a written notice has been exhibited, warning all concerned from demanding and paying rent, on peril of the bullet.

With respect to the inland district which comes within my circle for relief, no system but the local Committee drawing its supplies as heretofore from the Government dépôt, and circulating those supplies in their several localities among the destitute, will keep the poor from starvation. The operations of the Board of Works will supply funds to the poor, doubtless; but those funds will not be exchangeable for food, because this county is in such a state that dealers will not lay in food in any quantity, from fear of pillage, except where local security is permanently available.

It is yet to be discovered at what cost dealers will be able to present the cheapest known food, Indian meal, to the poor. At present the only experience I possess on this matter is the sale of a very small consignment here at 1s. 7d. a stone.

When the Local Relief Committee is called into existence by the County Lieutenant, I apprehend great reluctance will be exhibited on the part of the wealthier orders to subscribe, especially if rents are not paid; but the pressure of the lower orders on them will weigh up this principle of charity, when that pressure assumes such a shape as shall make such subscriptions policy.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the Treasury Minute reconstituting the Board of Works. In proportion to the sincerity of the views contained in this letter, is the confidence I feel in considering the ample basis on which this Board is constructed; for the labours of this Board will be among a people whose long habits of idleness have corrupted their active powers, and whose lengthened dependence upon a now ruined vegetable has engendered a want of honourable ambition, and fused the whole of the lower orders into a mass of poverty, in which none of those class distinctions prevail which keep up the spirit of society, and invite the spontaneous care and regard of the wealthier orders.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, September 8, 1846.

Our main depôt will be Killybegs; it is a little lake perfectly landlocked and accessible to all ships, whereas Sligo, at low water, is not approachable. The mills at and near Sligo make it lunatic.

I think I begin to see my way. We shall work hard for success, and I trust that will secure it.

I have not heard from Captain Percival. I think he accompanied Mr. Lister to Belmullet to settle his outstanding Coast Guard accounts.

Mr. Cummins will be at Westport this morning.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

Treasury, September 8, 1846.

MR. ERICHSEN, who is now with me, states that the tendency of all he hears leads him to the opinion that the present high prices will be maintained, and that we are entering upon a prolonged period of high prices.

There has not been such a foreign competition, he says, since the year 1816, and there is a general disposition to lay in stocks. Even the towns on the Rhine are adopting this course, and the French have been in our market buying new English wheat.

Although we have almost completed the 2000 tons originally settled, I entertain such a strong impression that the view taken by Mr. Erichsen is correct, that I have authorized him to purchase 600 quarters more in London at 40s. a-quarter, to keep the mills at Deptford and Rotherhithe at work; and I will send you a small cargo as soon as possible to Dublin to be sent on to Roscommon. I have also authorized him to purchase 2000 quarters to arrive in three months, which is the earliest that is to be had at present.

I send herewith a sample of our grinding, but this is not kiln-dried, which all the rest will be.

Would it not be advisable to direct the "Margaret" to proceed immediately on its arrival to Plymouth to have its cargo of 750 quarters ground there and sent on to anywhere you may direct?

This cargo is the first to arrive, and it stands at present for Sligo; but if you agree with me, Mr. Erichsen will immediately alter its destination as above.

Barley is at from 33s. to 44s. per quarter, weighing 52 lbs. per bushel. Are the people in any part of Ireland accustomed to eat barley, or would they object to it?

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, September 8, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, a statement, showing the resources of mill power in county Galway, from which a selection will be made for the use of the Department, and submitted in the usual way.

ENCLOSURE.

STATEMENT, showing the resources of MILL POWER Galway and vicinity afford, specifying whether water or steam, locality, &c.

MILL Owners.	MILL Power by Water.	MILL Power by Steam.	Locality.	No. of Sacks, 280 lbs each, to be ground per week.	Price per Sack of 280 lbs.	Remarks.
William Rogers . .	Ten horse power . .	..	Galway	320	2 6	Respectable man of business.
John Gurney . .	Water, with four pair of mill stones . .	..	Ditto	600	1 9	Ditto.
L. R. Murphy . .	Ditto . . . . .	..	Ditto	450	2 0	Has very satisfactorily performed his Government contract.
Moore, Bush & Palmer	Power not stated . .	..	Ditto	700½	3 1½	A highly respectable establishment.
Frederic Fitzgerald .	Ditto . . . . .	..	Ditto	550	3 6	Ditto ditto.
Moore, Valentine . .	Ten horse power . .	..	Ditto	220	3 5	Ditto ditto.
M. Duffy	Not stated . . . .	..	Ditto	..	..	This mill is wholly occupied in grinding for private customers, and cannot grind for the Public.
Patrick Rogers . .	..	..	Ditto	..	..	Not any information received from this concern.
T. N. Bagot	Water, with four pair of mill stones . .	..	Ballymore	240	Not quoted	Considered influential in that locality.
Not stated	Power not stated . .	..	Longford	480	2 0	Ditto.
Ditto	Water, with three pair of mill stones . .	..	Gort	400	Not quoted	Rated as in the respectability of these parties.
Ditto	Power not stated . .	..	Cong	285	2 6	Ditto.
James Blake . . .	Ditto . . . . .	..	Trane	80	2 6	Ditto.
				Sacks. lbs.		
				4385	1,172,640	

RECAPITULATION.

The resources of mill power in Galway and district, under Assistant Commissary-General Wood's charge, from as accurate a statement as it has been practicable to ascertain, show that at least 1,172,640 lbs. = 523½ tons of Indian corn, can be ground weekly.

(Signed) J. WOOD, Assistant Commissary-General.

Galway 5th September, 1846.

Sir R. ROUGH to Mr. TREVELTAN.

The Castle, Dublin, September 9, 1846.

MR. HEWETSON is here. I think we have concluded our estimate of stores, but I shall defer it still until to-morrow, that we may consider it attentively. The prices are rising since your letters. The Liverpool letters of to day quote the yellow corn at 43s., and white 45s. We raise our prices to 12l. for Indian corn meal, and 16l. for oatmeal.

We propose to reconstitute Castlereagh at once, and Drumsina or Carrick-on-Shannon, and I must open the depôt at Longford, the misery of the neighbourhood is so great, and the merchants have as yet nothing, and the harvest is hardly ready; the oats are not yet in sufficient quantity. At Dundalk the price of oats was 20s. per barrel of 280 lbs., unground.

The power of the mills of the victualling establishments is not very great, only 50 tons per diem, 300 tons a week. I have just been speaking to a man, a Mr. McCann, a miller near Longford, who turns out 2300 barrels of oats in a week, but he has too much business to grind for us.

I should think there must be some large establishments on the Thames, that would compete on a large scale for such a service.

I should hope that the letters to The O'Connor Don are highly coloured. I know that such representations generally are in this country, and I am sorry that they find their way to the authorities, unless they are aware of the exaggerated style of speaking that is so generally adopted here.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

Treasury, September 9, 1846.

I SHALL be much obliged to you to furnish me with the best information in your power on each of the points noted overleaf.

I am anxious for an early reply, but should consider it well worth while to wait for a few days if it would enable you to make any important addition to the information already in your possession.

ENCLOSURE.

What is the average number of acres annually laid down to each of the following crops in Ireland?—

Wheat, Barley, Oats, Potatoes.

What has been of late years the average per acre of each of the above crops?

What is the average result of the present year?

What number of people in Ireland are usually maintained during the winter on the produce of their potato grounds, without wages, and for how many months?

Similar letter written to—

Lieut.-Colonel MACGREGOR, *Castle, Dublin.*

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, Sept. 12, 1846.

I HAVE your letter of the 9th with the queries, and Colonel M'Gregor applied to us for information on the same points; and he is sending round the queries to his officers with a modification which he suggested of computing in statute acres and cwt.

The state of agriculture in Ireland is very backward. I endeavoured when I first came here to obtain similar statistic information, but I failed. Nobody could give it to me with any accuracy, and I gave it up.

To give you an example from Lord Devon's examinations in the county of Antrim, in the answers regarding the produce of wheat, oat, and potatoes, per acre:—

1. 8 barrels to the statute acre; a barrel of wheat is $2\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.
2. 6 barrels to the Irish acre, which is more than half as large as a statute acre.
3. 4 to 6 barrels to a statute acre.

OATS.

1. 28 cwt to an Irish acre.
2. 21 to 30 cwt. to the Scotch acre, which is between an Irish and statute acre.
3. 25 to 30 cwt. to the Irish acre.
4. 12 to 17 barrels per acre, and 14 stone to the barrel.

I think the best information to be obtained is from Lord Devon's examinations, but it would cost a good deal of time to draw up a *résumé*. I have never succeeded in obtaining any satisfactory agricultural statistics. Of potatoes I may say that they were computed to be one-fifth of the arable land. The cultivated land is 12,000,000 acres, but 2,000,000 is mountain, so that one-fifth may be 2,000,000, or say 1,500,000, or even 1,200,000, to be more sure, which gives the loss of food from 10 to 12 millions.

Mr. Erichsen's letter of the 9th is not encouraging, and I am afraid we shall experience high prices. There can hardly be any considerable importations before November.

I observe the letter from Mr. Robinson to the Board of Works. The great difficulty which will present itself is rain; but with so many real evils present before us, we may safely defer the consideration of those over which we have no control, and which may never occur.

Colonel Jones, in my presence, did propose the question in part to the Lord Lieutenant, and asked what was to be done on rainy and other days, when the state of the weather prevented the people from working; and he added, "I suppose they must be paid half their wages." The Lord Lieutenant replied, "Not half, but two-thirds."

We have not yet determined the instructions to committees. The late instructions were not approved by the Lord Lieutenant, and I send you a copy with his erasures and remarks upon it. Since then he has caused the clauses composing the committees to be changed; and as these alterations impeded their working, I have been forced to refer it back to the Chief Secretary. I shall let you know as soon as it is concluded. It is a most important point, and I am anxious about it. It will probably be limited altogether to the plan of the formation of the committee, but even this requires our practical knowledge of last year to be brought to bear.

Col. M'GREGOR to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Constabulary Office, Dublin Castle,
September 11, 1846.

I SHALL endeavour to send you as much information as I can on the subject of your letter of the 9th instant, but I despair of our people being able to answer all your queries; however, I have requested them to send accurate, though limited information on the subject, which I will forward as I receive it.

STATEMENT of the AVERAGE PRODUCE per ACRE of late Years, and also of the present Year, of WHEAT, BARLEY, OATS, and POTATOES, in each of the Counties in Ireland, with the Average for the whole of Ireland; as shown by the Returns received from the Constabulary Office in Dublin.

COUNTY.	Average Produce per Acre of late Years of each of the following Crops, viz.—				Average Result of the present Year per Acre.			
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Potatoes.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Potatoes.
Armagh . . .	18 56	19 56	18 37	153 0	16 67	18 28	16 45	2 45
Armagh . . .	16 28	16 89	15 89	172 89	17 35	14 109	13 44	3 37
Carlow . . .	18 28	20 0	17 56	153 28	18 0	16 84	14 28	17 84
Cavan . . .	22 28	16 74	15 49	176 0	21 23	15 89	13 27	5 37
Clare . . .	18 25	20 12	19 37	150 37	17 51	19 0	14 87	4 0
Cork . . .	11 13	13 21	13 46	118 48	12 36	13 4	11 0	11 64
Donegal . . .	31 18	21 46	16 48	147 33	30 56	29 18	16 32	5 32
Dowry . . .	19 18	19 37	19 0	135 0	17 93	19 37	17 0	..
Dublin . . .	23 67	23 89	22 100	198 0	21 95	22 22	19 5	6 35
Fermanagh . . .	23 0	25 0	19 93	181 18	22 74	23 56	18 74	4 0
Galway . . .	16 60	19 80	17 44	176 18	16 21	18 100	15 28	13 89
Kerry . . .	15 84	16 56	17 89	136 0	13 70	13 84	13 67	15 84
Kilkenny . . .	18 42	19 105	18 70	174 42	16 40	17 70	14 32	3 105
King's . . .	15 0	17 89	17 67	145 0	15 100	15 30	14 7	15 56
Lantern . . .	20 0	30 0	16 0	157 42	19 42	30 0	12 106	2 28
Limerick . . .	20 40	23 30	36 47	177 81	22 30	21 40	19 50	8 0
Londonderry . . .	18 84	16 28	17 70	132 56	18 28	15 56	16 0	1 37
Lough . . .	24 42	26 0	21 28	201 42	23 47	24 93	17 0	0 74
Longford . . .	23 56	22 56	20 18	145 0	24 45	20 22	16 22	7 22
Mayo . . .	34 74	34 14	32 0	231 37	33 74	45 42	30 37	2 98
Meath . . .	19 7	19 84	21 31	164 42	19 64	19 48	17 64	17 104
Monaghan . . .	18 37	17 0	15 26	161 84	16 74	13 74	11 0	2 74
Queen's . . .	15 52	21 60	18 80	155 0	15 42	18 26	15 51	9 0
Roscommon . . .	20 56	17 56	18 67	154 0	20 84	17 84	17 0	2 0
Sligo . . .	26 44	22 78	19 102	164 18	23 74	23 74	15 14	8 44
Tipperary . . .	14 42	17 8	16 62	147 25	15 6	15 84	12 100	18 93
Tyrone . . .	18 88	17 67	16 22	138 0	17 88	16 40	15 14	5 67
Waterford . . .	13 56	15 98	12 84	134 84	13 11	13 44	10 11	8 14
Westmeath . . .	21 64	23 82	21 85	150 88	22 4	18 51	18 70	2 18
Wexford . . .	16 32	20 8	18 20	167 44	15 32	16 72	8 44	14 52
Wicklow . . .	21 0	21 44	17 89	156 89	19 67	16 56	13 11	6 100
	614 8	626 13	580 91	4966 26	598 70	596 60	447 102	227 37
Average for the whole of Ireland, exclusive of Kildare.	19 56	20 58	19 2	159 96	19 34	19 27	15 45	7 37

October 24, 1846.

This statement includes the returns from all the counties in Ireland except Kildare, which has been omitted in consequence of the returns from that county being evidently incorrect.

MR. TREVELYAN to COL. M'GREGOR.

October 2, 1846.

I beg that you will accept my best thanks for the series of Reports on the crops, in the preparation of which, as well as in everything else connected with the important measures of relief in progress in Ireland, you and the officers and men under your command have co-operated with us with a readiness and ability which has been highly gratifying to me, and must add in the estimation of others, to the already well established reputation of the Irish Constabulary Force.

SIR R. ROUTH to MR. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, September 10, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 8th September (No. 283), and to acquaint you, for the information of the Right Hon. My Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, that none of the Admiralty steamers named in your communication, have yet joined, with the exception of the "Warrior," which Colonel Maclellan has directed to proceed to Sligo, for the purpose of supplying the coast of Donegal.

The "Dee" has, I understand, broken some part of her machinery, and the other Admiralty steamers are, I believe, still employed in the movement of troops.

As these arrangements are carried out, a due Report shall be submitted to you of the dispositions made.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

September 11, 1846.

Write to the Secretary for the information of the Lords of the Admiralty, that my Lords have received a Report from Sir R. Routh, dated 10th instant, in which it is stated that none of the Admiralty steamers, appointed for the service in Ireland, connected with the relief of distress, have yet joined.

It is also stated in the same Report, that the "Dee" has broken some part of her machinery, and that the other Admiralty steamers are employed in the movement of troops.

SIR R. ROUTH to MR. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, September 10, 1846.

IN acknowledging your letter No. 283, dated 8th instant, I have the honour to acquaint you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, that it is not intended to open the depôts at Skibbereen and Dingle at present, though from the transit of Commissary-General Hewetson's stores, it has been found convenient to establish them; nor do I propose to make any issue from them whilst there is any private dealer in that locality who has provisions on sale at a price within the reach of the people.

The Government price is 12*l.* Indian corn meal, and 16*l.* oatmeal per ton.

SIR R. ROUTH to MR. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, September 10, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you for the consideration of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the under-mentioned requisition of Indian corn, for the several depôts on the west coast of Ireland, and to recommend to you as far as circumstances will permit, to purchase this supply before winter, as opportunities present themselves, though I apprehend that we cannot expect any considerable, or sufficient importation from the United States until November.

I should premise that Skibbereen and Dingle are now completing from Cork each, to 1500 sacks of 280*lbs.*, and 500 sacks of biscuit.

Limerick, with the shipments from Cork, will now contain about 1000 tons, and I ask for a farther purchase of 2000 tons, not all at once, but as the occasion

Further Correspondence on this subject, see p. 28, 29, &c.

See Treasury Minute at p. 53.

offers, and as the private mills will be very much engaged, it is recommended that the greatest possible proportion of it be shipped in meal.

Galway 1500 tons, not all at once, and if there are three floating depôts to be obtained, I recommend one for this port. There are mills in Galway capable of grinding, and I recommend the shipment to be forwarded in corn. The Galway depôt includes the islands on the coast, and part of Connemara.

Westport, 1500 to 2000 tons, not all at once, chiefly in meal; but I think the additional mills, which will be ready in all October, will fully afford a facility of grinding from 50 to 100 tons weekly without inconvenience to the trade, therefore a part may be shipped in corn. The Westport depôt includes Achil Island, and the coast to Belmullet, and the killeries and islands on the Connemara coast. Clifden must chiefly be supplied from thence, but drawing likewise supplies from Galway.

Sligo and Ballina, 2000 tons, including the coast from Broad Haven, baronies Tyrawley and Erris, all county Sligo, part of Roscommon, Fermanagh and Leitrim. All may be sent in corn to this depôt.

Killybegs, 2000 tons, the main depôt for Donegal, with constabulary depôts at Glenties, and other spots to be selected. I have reason to believe that the whole may be shipped in corn, but I wait the farther report of Deputy-Commissary-General Dobree. This is the spot for the second floating depôt, which will be secure in this port from all winds; and as there are no troops at this station, offers great security as a depôt, independently of the despatch in loading and unloading, to and from other ports, and from the mills on the coast.

These floating depôts will only contain meal in sacks, and not corn.

Gweedore Bay, 1000 tons, not all at once.

I hope that it may be so arranged that a powerful steamer may be attached to each floating depôt. Of the smaller steamers, the "Vulcan" will be the most useful at Westport, the "Warrior" at Sligo, and the "Alban" at Limerick.

There are 40,000 empty sacks at Cork in excellent order, of which 20,000 might be spared for the meal ground in England.

With regard to the military biscuit, I wrote to the respective officers to request that they will retain all the biscuit that can be collected at Dublin and Limerick, and that I shall be prepared to take the whole which is in good order and fit for issue at those places.

With respect to Haulbowline, I wrote to the Admiral to stop the biscuit now concentrating at the Naval depôt, and to say that we are ready to take over the whole quantity remaining in store, new and old, and request that it may be retained for Commissariat purposes.

I beg to solicit their Lordships to confirm this application, by a letter from their Board to the Admiralty.

I propose to issue the old biscuit at the rate of 10s. per cwt., and I shall immediately put it on sale at Longford.

In conclusion, I must not omit to bring before you the depôts of Longford and Banagher in the interior, particularly the former, for the state of Roscommon, Leitrim, and Cavan is likely to be most deplorable. Neither of these depôts is capable of receiving more than 400 tons, but Longford will certainly require to be more than once replenished.

It is also always prudent in every great undertaking to have a reserve, and this cannot be better placed than at Dublin, not only with reference to its locality as the head of the two canals, and its central situation, but as the capital, and the nearest point of communication.

The Custom-house magazines are of the best description; and, with their Lordships' sanction, I should propose a reserve depôt in this city of 2000 tons.

Sir R. ROOTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, September 17, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the general report of Deputy-Commissary-General Dobree, from Gweedore Bay to Westport, which he has very satisfactorily accomplished; but for convenience of these counts, he will not officially assume the charge until the 1st October.

Mr. Voules has proceeded to Ballina, and Mr. Dobree will follow him, so as to settle finally the engagements for the necessary mill power, with which that place abounds, and a sufficient magazine accommodation.

I shall not at present enter into the details of this subject, until the arrival of supplies, and the officers who are now on their way shall have joined, and enabled me to give activity to our operations in that district.

In the meantime all the necessary preparations will be in progress.

ENCLOSURE.

REPORT ON THE STORAGE, WHARFAGE, MILL-POWER, &c., of part of the Counties of DONEGAL, SLIGO, and MAYO, from GWENDORE BAY to WESTPORT.

Gwendore Bay, County Donegal.

Bunbeg.—Three miles from the Gwendore Hotel, erected by Lord George Hill; a quay easily accessible to vessels under 200 tons, which can unload alongside an excellent magazine, capable of containing 300 tons of meal, with every convenience of storing; accommodation for 100 tons more may be obtained in contiguous buildings, if required. Adjoining these premises is a mill, in constant operation, with two pair of Irish stones (to be replaced by French burrs), in which the leases engage to grind from 10 to 15 tons weekly for Government. This is the only spot adapted for a depot in the N.W. part of the county.

Rutland Island.—A coast-guard station, with a small harbour. This place is ill-adapted for a depot, as few of the people on the mainland have boats at their disposal; whereas the inhabitants of Arammore and adjacent islands possess water transport, and can with greater facility come to *Burton Port*, a quay immediately opposite Rutland Island, belonging to the Marquis of Conyngham, where there is an excellent store, capable of holding 250 tons, and in every respect more commodiously situated for the convenience of all parties in that locality. The island of Arammore, immediately opposite, contains about 1,500 inhabitants, the parish priest being the only respectable resident.

Glenties.—There is a mill here belonging to the Marquis of Conyngham, with two pair of Irish stones (to be replaced by French burrs), which can grind from 10 to 15 tons weekly, and store 200 tons.

There is ample storage at the poor-house, which has never had more than one inmate since the 1st May, when it was first opened. The chairman offers Government every accommodation in it so long as it is disposable.

Port Ness.—Seven miles distant, is the nearest landing-place; there is a small store belonging to Mr. Porter.

Ardara.—There are at this place, Glenties, and other localities, small oatmills, but too insignificant for Government purposes in their operations, inconveniently situated, totally deficient in storage, and an interference with which might be detrimental to the wants of the people; the place offers no accommodation for a subsidiary depot, and should it be deemed necessary to continue in this locality the sales now making here by the coast-guard, I would recommend their being removed to Glenties, as being more central with regard to Gwendore Bay, Burton-port, and Killibegs, and possessing ample conveniences.

Killibegs.—A fine land-locked anchorage for vessels of any draught, without a bar, and easy of access. There are two excellent stores here, one belonging to Mr. Wm. Blain, situated close to the quay, with the street intervening, and capable of holding 300 tons; the other belonging to the estate of the late Alexander Murray, Esq., admirably situated on a quay, and capable of holding 300 tons or more. The guardian of this property resides in Scotland, and has been written to for terms, &c. There are five small oatmills at and around Killibegs, which may be considered unavailable, for the reasons above stated. This harbour is very advantageously situated as a rendezvous for such American and other large ships consigned with corn to this district as may be unable to enter the River Moy, or the Sligo—Donegal harbours. Here they may safely transfer their cargoes to the floating depot about to be established, and the mills at Ballina, Sligo, Ballyshannon, and Coxtown may be replenished from thence by the means of steamers or coasting vessels; the advantage, however (whenever the supply is purchased at London and Liverpool, and not on shipboard), of sending vessels not drawing more than 11 feet water to this district here suggests itself, so that they may unload directly at the mills where the corn may be required—namely, Sligo, Ballyshannon, and Ballina, which are quite contiguous to each other. This may be the proper moment to draw the attention of Government to the absolute necessity of keeping up a sufficient steam power, permanently stationed here, so as to secure our communications with the several depôts along the coast from those interruptions and delays to which they have been constantly exposed, even during the summer months. It may not be presumptuous to offer a decided opinion that, without a large and a small steamer constantly at the disposal of the Commissariat, it will be impossible to carry on the service without fearful consequences resulting at times from the inadequacy of sailing vessels for the duties to be performed, and from the insufficiency of all the zeal and exertions in the world to prevent them by any other means.

Donegal.—There are only small oatmills at and in the vicinity of this town without storage. There are extensive magazines, and a very convenient one, with storage for 200 or 300 tons on the quay, may be had.

Contents.—The quay is accessible to vessels of 150 tons, and drawing 11 feet; equidistant six miles from Donegal and Ballyshannon.

There are only two flour-mills in the county of Donegal—one at Rathmellon on Lough Swilly, and the other at Coston, belonging to Mr. Alexander Hamilton. It works five pair of French stones throughout the year with great power; it can store 200 tons, and grind 50 tons weekly for Government. Enclosed are the terms of the proprietor; they are open to several objections, particularly on the subject of kiln-drying, which must on no account be dispensed with; but in our dearth of mill-power we must endeavour to remove them. Vessels of 300 tons can land their cargoes within an English mile of these mills, at a quay called Mullinsore.

A Flour-mill near Ballisodare.

Ballyshannon.—There is storage here to any extent, and the quay is accessible to vessels under 200 tons.

There are no flour-mills, but there is a distillery, with three pair of French stones, belonging to Berison and Co., just below the falls, which I have persuaded the proprietor to convert into a corn-mill. There is storage for several hundred tons, a quay belonging to the premises; and in the annexed proposals of the proprietors they offer to grind 50 tons weekly for Government.

Sligo.—Storage may be had for 6,000 or 7,000 tons. The magazine on the quay, which the department now rents from Mr. Kurnaghan, is capable of holding 1200 tons; there is another alongside, also situated on the quay, which could be had if required. Vessels under 200 tons, and drawing 11 feet, can pass the bar. There are six wheat mills at and in the vicinity of Sligo, viz. :—

No. 1. In the town, belonging to Mr. Martin; not to be had on any terms, as he will grind only on his own account.

No. 2. Two mills, belonging to Mr. Culbertson, at Ballisodare, four miles on the Dublin road; can store 2000 tons, and grind 150 tons weekly. The annexed letter from the proprietor will explain his inability to work for Government at present.

No. 3. Belonging to R. Simms, at Colony, six miles on the Dublin road; can store 5000 tons, and grind 80 to 100 tons weekly, but the proprietor will only engage to work for Government when they are not employed on their own account.

No. 4. Belonging to Mr. Wynne, four miles from the town, on a quay within the harbour; can grind 50 tons weekly for Government during 10 months of the year, and store 250 tons.

No. 5. Belonging to Mr. Greene, at Rathrahane, a mile and half from Sligo; can store 250 tons, and grind 30 tons weekly for Government during 10 months of the year.

No. 6. Belonging to Mr. Kurnaghan, at Dromahaire, on Lough Gill, nine miles from Sligo, with access by steamer; can grind 60 tons weekly for Government, and store 250 tons.

Ballina.—Storage to any extent.

Vessels of 150 to 200 tons can unload at a quay on the river Moy, a mile below the town. There is a steam-tug on the river. There are four flour-mills at and near Ballina :—

No. 1. Belonging to the Messrs. Gallagher, halfway between the town and the quay; will grind weekly for Government 100 tons, at about 20s. per ton, and store 500 tons. The expense of transport from the quay to this mill is 6s. per ton; to the two others in the town 1s. There is a magazine close to the mill, capable of holding 400 to 500 tons, which could be hired by Government.

No. 2. Belonging to Mr. Hendrie, in the town of Ballina; rather out of repair.

No. 3. Belonging to Mr. Fair, in the town; works five pair of stones.

No. 4. Belonging to Mr. Jackson, at Cerry, four miles on the Castlebar road. The proprietor of these mills was absent, and Constable Smith was to forward me details of their capabilities and power as soon as he could get the information.

Westport.—Wharfrage for vessels under 250 tons; storage to a large extent.

There are three flour-mills at this place.

No. 1. Belonging to Mr. MacDonnell; offers to grind weekly for Government, 60 tons; and to store at once from 200 to 300 tons. Annexed are his proposals.

No. 2. Belonging to Mr. Livingstone, with very great power and extensive storage; but, for the present, will grind solely on his own account.

No. 3. Belonging to Messrs. Pinkerton and Thompson, 2 miles distant on the Bellefleur road, out of repair; but they have assured me, that before the expiration of three months, they will be quite ready to grind 60 to 70 tons weekly for Government, and they are very desirous of being so employed.

As my instructions limited me to Gweedore Bay, I did not go beyond; but, anticipating the probability of assistance being called for in the more northern parts of the county of Donegal, I have ascertained that in Milford, at the head of Mulroy Bay, there is a very good store belonging to Lord Leitrim, with a mill working three pair of Irish stones, and, at Ballyness Bay, a store belonging to Mr. Halford. It may be necessary to observe, that the Irish stones are ill adapted to the grinding of Indian corn, and used almost exclusively for oats.

The crop of potatoes throughout Donegal, Sligo, Mayo, and Galway, never ripened; it was blighted half grown, and has never since made any progress to further maturity; the tubers are not half the usual size, the largest being the most affected; and as the people say, with some truth, so scanty is the crop that "it takes a man a whole day to dig his dinner." Proprietors throughout the country freely give away one leave to take grafs, on their grounds, wherever they can find any, or to turn their cattle out on the ridges and feed on the weeds. Some of the under landlords, who had let out ground largely on the cow-acre system, have prevented their tenants from digging their potatoes till half the rent was paid, the other half being remitted,

and the crops have consequently been abandoned. There seems to be a determination on the part of landlords generally to exact their rents; and a combination on the part of small tenants to refuse payment, as well as to prevent the exportation of grain. Under these impending events, it may not be irrelevant here to observe, that, with the exception of one company quartered between Sligo and Ballyshannon, there are no troops in the district about Donegal. I have made every inquiry regarding the establishment of small dealers over the country, and, however discouraging the prospect of immediate success appears to be, we must endeavour, through the agency of the committees and gentry, to lay the foundation for a class of people, which it is evident the necessity of the times will not of itself create.

The predilection of the Donegal people for fine oatmeal, has, I am assured, entirely disappeared, and a preference is now given to the coarser quality.

The introduction of whole meal, or the produce of wheat without extracting any bran at all, is commencing in several parts of the country.

In the several towns of the locality which I have visited, there is no want of a proper description of persons to constitute the relief committees; and in the rural districts of Donegal, I have been assured that government will find a zealous co-operation, as far as goodwill goes, on the part of the clergy, the few resident gentry, and the agents of the large landed proprietors.

Dublin, September 14, 1846.

J. SAUNDERS DOBBS,
Deputy Commissary-General.

P.S. Nothing can be more simple or satisfactory in its results than the present system of keeping the constabulary accounts. I would respectfully submit that, owing to the mass of people which will be dependant the ensuing year on these depôts, they involve more clerical labour than it is possible for any man to go through, when he has from morning to night, 800 to 1000 individuals to supply, and never less than 200 to 300 clamorous hungry persons at his elbow craving their stone or half-stone of meal. And I would recommend that the constables be no longer required to inscribe the names of the purchasers on their books, but merely to enter the quantity of each lot sold and its amount; which particulars, with the local knowledge which these constables are known to possess of the community, will amply vouch for the faithful record of these transactions.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, September 24, 1846.

I ADVERT to my letter No. 375, dated 10th instant, and I again bring the subject of it before you for the consideration of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury; for, looking to the deficiency of supply in England and Scotland as well as Ireland, and the demand in other parts of Europe, I cannot divest myself of anxiety in regard to the means before us of obtaining the quantity which will be required; and I feel and submit to you the necessity of extending our views, and of adopting a plan by which we may obtain the importation of a given quantity from the United States so as to secure our position, and the fulfilment of the pledge we have given in behalf the western coast.

There are certainly means in the country which ought and most probably will be brought into consumption at this early part of the season, so as to allow time for the foreign harvests and shipments from abroad; but admitting their full application to this emergency, the lowest computation at which I can place the demand on Government amounts to 120,000 quarters of Indian corn.

I earnestly press upon their Lordships the urgency of providing for a large proportion of this demand by some direct engagement for its importation on which we can rely, and this proportion should not be less than 60,000 to 80,000 quarters, and if I were to consult my own opinion I should recommend the whole quantity, for this is the lowest computation of the probable demand.

But apart from my own feelings, if they appear to betray over-anxiety, I entreat of you to consider not only the prudence but the safety of making provision by contract, or by other direct or positive engagement, for 60,000 to 80,000 quarters of Indian corn, to be delivered one-half on or before the 1st January, and one-half on or before the 1st April.

Whatever quantity can be obtained in meal should be consigned to Limerick, the whole quantity for that port being equal to one-fourth of the whole; one-fourth in corn to be consigned to Galway, and the remaining two-fourths to Sligo and the adjoining ports.

I think the measures now in operation for grinding in England and the mills at Sligo will furnish an adequate supply of meal for Westport, and I look to the same source and to the London and Liverpool markets for the reserve dépôt at Dublin, from whence Longford and Banagher are to be provisioned. I am sure that my Lords will not be surprised but rather share in the anxiety I experience for the success of these measures; and if my requisition should be considered high, though I am certain it will be found much lower than the demand, they will not fail to remember that it is only an investment, to be recovered hereafter by the sale; and that if a promise has been given for the supply of the western coasts, we are bound to adopt measures which will secure our position and afford to us the certainty of its fulfilment.

It is a perilous duty to watch the effects of famine, if we shall have failed in any precaution, which at the last moment would be irremediable, and my desire to impress the importance of this representation upon their Lordships' Board can only be equalled by my conviction of its truth.

TREASURY MINUTE.

September 29, 1846.

WRITE to Sir Routh, acknowledging the receipt of the following letters:—

September 17, 1846.—Enclosing Report from Deputy Commissary-General Dolree, on the means of grinding, &c., after his tour of inspection, from Gweedore Bay to Westport.

September 10, 1846.—Furnishing an Estimate of the quantities of Indian corn likely to be required for the Government dépôts in the western districts of Ireland, and at Dublin, as a reserve dépôt, during the ensuing season, amounting altogether to upwards of 12,000 tons.

September 21, 1846.—Furnishing a revised Estimate, stating the Indian corn likely to be required at 120,000 quarters, or 25,000 tons, and urging the importance of providing a large proportion of this demand, by some direct engagement for its importation.

Their Lordships are deeply sensible of the responsibility they have incurred in undertaking to supply, as far as lies in their power, the deficiency of food in the western division of Ireland, and measures are being taken, under their direction, for replenishing the Government dépôts, with the details of which Sir R. Routh is kept fully informed.

It must, however, be borne in mind, that the case which has to be provided for this year is not a local deficiency which could be supplied from the abundance of other quarters, but a general scarcity extending, with a greater or less degree of intensity, over the United Kingdom and the whole of Western Europe; and it is therefore incumbent upon their Lordships to prevent the measures taken to afford relief to the people in the western division of Ireland, from being so conducted as still further to enhance the existing high prices to the people in other parts of the United Kingdom who have to depend only on their own efforts for meeting the emergency.

It is also most important that it should be remembered that the supplies provided for the Government dépôts, are not intended to form the primary or principal means of subsistence to the people of the districts in which the dépôts are established, but merely to furnish a last resource, when all other means of subsistence, whether derived from the harvest just got in, or from importations, are exhausted, and the dépôts are therefore in no case to be drawn upon, while food can be obtained by purchases from private parties.

The regulation of the prices at which food is issued from the Government dépôts with a proper reference to the prices which prevail in the neighbourhood for the same, or other kinds of food, is a point of essential consequence; and their Lordships rely upon Sir R. Routh exercising such a sound discretion in this respect, as will prevent undue pressure upon the Government dépôts.

Their Lordships continue to be decidedly of opinion that the public safety, as well as the public faith, indispensably require that the pledge given by Her Majesty's Government, that no interference will be exercised with the provision trade in the eastern division of Ireland, should be strictly observed.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Castle, Dublin, September 10, 1846.

I THINK you had better send the "Margaret" on at once to Sligo. They have plenty of mill power, and the mere importation, the fact of its being there in preparation, consoles and comforts the people.

I will inquire about barley. I shall put Mr. Dwight at once with Mr. Bromley, who, by the bye, has been partly summoned to his station at the Admiralty at the end of this month. He will conclude and wind up everything to 31st August by the 14th October, and I hope they will allow him the extra fortnight to finish his task. I send all the June store accounts this week, and, I hope, July next week, and we are getting on very fast in the settlement.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, September 11, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you a copy of my letter to the respective officers on the subject of the military biscuit in the Ordnance Stores, which I propose to collect at Dublin, Limerick, and Haulboline, and apply to the present distress in Ireland, disposing of the same at the rate of 10s. per cwt.

ENCLOSURE.

Sir R. ROUTH to OFFICERS of ORDNANCE.

Dublin, September 10, 1846.

HAVING understood through the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, that orders had been conveyed to the Admiral on the station, to remove the biscuit and other military provisions, now in charge of the Ordnance, I do myself the honour to request that you will cause all the biscuit to be retained that can be collected at Limerick and Dublin, for Commissariat purposes, and to state to you that I shall be ready to receive and grant the proper receipts for the whole quantity that shall be fit for issue.

I request you will be pleased to retain at Longford, and direct its delivery to Deputy Assistant Commissary-General Campbell, any quantity at that post, and to permit that officer to draw any quantity he may require from Athlone for Roscommon and Castlebar.

I have also to beg you will be pleased to give orders, for the delivery at Castlebar, of the remains in good condition, at that post, and I write to Mr. Cummins at Westport, to make arrangements for its receipt. I beg to acquaint you that I shall communicate a copy of this letter to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, for their information.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

September 11, 1846.

Write to Sir R. Routh, approving of his proceedings on this subject, and state that the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have been requested to give corresponding instructions to their officers in Ireland.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

September 11, 1846.

I SEND the O'Brien medal herewith, and am very glad that the Lord Lieutenant has kindly undertaken to present it.

Also pray convey to Mr. O'Brien my congratulations on this gratifying and well deserved honour which has been conferred on him.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

Treasury, September 11, 1846.

THE sudden and decided rise of price which has taken place at this period ought, under the actual circumstances of the case, to be regarded as an advantage, for this reason, that there being a great void to be filled, owing to the failure of the potato crop, and the deficiency of some of the grain crops, not only in the

United Kingdom, but also in several other European countries, nothing could have occurred so well calculated to draw large supplies from foreign countries, and especially from America, as this rise of price at the commencement of the season.

In other words, it is far better to have increased prices at the commencement of the season, when they will work their own remedy, than towards the end of the season, when it might be too late for any sufficient supply to arrive.

The addition of every quarter dollar will extend the field of supply in the United States, and draw down from Cincinnati and Ohio, quantities of Indian corn which would otherwise have been employed, as usual, to feed the pigs.

The Indian corn offered for sale is still bought up by the Irish houses, even at the present prices, with the greatest eagerness, which is all in our favour, the only inconvenience being that we are obliged to give equally high prices for the quantity we must get to meet our responsibilities.

I have just given Mr. Erichsen a positive order to buy 800 quarters more at the market price, whatever that may be (it may be 44s. or 45s.), and to send it to the American miller to be ground, after he has made a reasonable bargain with him; so that we shall have three mills at work in the neighbourhood of London for you, and hope to be able to send you a cargo of meal in about a fortnight, and another soon after.

I have also directed Mr. Erichsen to buy any floating cargoes that may be offered to arrive soon at 41s. to 42s., at which price it is not unlikely that we may get some when the Irish houses are satisfied, if they ever are, and a lull takes place. The first small cargoes I get will be sent to Plymouth and Portsmouth to be ground.

You must get on as well as you can till our commissariat officers begin to arrive, and then you will have strength enough for anything. I desired them to hasten their departure by all possible means, and sent them copies of the Relief Correspondence to study on their voyage, and shall have copies of the subsequent correspondence ready for them against their arrival.

I have carefully considered, under the directions of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the draft you sent me of the Revised Instructions to the Relief Committees, and I shall send you to-morrow the remarks which he has directed me to make.

It is of such paramount importance to make our fresh start with a well digested plan, that the inconvenience arising from a slight delay in the issue of the instructions is comparatively of little consequence.

When you send me proofs of printed papers, pray send me more than two proofs.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, September 11, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the Minute of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury of the 4th instant.

It is with a deep sense of gratitude that I receive this mark of their Lordships' favour, and I wish my expressions were less feeble, and more capable of conveying to you a testimony in unison with the feelings of the Department.

As one of its oldest officers, and whom their Lordships have been pleased to honour on many occasions, I should be insensible to the advantage of serving under a generous Government if this new distinction failed to impress upon me, and all of us, an increased anxiety to deserve it.

It is impossible to foresee the effect of events, or the difficulties we may have to encounter, but we can faithfully assure you that neither zeal nor effort shall be found wanting to contend successfully with them.

We entreat of you to make our respectful gratitude acceptable to their Lordships.

MEMORIAL of the POOR RELIEF COMMITTEE of CARRIGALINE.

To the Right Honourable Lord John Russell, First Lord of Her Majesty's Treasury.

The Memorial of the Magistrates, Clergymen and Gentlemen of the Poor Relief Committee, of Carrigaline, County of Cork.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH,

THAT your Memorialists, after having devoted their time, their united and best exertions, for the last five months, in carrying out the instructions of Her Majesty's late Government, in alleviating the distress of the poor during the past season, did hope and anticipate, that the period was near at hand when they could have brought their labours to a close. But it has pleased an all-wise Providence, to whose will all must bow in humble submission, to revisit our heretofore productive soil, and peaceable population, with a more severe and direful scourge than that of last year, in the total failure of the potato crops, the only subsistence of the labouring class of this extensive district.

That your memorialists most truly sympathise with the numerous applicants, "all willing to work," that presented themselves to this Committee, on their last day of meeting, for relief; and having made the most minute inquiries, and used their utmost exertions, to ascertain the extent of destitution in this district, are compelled to place this most appalling and distressing truth before your Lordship and Her Majesty's Government—that at the expiration of the present harvest, which must close in a very short time, when the entire of the early potato crop will be exhausted, from the great consumption, and from the decay that is making such fearful and rapid progress, and other food will be enhanced in price, "which may be inferred from the great advance of Indian corn and meal, since the close of the Government depot," the labouring population must be reduced to the most unparalleled state of distress and misery, and which the united exertions of the landed proprietors cannot meet, unless your Lordship and the Government of the country afford that relief they will so much stand in need of.

That your memorialists, under these circumstances, press most respectfully, but forcibly, on your Lordship, as the head of Her Majesty's Government, the necessity of immediately meeting, either by grant of money from Government, public works, or by any other means that may seem meet to your Lordship, as the only prospect of averting that dire calamity—famine, followed by disease, and the worst of all, the concomitant on such a state of distress and misery, that of crime.

Your memorialists are therefore compelled to submit to your Lordship and Her Majesty's Government, for your kind, attentive, and most favourable consideration, this their earnest and respectful prayer.

W. H. M. Hodder, D.L., and J.P., Hoddersfield.

F. F. Blake, J.P., Prospect Villa.

Robt. M. Tighe, Coolanoe.

Jas. John Ryan, Carrigaline.

Michl. Roberts, J.P., Mount Rivers.

J. N. Lombard, Clk., Carrigaline.

W. C. Walker, Clk., Carrigaline.

Henry O'Brien, M.D., Carrigaline.

John Travers, Carrigaline.

Thos. N. Blair, Carrigaline, *Secretary*.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

September 11, 1846.

Write to the magistrates, clergymen, and gentlemen, of the Poor Relief Committee of Carrigaline, that my Lords must refer them to his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, for the details of the measures which have been resolved upon, in order to afford relief in those cases in which it is required.

Commissary-General HEWETSON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin, September 11, 1846.

I EXPECT oats, instead of being exported as heretofore, will come largely into home consumption as oatmeal this next year, as the small farmers, having lost their potatoes, will hold a sufficient supply back for their food. Irish wheat will also have a considerable increased home consumption; but it will be two or three months before the people will derive any general benefit from their wheat and oats, the whole system being new; but employment and *cash wages* will work wonders.

Our weather is beautiful, greatly in favour of our movements. Sir Randolph has written you about the biscuit; and as much more wheat and oats will be brought into home consumption in *wheat*, all the mill-power will be in great request by the trade and the small farmers; hence the necessity of our supplies being chiefly manufactured elsewhere, ready for immediate use.

Mr. WARD to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Royal William Victualling-yard, Sept. 11, 1846.

By Lord Auckland's desire I have visited the victualling establishment here this morning, and find that with the one engine now upon the premises, at work for 18 hours out of the 24, they can grind 67 quarters of Indian corn per day, whenever you choose to commence the delivery of it.

A small addition to the establishment will be required, which we have authorised Sir Thomas Fellowes to provide for at once, by engaging hands at monthly wages.

We assume that the Indian corn will be delivered here in bulk, and it is proposed to put it up in sacks ticketed, 500 of which may be had now at 2s. 6d. each, and 100 afterwards weekly.

If the Treasury think the quantity that can be delivered by the different yards insufficient, the *second* engine, which was removed from hence to Deptford (where it is not wanted), might be brought back here, and fixed in its old place, at a cost of about 600*l.*, which would bring 12 additional pair of stones into activity, and double the daily produce. It is for you to say whether this be necessary, but if you will let me know the wishes of the Treasury before we leave Devonport, Capt. Brandreth, who is here, will take care that they are attended to instantly.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Mr. WARD.

Treasury, September 12, 1846.

WE are much indebted to Lord Auckland for the effectual steps his Lordship is prepared to take to assist us in grinding for Ireland.

Three mills which we have at work near London, including the one at Deptford, are sufficient for the corn now at our disposal in this part of England, but I am in expectation of the early arrival of cargoes from abroad, which I shall immediately consign to Plymouth and Portsmouth, to be ground at the Admiralty Mills at those places.

I think it very desirable that the second engine should be at once brought back from Deptford and refixed at Portsmouth, for although it is possible that we may not require all this mill power, it is more probable that it will be urgently wanted.

The Ordnance supplies us with sacks sufficiently good for our purpose at 1*s.* 7½*d.* each, and as we require great numbers of them, the difference of price is of importance in the aggregate.

You will see from the accompanying copy of a Treasury Minute, that the requisite number of sacks will be supplied by the Ordnance Department, in communication with the Comptroller of Victualling.

TREASURY MINUTE referred to.

September 11, 1846.

Write to the Secretary of the Ordnance, and request that he will acquaint the Master-General and Board that a further supply of sacks being required for the service in Ireland, my Lords are desirous that they should be provided under the direction of the Master-General and Board.

State that the sacks should be of the same description as those already found to be the best adapted for this service, which were obtained at the price of 1s. 7½d. each, and as they are wanted to pack the meal ground in the naval yards at Deptford, Portsmouth, and Plymouth, request that the proper Ordnance officers may be desired to place themselves in communication with the Comptroller of Victualling, in order to ascertain the number to be provided, and the places and periods of delivery.

Transmit copy of this Minute to the Secretary for the information of the Lords of the Admiralty.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

Treasury, September 12, 1846.

THE first point which strongly attracts attention in the Revised Instructions to the Relief Committees, is the new feature of the establishment of a central authority on the part of the Baronial Committees, in reference to the Parochial and other District Committees.

It seems probable that such an arrangement would be attended with serious risk of failure, and of other consequences worse than failure.

The relief operations are essentially of a temporary nature, and they have to be carried on, so far as the Relief Committees are concerned, not by trained public officers accustomed to act together, but by country gentlemen, Protestant and Roman Catholic clergymen, and other persons who are placed on the committees merely because they happen to be possessed of property and influence in the neighbourhood, and only a small proportion of them can be depended on as practical men of business.

The machinery ought, therefore, to be of the simplest kind. If any complication is introduced, the wheels must soon get out of order.

Mutual confidence and a disposition to act cordially together, for the attainment of a common end, is not as yet a general characteristic of the Irish country gentleman and clergymen of different persuasions.

They are not indisposed to yield to the authority of persons in high official positions, but they are not generally inclined to repose confidence in, or submit to the authority of each other.

It is therefore to be feared that the establishment of a machinery by which the operations of the local committees would be controlled by, and their intercourse with the government be made dependent on other committees composed of neighbouring gentlemen and Protestant and Roman Catholic clergymen, would end in failure and general confusion; and the more so, as the relief business might often really be of such a nature as could not wait the result of a protracted discussion between two committees meeting at some distance of time and place, and the parties interested would still oftener think that it was of such an emergent description.

It also appears that there is now the less occasion for introducing a control on the part of the committees themselves, because we shall soon have a sufficient number of able public officers appointed for the express purpose of exercising a constant supervision over them.

I am myself aware of only one instance in which the proposed plan has actually been tried, and the result in that case was decidedly unfavourable to it. Captain Pole's early correspondence abounded with matter relative to the quarrels of the Banagher and Parsonstown Committees, which has not been printed in the Blue Book; but you will find enough there to show, that the Banagher Committee did not begin to act with effect until it was freed from the trammels of the Parsonstown Committee.

In this state of my information, I put the proof of the Revised Instructions into Sir Edward Coffin's hands, without making any remark upon them, and after

attentively perusing this part of them, he said that he had known two or three instances in which, owing to the superior influence and weight of character of the individuals of which they were composed, the Baronial Committees had answered; but if the plan were attempted to be established as an *obligatory general rule*, he considered that it would not succeed, and he suggested that the adoption of it should be left to the discretion of the committees themselves, or that the Lord Lieutenant should select the cases in which it should be enforced, leaving all the other committees in direct communication with the government officers.

The only other point which I have to notice, is the very important one of making the most of the opportunity which these instructions afford of directing general attention to the changes and improvements in agriculture, which are necessary to place Ireland in a healthy self-supporting condition, and to supersede by reproductive labour the artificial and, in some points of view, wasteful expedient of the relief works.

Nothing can be sounder than the views expressed on this subject in the draft of the Instructions; and if there is anything wanting, it is merely in the way of *arrangement and more full development*.

The concluding part of the 28th section relates to this subject, and should be brought into the same place with the 19th, 20th, and 21st sections, which are entirely devoted to it, and this would leave the 28th section appropriated to the protection and extension of the corn trade.

Having thus got together all those parts of the instructions which relate to agricultural improvement, I think they may with advantage be recast, and I send a rough sketch herewith, in the hope that it may be of some assistance to you.

You will find in the two proofs which are returned herewith, a few other corrections, the most important of which has for its object to make it perfectly evident that *Roman Catholic*, as well as Protestant clergymen, are intended to be included in the committees.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer requests that we may be furnished with another proof containing the corrections which you may think it desirable to make, and which may be approved of by the Lord Lieutenant and Mr. Labouchere.

A most important duty of the members of the Relief Committees will be to promote, by their influence and example, improvements in husbandry, the drainage of land, the reclaiming of wastes, and the making timely preparations for the change from the cultivation of potatoes to that of grain, which the failure, more or less, of the crop of potatoes, for two successive years, seems to render necessary.

The employment provided by *law* must be of a *public* nature, and the owners and occupiers of land in Ireland, who are morally and legally answerable for the relief of the destitute poor upon their estates, are by the Act 9 and 10 Vict., c. 107, charged with the expense of such public works as are indispensably necessary for their subsistence.

But however necessary such a legal provision may be as the ultimate resource for enabling the people to obtain necessary food, there are other modes of securing the same object, which would be attended with far more beneficial results to all parties concerned.

Those to whom the land belongs, and who will enjoy the principal benefit arising from its improvement, should exert themselves to bring to a higher state of culture the lands which are already cultivated, and to bring new lands into cultivation where the opportunity offers; by following which course the necessity for public works would be obviated, or greatly diminished, and the funds which must otherwise be raised in the way of rate, chiefly from the same parties, for the execution of public works, would be more profitably applied to the employment of reproductive labour in improvements which would repay their cost, and add to the permanent fund for the subsistence of the people.

The government has already afforded all the facilities in its power towards this object. The great agricultural improvement of Ireland is *drainage*, not only of the uncultivated, but also of the large proportion of imperfectly cultivated lands; and abundant means have been placed for this purpose at the disposal of the landowners on easy terms, both as to the rate of interest and the period of repayment, and the most efficient, scientific, and practical machinery that could be devised, has been provided for their assistance; in addition to which, loans are made for other permanent improvements of estates from the fund under the management of the Board of Works, at as low a rate of interest as is consistent with the necessary protection of the money market.

SIR R. ROUTH to MR. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, September 12, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the further Report of Assistant-Commissary General Lister, but I shall now limit myself to its transmission, and reserve my observations for another occasion.

I propose that Mr. Lister shall be stationed at Westport, having under his superintendence the two depôts of Clifden and Belmullet, to the former of which I shall attach Mr. Parker in charge, and Mr. Cummins to the latter, and I trust that these several duties will be well and ably conducted.

Mr. Lister being particularly anxious to bring over his family to Ireland, I have allowed him to proceed to England for that purpose, and he will report himself to their Lordships' Board on the 14th instant.

ENCLOSURE.

MR. LISTER to SIR R. ROUTH.

Westport, September 9, 1846.

IN continuing my report upon the depôts along the western coast, I proceed, first to consider the constabulary depôts dependent on Westport, which at present consist of Castlebar, Holly Mount, and Ballisodroe.

At each of these places, the demand for the meal, within the last ten days has been increased, and it has been thought advisable to replenish the depôt at Castlebar, where the sales have averaged about one ton and one half daily, though confined to very small quantities.

I conceive from the reports furnished from these stations, and their dependence for food being principally on Westport, that the continuance of these depôts will be found necessary. The supplies at these stations are nearly all sold.

The troops at Westport consist of a detachment of between 80 and 90 men. There is, however, barrack accommodation for 160.

Adverting to that part of my report of the 31st ult., which states that the whole of the supplies at the several coast guard stations, dependent on Clifden, have been removed to that depôt, and transferred to the charge of the constabulary, as likewise to the suggestions submitted in respect to the formation of other depôts, by which the sale of meal in that section of the country, would, in future, devolve exclusively on the constabulary; I would observe, that as relates to that part of Captain Percival's charge, which extends from the Islands of Boffin, and Imistuck, to Belmullet, a strict adherence to this principle of concentration and transfer, is, at this time, scarcely practicable.

The peculiar circumstances of their position renders access to these islands very uncertain; and, therefore, in the exercise of the discretionary power you have been pleased to give me, I should strongly recommend, that none of the remaining supplies should be now withdrawn, as the season of the year is approaching, when from the representations of Captain Nugent and Mr. Wood, the greatest difficulty may be expected in landing provisions; this information is confirmed by the experience of Captain Percival, even during the late summer months.

These observations equally apply to the Island of Achill.

Independently of these essential considerations, my great anxiety has been to avoid exciting any apprehension, which would have been, I conceive, occasioned even by temporary withdrawal of our supplies from these isolated places.

The coast guard stations dependent on Newport, are the Islands of Boffin and Imistuck, also Rosstrunk. The supplies remaining at the latter place have been ordered to Newport; at which depôt arrangements are in progress for the immediate transfer of the supplies from the charge of Captain Nugent to that of the constabulary.

The store at Newport belongs to a Mr. Clindinning, the gratuitous use of which that gentleman, with much commendable liberality, offered to the Government. It will hold from 11 to 1200 sacks, and is well ventilated, unfortunately, however, it is much too far, (about 400 yards) from the constabulary barrack for that force to guarantee the security of our supplies; and, therefore, I am of opinion, that it will be absolutely necessary to send a detachment of 30 or 40 men to Newport; not only for this purpose, but likewise to inspire confidence (which is much wanting) in the trade.

Sir Richard O'Donnell pointed out to me two excellent stores, which have been for some time unoccupied, in consequence of the want of what the traders consider sufficient protection for their stores; which, if afforded, it is thought, will lead to the importation of corn and meal, and thus supersede in some measure the interference of the Government.

The troops could be billeted on the people, or if more desirable, houses might be hired by the Ordnance for their accommodation.

Captain Nugent informs me, that vessels drawing 12 feet water can come into the ports of Westport and Newport.

In the Island of Achill, the main depôt (Dugort) is under the charge of inspecting chief-officer Wood, whose sub-depôts have heretofore been Bullamouth, Keel, and Achillbeg. There

is comparatively little demand at present in the island, and as the stations of Keel and Belmullet are only 4 miles from Dugart, the meal remaining at those places has been ordered to that depot.

As regards Achillbeg, it being 14 miles from Dugart, and Mr. Wood anticipating extensive demands there, it has been deemed advisable to leave the supplies at that station.

The depot at Clare Island is likewise under his charge, but as there is a constabulary force there, the supplies will be forthwith transferred from the custody of the coast-guard service to that of a constable.

The store in which our supplies are deposited at Dugart, belongs to the Achill Missionary Society; and heretofore the Government has had the gratuitous use of this building; it has, however, been intimated to me, that in future a certain rent will be expected; the sum I could not ascertain, as the Rev. Edward Mangle (chief of the establishment) was absent; this gentleman has been requested to communicate to the officer at Westport on the subject. This store will hold about 1000 sacks.

There is a constabulary station on Achill Island, about 7 miles from Dugart, and 4 from the Sound, but as a stable is the only building which can be procured for the reception of the meal, it would not hold anything approaching the quantity for which storage would be required.

The meal at Achillbeg is at present kept in the barnhouse, and Mr. Wood has been requested to ascertain what store accommodation can be hired, and to report fully on the subject for your information.

At Belmullet, Doleagh, and Tullougham, the supply of meal is exhausted. Belmullet is situated in a wretchedly poor country, and the demands on that depot will, I am persuaded, be on a very great scale. Under this persuasion, I have obtained a tender for the hire of a good, substantial, well ventilated store, contiguous to the quay, and which will contain upwards of 2000 sacks. This store, however, is situated upwards of 300 yards from the constabulary barrack, and as the people connected with the trade of Belmullet are greatly alarmed as to the insecurity of their stores, my observations in regard to the absolute necessity of troops being sent to Newport, apply with equal, or perhaps, greater force to Belmullet. I beg to enclose the tender alluded to for approval, the rent (31*l.* 5*s.* for one year, including taxes), is very reasonable.

The supplies at Belmullet have heretofore been kept in Lieutenant Dawson's stables.

There is no mill power at, or near, Belmullet, except two gig mills.

Vessels can enter Belmullet, drawing in neap tides 8 to 9 feet, and spring tides 11 to 12 feet.

In considering the positions of the present depôts, and the places where it may be hereafter desirable to establish additional sub-depôts, I have been guided by their relative distances from each other, and the supposed wants of the localities; and although, it may, from time to time, be found necessary to increase the number, the following posts will, it is supposed, in the first instance, meet the exigencies of this district.

The depôts at Boffin and Inniscurell will, I presume, necessarily remain in charge of the coast-guard, there being no constabulary quartered in these islands.

In Achill Island, Dugart will be the principal depôt, with Achillbeg and the Sound, if established, as its sub-depôts. The latter is proposed on account of its being favourably situated for the country intervening between Newport, Bangor, (a proposed new station,) and Dugart, no part of which will then be further than 9 miles from supplies.

In regard to store accommodation at the Sound, I enclose a letter from Mr. Savage, the owner of the hotel at that place, which is, I think, satisfactory.

A depot at the constabulary station at Bangor, will, it is thought, also be found requisite. It is centrally situated, and within 13 miles of Belmullet, from which station meal could be sent by land. There is excellent accommodation for the supplies in the lower story of the constabulary barrack at Bangor.

Belmullet and Dugart will be very important stations, and perhaps I may be permitted to add, that to ensure the efficient performance of the duties at these posts, and at the sub-depôts dependent on them respectively, an officer of the department should be quartered at Belmullet, rendering his accounts to the officer at Westport; indeed, unless the services of Mr. Wood (a zealous and intelligent officer) are retained at Dugart, it will, I conceive, be essential to have a second officer of the department stationed there, as the duties will, in all probability, be far too responsible to confide to a constable.

The services of an officer, will, for the same reasons, be likewise necessary to take charge of Clifden and its out stations.

There is no break agency either at Belmullet or Clifden.

In conclusion, perhaps I may be allowed to state, that the officers and men of the coast-guard service, have evinced an anxious desire to render their accounts correctly; which, through the indefatigable exertions of Captain Percival, (of whom all the officers speak in the most gratifying terms,) I have reason to believe will be satisfactorily accomplished.

P.S. In reference to your reply (E. 1952) to Captain Percival's letter, in regard to engaging mill power, I beg to inform you that Mr. Lerington, of Westport, (the largest mill proprietor), declines altogether grinding corn for the Government, and that Mr. McDonald, Cloona, cannot at present undertake it, although, perhaps, he may do so hereafter.

Sin,

Belmullet, September 7, 1846.

I beg to offer you my corn store fronting the main street of this town, containing two upper lofts and a ground story, with a well inclosed yard, with a wall of 10 feet high; to repair and board the under story of the upper end of the store, to answer the purpose of a guard-room,

and to fix temporary boarding in the lower story of the west end of said store to prevent dampness. I also agree to give the use of the crab-winch used by me for hauling up oats. All for the sum of thirty-one pounds ten shillings sterling, for one year, including all taxes, cess, &c. &c. The rent of said premises to commence from the 15th of the present month, upon which day I shall give up possession of it, and shall have the repairs done. Length of store about 70 feet long by 20 feet wide.

Assistant Commissary-General Lister,
for for for

(Signed) ARTHUR ROSE.

SIR,

September 6, 1846.

SINCERELY believing that when any information is offered to you from any individual (however humble his station), when it is for the good of the poor, comes me to think you will pardon this liberty, when the following facts are brought under your notice, viz. :—

The store at Achill Sound is safe and commodious, capable of containing 150 tons of meal; under it is a court-house, where petty sessions are held, and where a guard (if necessary) could comfortably live.

No matter in what weather, meal could be landed in perfect safety from vessels of from 100 to 150 tons burthen, and it being the very centre of a large district, would contain meal sufficient to supply all the stations around.

Muhany police station is only seven miles from this store.

Cashel police station only three miles; Bellemouth and Achill-beg could be supplied by water from this store when necessary, and in the winter months, when a difficulty would arise as to landing the meal in safety at other places, the Sound store would be perfectly safe, and as the weather would permit, a supply could be forwarded without any delay whatever.

Moreover, Sir, I respectfully hope you will consider how the case will be when the poor will have to travel 11 or 12 miles for a small quantity of meal; for my own part, Sir, I wish it to be fully understood, that I consider myself in duty bound both to assist and to give every information in my power on so important a subject. Sincerely hoping, Sir, that you will please to consider of this, and pardon this liberty,

Assistant Commissary-General Lister,
for for for

(Signed) R. SAVAGE.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

September 18, 1846.

Write to Sir R. Routh that their Lordships do not see any objection to Assistant Commissary-General Lister being stationed at Westport, having under his superintendence Mr. Parker in charge of the sub-dépôt at Clifden, and Mr. Cummins in charge of that at Belmullet; but my Lords will have the subject again under their consideration when they shall have received Sir R. Routh's further observations on Mr. Lister's report.

Their Lordships approve of Sir R. Routh having granted leave of absence to Mr. Lister, to enable him to remove his family to Ireland.

Those parts of Mr. Lister's report in which he states that the establishment of military posts at Newport and Belmullet is necessary to enable the traders to act with confidence in the importation of supplies of grain, have, it is presumed, been brought by Sir R. Routh under the notice of the Lord Lieutenant.

Their Lordships take this opportunity of observing, that any passages in reports or letters from Commissariat officers serving in Ireland, which have a bearing on the operations of the Board of Works, should be immediately extracted, and sent to that Board; and that the fullest practicable information should be furnished from the same source to the Irish Government.

SIR R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Sunday, $\frac{1}{2}$ past 4 o'clock, P.M.,

Dublin, September 13, 1846.

This morning I have received a volume of letters from the Lord Lieutenant from different parts of the country addressed to his Excellency, on which he will see me to-morrow, but I cannot avoid writing to you a few lines to suggest your closing with Mr. Erichsen's offer to purchase cargoes already purchased and ordered from abroad, and directing them to Sligo as the American ships object to call for orders. We have such ample means of grinding there and at Ballina that we are sure of getting on well, and we have good storage.

There is always Killybegs such an admirable harbour close at hand. I fear our success if we wait for cargoes to arrive in London and Liverpool, and then there is the delay. We have no arrival yet at Sligo, and the demand is most urgent. There is Donegal, Sligo, Mayo, Roscommon and Cavan, and Longford petitioning by every post.

The Admiralty steamers have not yet, as I know of, returned to Cork to ship Mr. Hewitson's stores. The instant I have one to spare, I shall send a large consignment of biscuit along the coast, and I have ordered all the depôt at Athlone to be sent into the interior at various points of Mayo and Roscommon, but all this takes time. I am writing at home, and have not your letters to refer to, but pray consider Mr. Erichsen's suggestion to order some consignments direct from the States to Sligo, and in such quantity as to meet the demand and put down the alarm.

SIR R. ROUTH to MR. TREVELYAN.

Castle, Dublin, September 14, 1846.

I HAVE the gold medal, and your expression that high prices now are a blessing. Just as the packet for America is going off, it is so in a more particular manner, and I quite meet the expression.

You will see our issues have been great in Sligo, 200 tons in the week. I do not understand it. In the middle of harvest with the fields teeming with crops, this ought not to be.

Deputy Commissary-General DOBREE to MR. TREVELYAN.

Dublin, September 14, 1846.

YOUR note of the 4th inst. was sent after me to Donegal, and followed me on my return to Dublin. I have just forwarded to the Commissary-General my report on the facilities which I found adapted to our operations in those parts of the counties of Donegal, Sligo, Mayo, and Galway, which I inspected, and as by the removal of Sir E. Coffin these have lapsed to my charge, I shall enter upon them with the confidence, that as far as the Commissariat is concerned, the many difficulties which this service presents, may be surmounted by the same exertions which have hitherto carried out my former labours with success; but there are other difficulties not to be surmounted by any exertions of ours, which I cannot contemplate without alarm, and these will principally arise, not from any actual deficiency of cheap food judiciously stored in different parts of the country; for we will assume that no such want will exist generally, but from the probable inability of the people, in very many instances, to purchase that food when all their own resources shall be exhausted. In the north-west part of Ireland, where the population is mostly dotted about the country in single houses, or very small hamlets, at a considerable distance from each other, it will not be so easy to bring them within the operation of the relief measures, as in other places where they are collected in communities, and I anticipate the greatest distress in all this district.

The salvation of Ireland seems, under Providence, to rest in the hands of the proprietors and holders of land, with the powerful aid of a liberal and able Government to support them; but, unless numbers like Lord George Hill, the public-spirited and philanthropic owner of Gweedore, shall start into existence, and assume, as he does, the responsibility, and personally discharge the duties of their properties, I fear we are only putting a piece of new cloth on a threadbare garment, which now must no longer be patched up as heretofore, but entirely renovated, and its materials regenerated. It is not a temporary deficiency of food and employment, nor a passing emergency like that contemplated last year that is to be now provided for by the importation of an additional foreign supply, and public works; but it is a *sine die* deficiency in the produce of the country to support its population; a *sine die* incalculable deficiency in the ordinary means of employment for the labourers and small farmers, who must soon merge into that class; and a presumptive inability in the present proprietors and gentry ever to provide for their emergencies. The measures therefore now adopted, should, as far as it is possible, have a view to the future, however discouraging they may be in *infinito*, and be mainly directed towards developing the productive and remunerative powers of the country. If the landlords, as they have been hitherto compelled by their embarrassments, continue to

fall back chiefly on public works, and neglect the opportunity of appropriating the capital placed at their disposal in the improvement or the increased cultivation of their lands, I fear the distress of the country will go on yearly augmenting in the ratio of its duration, and that each succeeding year will find every class, from the landlord to the labourer, farther than ever from any steady progress to prosperity and plenty.

You ask me to describe the condition of the people, their prospects, the temper with which they bear their misfortunes, and the means taking to relieve them.

Nothing can be more degraded in the scale of human existence than the condition of the people in the greater part of these four counties; they are scarcely clothed with common decency; they feed with their swine like the prodigal son in his self-exile, and their hut is not to be compared to a North American Indian wigwam; from the cradle to the grave they never seem to contemplate the possibility of any amelioration in their situation, nor so long as they have a potato to eat, will they make any efforts to extricate themselves from their forlorn lot.

Their prospects are a total deficiency in the ordinary means of subsistence, and an entire dependence on Government relief measures; the potato crop is so completely destroyed, that it takes a man a whole day to dig his dinner, and if he has a patch of oats, the greater part will be required for his rent and for seed.

The temper with which they regard their misfortunes is characteristic; they seem to submit to them as "from the Lord" whilst only impending, but there is evidently an under-current setting in with a combination to resist the payments of rents, and to make, when the crisis shall come, the law of self-preservation paramount to all others.

The means taking to relieve them are in embryo as far as Government is concerned, and as regards the landlords in petto; the first object with these will be to collect their rents, and great will be the discrimination required in knowing where to exact and where to remit them. The careless landlord will not only lose his rent, but he will have to maintain his tenant. As yet nothing has been done beyond convening county, baronial, and other meetings to submit long resolutions, regarding the deplorable state of the country, to Government; the time for action must, however, soon be forced upon us all, and it is to be hoped we shall not shrink from our duties. The landlord has everything to lose, the poor man nothing; and if the opinion be a correct one (which I have never doubted), that the potato has been for years past the bane of Ireland, as enervating every stimulus to advancement in social comforts, we must hope that, with its extinction as a staple food, will disappear also the many evils ascribed to its cultivation.

I start in a couple of days for Sligo, and I trust I shall soon have the pleasure of hailing the arrival on that coast of the two Government steamers I have represented should be always kept there at the disposal of the Commissariat; if the sailing vessels were found insufficient during the summer months, what should we do with them in the winter season on that inclement coast?

MR. TREVELYAN to the SECRETARY to the ADMIRALTY.

September 14, 1846.

SIR R. ROUTH has written to the Admiral to stop the concentration of the biscuit at Haulbowline, and to request that, as he was ready to take over the whole quantity remaining in store, both new and old, it might be reserved for Commissariat purposes.

I shall be obliged to you to procure orders to be issued to the Admiral without delay, confirming Sir R. Routh's application.

We have now sufficiently matured our plans to enable me to say that we shall require altogether three floating depôts; one near the mouth of the Shannon, and which I hope is well on its way thither, if not already arrived. The second at Galway, and the third at Kilibegs, in the county of Donegal.

I hope Lord Auckland will give directions for these two last-mentioned storages being sent, with the least practicable delay, to their respective destinations.

Besides the "Dee" and "Allan," which are small steamers, and our Revenue boats, it is of importance that we should have one large steamer attached to each of the floating depôts, appropriated to this service, that we may calculate upon them at all times, supposing no accident to happen to them.

The "Rhadamanthus" answers to this description, and arrangements will, I trust, be made to send two more such to the western coast of Ireland.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Captain HAMILTON.

September 15, 1846.

It is our duty to state what will be the most convenient station for the store ship, as far as our objects are concerned; but every consideration of convenience must of course yield to that of safety; and the facility of loading and unloading, and of communicating with the shore, is also, as observed in the paper sent by you, of much importance.

We will, therefore, if you see no objection, let the matter stand on this footing, that—

Considering merely the convenience of our relief operations, without any reference to what might be advantageous in a naval point of view, we prefer Kilrush to Tarbert, and Tarbert to Foynes; but we leave it to the naval authorities to determine, on naval considerations, which of these stations is to be fixed on, feeling assured that our convenience will be consulted to the full extent that may be compatible with safety, and other circumstances which may have to be attended to.

The "Myrtle" steamer should, as you suggest, be employed in connexion with this dépôt, in addition to any other small craft that may be available; and if no objection occurs, I hope orders will be immediately given for properly equipping her, and sending her to the Shannon.

The want of food in Ireland will be this year so general and complete, as strongly to impress us with the importance of having at our disposal abundant means of promptly conveying supplies of food to the points at which they may be from time to time urgently required.

I shall send a copy of the paper I have received from you, and of this letter, to Sir R. Routh, in order that he may see what has been arranged.

Captain POLE to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Banagher, September 15, 1846.

My dépôt is for the present closed. Various have been the applications made to me; some from committees whose funds of the last Session have not been expended, some from the gentry who profess to take care of their poor, and some directly from the poor, whose more than average loss of crop, and total dependence on the potato, have reduced them to premature want. Not without careful consideration of each case I have withstood all these demands, with the exception of the last. In a word, my dépôt is at present closed. Interviews frequently, but chiefly correspondence has accomplished this, at present desirable, object; but the intimation of this determination has not been unaccompanied by observations calculated, I trust, to produce confidence in the present and future advantages of such restriction. I have had, however, disclosed to my observation, instances of that disregard of the charitable character of the food in my dépôt which are painful from the pretensions of the applicants, because I knew, personally, that the applicants were, if not wealthy, on the road to wealth, and that they sought the food which I am the guardian of in behalf of the poor, to lighten the legitimate weight, which it was their own duty to bear, of wages to their working people, which wages are always partly paid in food. I could not tell these people that their applications were monstrous, but I felt pleasure, for the first time, in refusing to open my stores. Some of these applicants endeavoured to work upon my sympathies, some on my fears; but the latter class discovered, I apprehend, that it was the weakest ground they could assume before a soldier.

During the past week I have forwarded tenders for grinding Indian corn from three millers in Banagher, in reply to Commissary-General Hewetson's advertisement in the Limerick paper. Two of these tenders were from the same parties before employed by me, and their terms were the same, 3s. 6d. the sack of 14 stones. The third was remarkable, from the fact that the owner of the extensive mills stated to me that he offered his premises because he felt that it would not be safe for him to have any large quantity of provisions therein on his own account, in other words, he feared plunder. I forwarded these tenders to Limerick, with ample comments, for the information of Commissary-General Hewetson.

The social condition of this country, though not yet broken by acts of violence, is in a fearful state, as respects the future prospects of the poor. The price of

every article of food is very high: dealers are buying up whatever comes to market in the shape of grain, which they offer afterwards at a great price: they buy it from the poor farmer by the bushel, or the stone, for little, to retail it hereafter at a profit which the poor man paid by the Board of Works cannot give and live. The prospect of the money which the Board of Works will circulate is captivating to the hopes of the dealer; it will be cash, and the poor cannot keep it, they must convert it into food.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Castle, Dublin, September 15, 1846.

You will be surprised to see the large issues last week: 200 tons at Sligo. At Westport there seems to be an inclination to import; but throughout the rest of Mayo, Sligo, and Donegal, their whole dependence is on the Government. I think these prices must fall towards November. I am sending a thousand bags of biscuit to Longford, and I shall supply Roscommon from the same source; but I am afraid Mr. Stevens will be soon without any supplies. None of his cargoes have yet turned up.

I have directed Captain Pole to deliver up the key of his magazine to his clerk, with orders not to issue, and to repair immediately, *via* London, to join Sir Edward Coffin, as I do not know his address. This is the safest course. Mr. Vocles starts to-morrow morning for Ballina. By the end of the week, Mr. Dobree will be installed at Sligo.

Captain HAMILTON to Mr. PENNINGTON.

Admiralty, September 16, 1846.

HAVING laid before my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty your letter of the 14th instant, stating that the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury have received a report from Sir R. Routh, dated the 10th instant, in which it is stated that none of the *Admiralty steamers* appointed for the service in Ireland, connected with the relief of distress, have yet arrived, I am commanded by my Lords to acquaint you, for the informations of the Lords of the Treasury, that their Lordships cannot refrain from expressing their surprise at the report received from Sir R. Routh, their Lordships having had reason to be entirely satisfied with the arrangements and exertions of Rear Admiral Sir Hugh Pigot, for the disposal and employment of the Force under his command, in carrying out their Lordships' orders, and the wishes of Her Majesty's Government.

The duties required of Her Majesty's ships on the Irish station are various, including occasionally the moving of troops, but by the arrangements of Sir Hugh Pigot, this service has been ably combined with that of conveying provisions to the distressed districts.

In consequence of Sir R. Routh's statement, it may be satisfactory to the Lords of the Treasury to know how Her Majesty's ships on the Irish station have of late, and are at present employed, and a return is accordingly enclosed for their Lordships' information.

ENCLOSURE.

A LIST of Her Majesty's SHIPS employed in conveying MEAL and PROVISIONS in Ireland since August 13, 1846.

August 16.—"Rhodamantus" sailed from Cork to Dublin with 1,500 bags of biscuit for the garrisons.

August 19.—"Swale," victualling boy, sailed for Valencia with Indian corn meal, for Poor Relief Committee at Cairooveres.

August 19.—"Arthur," victualling boy, sailed for Dublin with 520 bags of biscuit.

August 25.—"Alban," steam-vessel, sailed for Limerick with Indian corn meal.

September 8.—"Alban," steam-vessel, sailed for Limerick with Indian corn meal.

September 9.—"Pluto," steam-vessel, sailed for Limerick with 150 sacks of Indian corn meal.

September 9.—"Stramboli," steam-vessel, sailed for Turbert with 643 barrels of Indian corn meal.

N.B.—"Dec," steam-vessel, employed accompanying "Madagascar" (Provision Depot) to Cork and the "Shannon" left Plymouth on the 10th September.

"Swallow," steam-vessel, to aid in conveying provisions from the "Madagascar" to the ports in the Shannon, left Woolwich 14th September.

Admiralty, September 16, 1846.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

September 18, 1846.

Transmit a copy of this letter, and of its enclosure to Sir R. Routh, for his information, and observe that it appears to my Lords to be desirable that he should arrange with the Admiral on the station for his being furnished with a statement of the manner in which the different Admiralty steamers appropriated to the relief service are now employed, and that he should afterwards receive from time to time the earliest practicable information of any changes which it may become necessary or desirable to make in the employment of these vessels, in order that Sir R. Routh may be fully aware of all the circumstances affecting the service with which he is charged, and may be prepared to suggest any measures which may at any time appear to him to be necessary to secure its regular execution.

Acquaint the Secretary to the Admiralty that a copy of his letter, and of its enclosure, has been sent to Sir R. Routh for his information, and that their Lordships have caused it to be observed to him as above.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Mr. ERICHSEN.

September 16, 1846.

I SEND you, in *strict confidence*, two important letters from Sir R. Routh, on the subject of his wants, as well certain and immediate, as probable and ultimate.

After you have taken such extracts and notes as you may require, I shall be obliged to you to deliver these letters yourself to Mr. Petrie of the Commissariat department, at the Treasury, who will dispose of them as I have noted on each.

Pray send me a memorandum of the cargoes which have been dispatched, or are now being dispatched, by you to Ireland from London and Liverpool, stating the name of the ship, quantity of cargo, date of dispatch, and destination.

I am anxious that you should make further purchases for *early delivery*, either in the manner recommended by Sir R. Routh, or in any other manner that may appear to you to be most convenient and advantageous.

I am prepared for high prices, but you must take care not to press the market too hard so as to aggravate the existing rates.

Be so good as to dispose of the first cargoes that may arrive in the following order. The first to Plymouth, provided it be not too large for the Admiralty mill. The second to Portsmouth, subject to the same remark; and the third and following cargoes, until further orders, to Sligo. As soon as you have ordered a cargo to Plymouth or Portsmouth, pray inform Mr. Petrie, who will make the necessary communication to the Admiralty. He will also give you all the information you may require about the Admiralty mills, which he will find in the Irish Book kept by Mr. T. Crafer.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, September 16, 1846.

FIRST let me say, the sample of meal you sent me was very good. Mr. Labouchere asked me to day if I had any apprehension, seeing the difficulties that surrounded me. I said, that with the support of the Government, and the confidence of the Lord Lieutenant, I felt very sanguine, but I pointed out to him the numerous meetings that were now being held throughout the country of the gentlemen and landed interests, and that in no one instance had they manifested a higher or a better feeling than unanimously to petition the Government. No one had proposed a single measure, and none had even thought of a single sacrifice. The wealth and rank of the country must be brought into some prominent position to bear their share, which should be a large one, in the relief of the people, and they could bear it more advantageously if they were to adopt agricultural improvement, and only go to the Board of Works in dernier resort. Then, again, the embarrassments of many of the landlords are urged, that they are only pensioners on their own estates. No doubt much of this is true, but not entirely. It is a great social evil, and this failure of the crop will commence the cure.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

September 16, 1846.

THE following letters from and to Mr. Erichsen, will shew you what we are doing in regard to our purchases.

As the Admiralty mills can be had without any additional expense worth speaking of, and as they will form a nett addition to the mill power in Ireland, and will leave that power disposable to an equal extent for public and private cargoes which must soon press for grinding, I have considered it desirable to employ our first whole cargoes in setting the other two Admiralty mills at Plymouth and Portsmouth to work. You may depend upon the grinding being proceeded with with all possible despatch.

I anxiously await the receipt of the last revise of the Instructions to the Relief Committees. I thoroughly approve of the general scope and plan of your first draft, which seemed to me to come up to the occasion, and only to require some re-arrangement and development, with the exception of the part about the Baronial Committees, which I thought should be decidedly modified.

I hope these Instructions will not be much pared down or curtailed on any essential point. It is a most important fact that the machine which we have to put once more in motion and regulate, is nothing short of the whole body of Irish society, from the nobleman down, through the upper and middle classes, to the peasant; and if we do not take our measures accordingly, we shall fall short of the occasion, and seriously endanger our success, and with it, the lives and properties of hundreds of thousands.

Your arrangements for establishing depôts in Roscommon and Leitrim seem excellent.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Commissary-General HEWETSON.

September 17, 1846.

As you apprehend danger to our depôts at Skibbereen and Kilrush, I presume that you have communicated on the subject with Sir R. Routh, in order that effectual protection may be furnished through the police, aided, if necessary, by a military force.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

September 17, 1846.

WITH reference to the apprehensions expressed in the concluding part of Mr. Hewetson's note for the safety of our depôts, I rely upon your taking effectual precautions, in communication with Colonel Mac Gregor and Sir Edward Blakeney, for the protection, not only of the Skibbereen and Kilrush, but also of all the other depôts and sub-depôts.

This is a most vital point, upon which the safety of the whole country essentially depends; and if any attack is made on any depôt, we should be prepared to ensure such a defence being made as would give no encouragement to a renewal of the attempt on that or any other depôt.

There shall be no lack of reward to those who distinguish themselves on the side of order and the public safety in such a case.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Mr. ERICHSEN.

September 17, 1846.

My letter to you of yesterday has, in a great measure, anticipated the questions which you ask me in your letter received this morning.

You must buy, even at the present high prices, enough Indian corn to keep the Admiralty mills at Deptford, Portsmouth, and Plymouth in full work.

You must also buy two or three cargoes, if you have an opportunity of doing so, for early delivery, unground, at Sligo and Galway; the first and largest quantities to be sent to Sligo.

With regard to the offer you have received of 5000 quarters of American corn, for delivery on the west coast of Ireland in November or December, at from forty to

forty-one shillings, I think it should be accepted; and if you are not aware of any decisive objection, I shall be obliged to you to accept it accordingly, making the best terms for the Government in your power, and stipulating for the delivery of the corn at the earliest practicable period, in the proportion of one-third at Galway, and two-thirds at Sligo, at which places there is the greatest available mill power.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, September 17, 1846.

THERE is an outcry through the whole country expecting miracles from the Government, and letters are daily pouring in applying for depôts, and no attempt, or appearance of it, to make any effort in their own behalf.

Certainly these false and exaggerated expectations should be at once discounted, and the truth told, for even the upper classes appear to give credit to them.

We are, I am afraid, nearly aground at Sligo. I am sending round a supply of biscuit from Cork in a steamer. Lord George Hill is begging hard at Gweedore Bay, and we are sending him small supplies, as much as the "Warrior" will take at a time. They are in want at Bantry also, and the Knight of Kerry is vociferous for Valencia and Cahirciveen. But it is impossible there can be this total want, this entire extinction of every supply in the midst of harvest, and I still think they can and ought to allow us to prepare without any heavy demand for six weeks to come. The latter days of October ought to be sufficient time.

Mr. LISTER to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Farnham, Surrey, September 17, 1846.

ALTHOUGH I am persuaded that a little relaxation from duty would be of much service to me, and that I never wanted recreation more, still the feeling that my presence in Ireland may be desirable so effectually precludes real enjoyment, that I have come to the determination of leaving this place, accompanied by my family, on Monday next, en route to Dublin, where I hope to arrive early on Wednesday morning.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, September 18, 1846.

ADVERTING to the letter addressed by the Board of Ordnance on the 14th instant, to their Lordships' Board, I have the honour to submit to you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, that I am receiving from the respective officers all the military biscuit collected at Athlone, Dublin, and Limerick, but it would appear that the Ordnance storekeeper hesitates to concentrate any farther quantity from the numerous sub-depôts, on the grounds that his orders for such concentration referred to the shipment of this supply, and not to its delivery to me. He therefore declines to proceed with this duty, which he thinks should be performed by me, and which I would readily do, but that I have no machinery or department to accomplish it. I therefore request their Lordships' interposition, that this arrangement may continue to be conducted by the Ordnance storekeeper for its transfer to me, on the same principle as if it were intended for shipment.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

September 25, 1846.

Transmit a copy of this letter to the Secretary to the Ordnance with reference to the letter from this Board, dated 18th instant, and request that he will move the Master-General and Board to issue immediate instructions to the Ordnance officers in Ireland, to concentrate the biscuit under their charge at any points at which it may be required by Sir R. Routh, for the relief of the suffering occasioned by the failure of the potato crop in Ireland.

Acquaint Sir R. Routh.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, September 19, 1846.

On the subject of our instructions, you will perceive that I admitted your objection about the formation of the committees, and the more so, because the Lord Lieutenant and Mr. Labouchere professed the same difficulty; but permit me to observe, that I did so in compliance with such high authorities, though we have the practice of last year in defence of my proposal. These central committees were constituted last year in the undermentioned counties, and were the most successful of all our committees, and the best managed.

Wicklow,
Wexford,
Waterford,
Kerry,

Mayo,
Westmeath,
Meath,
Cavan,

Louth,
Antrim,
King's County,
Queen's County.

In forming so many separate and independent committees on the present plan, the number will be much increased. Take the two counties of Cork and Kerry, the first 251, and the last 140 parishes. These two counties may probably have 150 committees. Last year we had about 600 committees in correspondence with the Relief Commission. They will now exceed 1000. Upon my plan of Central Barony Committees, they could not have exceeded 360, an arrangement very useful also to the Board of Works in their references for lists.

I give you this information in proof that I did not submit the change without much previous consideration. I now revert to the most important of our considerations, the state of our depôts. We have no arrivals yet announced, either at Westport or Sligo, and the remains there must be nothing, or next to nothing. The bills of lading from Mr. Erichsen are all for small quantities, which will be distributed, and perhaps eaten, in twelve or twenty-four hours after their arrival. It would require a thousand tons to make an impression, and that only a temporary one. Our salvation of the depôt system is in the importation of a large supply. These small shipments are only drops in the ocean.

It is evidently our object to keep our supplies in reserve as much as we can; but still we must have the supplies, so as to have the power of interposition in case of need, and that need may happen at any time, this or next week. There are plenty of supplies in the country in the shape of oats and all kind of grain, but there is no union, no spirit, no energy amongst the influential persons (with some distinguished exceptions), nor any disposition to interfere usefully for the relief of the country. If outbreaks should occur, I am afraid they will ask in England, "What are the Commissariat about?" and throw the odium, however undeservedly, on us.

We began our operations on the 1st September, or thereabouts, and here, in the midst of harvest, before any Commissariat arrangement for supplies from abroad could be matured, we find the country besieging our depôts for food, and scarcely a proprietor stirring in their behalf.

I know not if Mr. Erichsen at this moment could do much,—I fear not; but I think we should open his eyes to the state of the case, and that he may be prepared to seize the first opportunity to supply efficiently these first wants, and relieve us from this painful anxiety.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Mr. ERICHSEN.

September 19, 1846.

As soon as you have enough meal ready in London for a small cargo, pray consign it, without delay, to Sir R. Routh, at *Dublin*; or, which I should prefer, send it to Dublin by two or three separate despatches as it is ground, by any steam-packets that may happen to be going, if there were any, and if not, by any other vessels. I am anxious that this meal should arrive at Dublin at the earliest practicable period.

Sir Thomas Fellowes wishes to have a few sacks of Indian CORN sent to him at

Devonport, with samples of the MEAL, to enable him to get his mills into proper order, and have everything in readiness when we wish him to go to work.

I shall be obliged to you to do this as soon as you conveniently can. You will be able to ascertain how many sacks of corn it would be desirable to send, in order to make the trial; and I believe there are steam-packets plying between London and Plymouth by which you could send the sacks of corn and samples of meal.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Mr. ERICHSEN.

September 19, 1846.

I ENTIRELY approve of your proceedings in execution of my previous directions, as explained in your letter to me of the 17th instant; and I trust they will have the effect of placing us in some degree of ease, even as regards our immediate wants.

I shall write by this post to Sir R. Routh, to request him to name the destination of the 2,300 tons of meal purchased by you at Liverpool, and which is engaged to be shipped before the 15th of October.

I have already explained to you that I depend upon you to ship to Dublin the whole of the meal now being ground at Deptford and the private mill near London, and that I wish it to be sent by steam, if possible, as it is got ready.

It will be gratifying to me if you are able to supply both the Portsmouth and Plymouth mills from the store of corn which you have discovered at Antwerp.

I depend upon you to have constantly in view the power of the Admiralty and other mills, at our disposal in this country, and to supply them as far as you are able with enough to keep them in work, but not more than enough.

The peculiar condition annexed to the contract for the delivery of the 5000 quarters of American corn, I fear, makes it virtually a contract to deliver that quantity before the end of February.

I think you did quite right in purchasing the 1,400 Galatz, at 42s. 6d., to arrive before the end of October.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Captain EVANS.

September 20, 1846.

CHARLES GREY put into my hands, some days ago, a note from you to himself, in which you expressed your anxiety that a fit and proper person should be appointed to your district in Ireland, to report on the state of the distress arising from the failure of the potato crop.

The means which have been adopted to secure the appointment of qualified persons to this important duty have been that those Commissariat Officers who were considered to be the ablest and most to be depended on have been selected from the officers of the department serving at home, or in the North American, West Indian, and Mediterranean colonies, and have been ordered to Ireland, detailed information having been already sent to them to enable them to prepare for the service. I trust these precautions ensure as sufficient agency as can reasonably be expected.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

September 20, 1846.

I SEND herewith copies of a further letter from Mr. Erichsen, dated the 17th inst., and of my reply.

I think you will agree with me that we have now had sufficient experience, of our broker to be able to say that he justifies Messrs. Baring's recommendation and is turning out very well.

Pray inform me where you wish the 200 or 300 tons of meal, which Mr. Erichsen has (I hope) secured at Liverpool, to be sent.

I will send you a dozen steel hand-mills immediately on my return to the Treasury.

Mr. Hewetson's proposed circular about hominy appears to me likely to do good, and he will, no doubt, send you a copy of it, as amended by me, for your consideration.

I quite agree with you that the extensive issues which have been made at Sligo, in this early period of the season, are very alarming, and if we go on at this rate we shall soon be bankrupt. I consider the matter of so much importance as to call for an official inquiry, and you will shortly receive a letter on the subject.

Your letter, dated the 16th instant, and another which I have received from Dobree, of the 14th, have particularly gratified me, as I am sure they will also the Chancellor of the Exchequer, owing to the sound and just views which you both take of the real bearings of the present crisis. We shall not even be able to save Ireland from starvation, and still less can we effect the change from the present prodigal, unremunerative, bankrupt course, to one of productive and self-sustaining industry, unless we are supported by the active and generous exertions of the great body of the people of property, acting each for the improvement of his own estate; and our great object at the present stage of our operations should be to impress this truth upon them, and make them fully alive to the critical and responsible nature of their position.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Deputy Commissary-General DOBREE.

September 20, 1846.

I REG to you to *husband the resources of the Sligo dépôt*. If we go on there as we have lately done we shall make the whole country dependent on us, and shall ourselves be brought to a discreditable and disastrous stop.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Mr. ERICHSEN.

September 21, 1846.

As I shall not be in communication with the Treasury for three days, I write to repeat to you my *anxious desire* that you should provide, at the earliest possible period, the means of setting the Admiralty mills at Portsmouth and Plymouth to work, in addition to those which are already employed in our service near London; and that you should, if you can procure grain for the purpose at reasonable prices according to the existing state of the market, set to work the large mill near London, superintended by the person who has been accustomed to grind Indian corn in America.

My object is to accumulate and place at the disposal of the government, a considerable stock of meal in this country early in the season, to meet not only the Irish, but also the heavy Scotch demands which are likely to come upon us.

I think it would be desirable to employ the large mill above adverted to in grinding barley for Scotland, or rather for that part of Scotland in which severe distress is likely to be experienced; and I authorize you to buy to an extent not exceeding 300 tons, and to set this mill to work without delay, unless you should be able to engage another equally well adapted to our purposes on better terms.

As the purchase of barley will be an entirely new transaction, you should, if possible, prevent its being known that it is on account of the government; and if this cannot be altogether prevented, at any rate let it be supposed that it is required for Irish purposes, and do not let the name of Scotland be mentioned.

I do not of course mean you to purchase 300 tons at once, unless you should be of opinion that it would be decidedly for the advantage of the government so to do, and you must not at any rate force the market, or excite attention and surprise by the extent of your purchases. All I want is, to set another mill to work, and to be certain of having enough to keep it at work for some time to come.

Every body in this part of the country speaks of the failure of the barley harvest as a well-known fact.

I wish you to make all the shipments from London, including those from Deptford mill. Those from Portsmouth and Plymouth will be made by the officers of the Admiralty; but we will consider what is ground there as a reserve stock, and will work our London mills to meet current demands.

Captain PERCEVAL to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Westport, September 21, 1846.

I LEAVE things here in a perfectly quiet state; the store is nearly empty, and the demand has much increased, but other supplies are inviolable—*whole corn*,

which is unfortunate, as the merchants cannot grind their supply for want of water; however, if necessary, the corn might be issued in whole grain. I have tried it, having had it steeped in water for 12 hours over night, and boiled the next morning, when it makes a very nice podge, which looks like peas-pudding, and eats much like gruel but sweeter, and to my taste, is preferable to the "stirabout." The breaking of it into pieces before soaking, as in the "hominy" receipt, is not necessary.

Commissary-General HEWETSON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Limerick, September 21, 1846.

I WAS surprised and gratified, going through the potato market in this city, on Saturday, to see nearly a hundred loads of really good-sized and good-looking potatoes selling freely at 7d. per stone, or 15 lbs., a pound being allowed for waste. In the Cork market, there was nothing like this; but that county, also Kerry, and everywhere on the south and west seaboard, has suffered more than the interior. The quantity of grain, too, coming into this city is very great, but alas! it is, at present, quite out of the reach of the labouring man and cottier.

Large meetings were held at the City Hall, on Saturday—one, of the magistrates and landed proprietors of the county; the other, the mayor and citizens of Limerick; the latter go by deputation to Dublin to-day, to demand the opening of this dépôt for their use, which, of course, for a city such as Limerick, well stocked with resources and supplies in private hands, must not and will not be granted. Indeed, it is preposterous their asking it, but they want to be saved trouble; and when they can throw the responsibility of providing supplies for their people upon others, they will not scruple to do so; *sous verrous*.

Lord Montague, Lord Clarina, Sir Vere de Vere, and Sir R. Bourke, were with me for an hour after the Saturday meeting. They will put their shoulders heartily to the wheel; they intend to bring the "quern" immediately into use among their tenantry and labourers: an additional benefit which will accrue in its adoption, is, that it will give employment to the women and children.

My subordinate dépôts at Skibbereen, Dingle, and one about to be formed at Kenmare, with Tadhert floating dépôt, Kilrush, and others up as high as Donegal Bay, will, when stocked, enable us to do much; but the unwarrantable rise in the markets on Indian corn is too bad, and I fear, until late in November or early in December, there will be little means of checking it. I look to December, January, and February, as our bad months; the first worst than the last. By March, things will have got into good train, and I trust the people everywhere fully employed upon a fair rate of wages.

Yours of the 18th has just been put into my hands; the supplies are nearly all here, or on their way from Haulbowline; there is nothing left in Cork, and the magazines at Haulbowline, by the end of this week, will contain only empty sacks in bales. I thought I had mentioned our progress before quitting Cork, which place I left on the 16th. The "quern" memorandum was submitted to and approved by Sir Randolph, and with your correction will now be widely circulated: a few have already been given to some old acquaintance. At the time I mentioned the necessity of military protection to you, I wrote to Sir Randolph, and he has been in communication with Sir E. Blakeney thereon. Rest assured nothing, at least I hope so, escapes my notice: what I mention to you in my private notes is generally the subject of an official communication, about the same time, to Sir R. Routh.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

September 22, 1846.

WITH reference to the remarks in your letter of the 19th instant, as to the insufficiency of the supplies for your dépôts, the fact is, that we have already bought up and sent to Ireland all the Indian corn which is immediately available; and the London and Liverpool markets are at present so completely bare of this article, that we have been obliged to have recourse to the plan of purchasing supplies of Indian corn which had been already exported from London to neighbouring continental ports.

We have made large prospective purchases of cargoes not yet arrived; and if we can safely get over the next 2½ months (which we certainly shall if the resources

of the harvest just reaped are properly brought into use), I have no fear for the future as far as our depôts are concerned.

Mr. Erichsen's instructions have already been greatly enlarged, as you have seen by the copies of my recent letters to him; but there must be some limit to our purchases both as to quantity and time, else we shall so raise prices as to do a general injustice in order to favour particular districts, and should be forced into the position of universal dealers, from the impossibility of others competing with us.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, September 22, 1846.

I AM now endeavouring to screen our depôts of Longford, Sligo, and Westport, from these large issues, and I shall do so with much more effect when the Committees are appointed and the instructions issued. I have written to and seen many of the influential gentlemen, and I have explained to them, that our supplies are necessarily drawn from abroad; that the news of the failure of the potato crop could not leave this country until the 4th and 19th packets, and no considerable orders could have been forwarded to America by the trade before those dates.

These orders cannot be executed, so as to arrive in the United Kingdom before the end of November, and then only the old corn of last year, for the new corn of this year will not be ready for shipment before January.

I have then explained to them that we cannot open with effect our stores of foreign grain, until time has been allowed for its importation from abroad; that in the meanwhile the gentlemen of the country must unite, and combine with the Government in conducting the country through this great crisis, pregnant with such important consequences; that the home supply of oats and other grain must be brought forward for consumption; and that whilst these measures are in progress, the best activity of the Government, with reference to the western coast, and the exertions of the trade elsewhere, will be steadily employed in preparing means to succeed this supply, sufficient to meet the wants of the population.

The influential gentlemen must set the example; and the resources at their disposal, and the natural abundance of the soil must be brought into competition in the market, and assist in restoring wholesome prices, and filling up the interval required for foreign importations, instead of calling upon us to open our depôts, and petitioning the Government for a premature manifestation of the limited means we can yet command.

This is the language I am using, or something similar to it; and preparatory to our declining to issue for a period, except under very urgent circumstances, or perhaps in county Donegal, where the oat crop is so small and so late, and the poverty so widely spread.

These are the means I am endeavouring to adopt to relieve you and Mr. Erichsen from the pressure of the present moment, which it is so difficult to meet.

I think Mr. Erichsen begins to see and feel more of the importance of the service, but not sufficiently of its extent, when he talks of contracting in America for 5000 quarters. This leads me to apprehend, he does not see the greatness of the crisis.

The thing now is, to foresee everything, to leave nothing undone that can promise or ensure success, for all our labour now will make that of the ensuing spring and summer comparatively light, and for this we have to prepare. If last spring and summer were a season of apprehension, it is difficult to speak of that which is to come, so much more will it be a task of labour, of patience, and discretion.

Whilst I am writing, I just received the visit of the deputation from Limerick, who came up to wait upon the Lord-Lieutenant. They appear alarmed, and to look forward with none of the courage they displayed last year. I hope I reassured them.

I now return to Mr. Erichsen's letter. I think the meal from Liverpool should be sent to Westport, and from your Admiralty mills, I should name Dublin as the best receptacle.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, September 22, 1846.

I HAVE been requested by Sir James Donabrain to lay before you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the annexed further explanation in regard to the gratuitous issue of meal at Clifden under his authority.

ENCLOSURE.

Sir J. DONABRAIN to Sir R. ROUTH.

Carrickfergus, September 18, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th instant, enclosing copy of one from the Secretary to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, and I beg to express my great regret at the tenor of that communication.

The only point upon which I wish to offer any observations, is that in which their Lordships have been pleased to state that a committee should have been formed to have raised subscriptions, and then applied for assistance. I beg to state that at the station (the Killybegs) where the first application was made to me, there was not a person within many miles who could have contributed one shilling, and when the chief boatman pointed out to me the wretched hovels in which he stated these people were actually dying for want of food, I considered the case one of pressing emergency, and could not resist the appeal made to my feelings to order some meal, never for a moment contemplating it would exceed a few cwt.

From the time I was first placed upon the Commission, until it was dissolved, I used my best exertions, and spared neither time nor trouble, to give effect to the intentions of Her Majesty's Government; and during my tour of inspection, I often sat up until 2 and 3 o'clock in the morning, making arrangements so as to ensure the utmost dispatch in issuing the supplies, and when the number of stations to which the meal was sent, and which you left entirely to my management, he considered, their Lordships will, I am confident, feel that it was a task of no small difficulty; how the service was executed, you will, I am sure, do me the justice to state, I neither sought for myself, nor those under my orders, anything more than the approbation of my superiors; and feeling conscious that I earned it, I cannot but feel deeply mortified and grieved at the censure their Lordships have passed upon me, for an act which I considered at the time to be one of pressing emergency. The officer of the district was desired by me to report the subject to you, and he stated he did so in a letter dated the 14th of July, in which he stated he trusted "some would meet with your approbation."

NOTE.—The letter adverted to from Mr. Helpman states an issue to certain sick families, but nothing further, nor any mention that they were gratuitous.

Mr. P. A. HELPMAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

Clifden, July 14, 1846.

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1, D 617.

And to acquaint you that the Stromboli has landed the meal from Cork. Mr. Wood sent me 16 tons by Hooker yesterday. I also beg to acquaint you that I have this day sent a hooker with four tons to Clagger, and four tons to Ballinskil, for which I have agreed to pay for at 2s. per ton. I consider it advantageous to send frequent small supplies, instead of a large quantity at once, being long distances from me.

At present I have a long list of sick families, to whom I supply seven days' food on a medical certificate. All of which, I trust, will meet with your approbation.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Castle, Dublin, September 23, 1846.

THERE is a great want of rain in the country, and the mills almost everywhere are dry; and I enclose to you copy of Mr. Hughes' letter from Skibbereen, and its enclosures, with my answer.

We shall stop our supply as soon as the mills recommence working.

Mr. Erichsen has sent me a sample of the meal manufactured at Liverpool, which is very good, and I have advised him accordingly.

Mr. HUGHES to Sir R. ROUTH.

Skibbereen Reserve Depot, September 20, 1846.

IN reply to "Instructions" in your letter No. 3, dated 16th inst., enclosing memorial of Relief Committee of Skibbereen, I can with truth certify (from daily observation) that the picture of wretchedness and destitution in this Union requires no colouring.

On the 12th inst. (market day here) there was neither meal nor bread for sale in the town at 5 o'clock, P.M.; as proof of which I sent through the town, and could not procure a loaf for my own use.

On the 14th and 15th insts. the Committee were obliged to issue wheat to the people.

On Friday 18th inst. great numbers of famishing creatures were following members of Relief Committee about, begging for food. Yesterday, at the early hour of 6, A.M., I issued 2½ tons of Indian corn meal to the Committee, who immediately dealt it out to the people, from 2lbs. to 7lbs. each family.

I had scarcely issued the above, when a further requisition was made upon me from the curate of Tullagh for only two tons, he fearing to return home without some food for the people. From his entreaty, nay supplication, I at length complied; and after despatching the meal, guarded by police, accompanied by the sub-inspector, went to Baltimore to see and judge, and found Mr. Spring's representation (herewith enclosed) too true, the two tons being distributed in the village almost as soon as it arrived.

On my road to Baltimore a third application was made by a deputation from Leap for 10 tons, which I most respectfully refused, when they, in the presence of Captain Dyer and Mr. Pinchin, sub-inspector of police, said, "Mr. Deputy Commissary, do you refuse to give out food to a starving people, who are willing to pay for it; if so, in the event of an outbreak this night, the responsibility be yours." On perceiving your Instructions, I have ventured to issue six tons, with the understanding that I will not give more without further orders; and notwithstanding the strong appeal they have made, and the respectability of the parties, I shall the first opportunity go over and repeat accordingly.

Late last evening a fourth request was made by Mr. Robinson, J. P., and secretary of Drunoleague Relief Committee, for one ton, or even half a ton, which I have not issued till convinced of the necessity, which I shall look to this day.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. HUGHES.

Dublin, September 23, 1846.

IT is evident that the distress is very great in the vicinity of your depot, and you must make occasional sales, so as to keep it under, but representing to the applicants the necessity of private enterprise and importation; that the efforts of Government, unassisted by trade, are wholly unequal to meet this great exigency; that our supplies are derived from foreign countries, and time must be allowed for their arrival in Ireland; that the towns in your neighbourhood must unite and import for themselves from Cork or Liverpool; that now is the time for the sale of home produce, before the supplies from abroad arrive to compete with them. These, and other similar arguments, you must use to excite the most influential of the several communities to exert themselves.

In the meanwhile you must issue in small quantities; but I recommend you to issue your biscuit first, and I will write to Cork to have your supply in that article increased. The price being 10s. per cwt. is more within the reach of the poorer classes.

I cannot sufficiently explain to you the necessity of economy, for our means of replenishing your depot are very limited, and must continue so until the first arrivals from America; but still you must assist in a small way, yet while doing so, advocate the indispensable necessity of private enterprise and exertion.

Rev. R. SPRING to Mr. HUGHES.

Baltimore, September 18, 1846.

HAVING been informed that you have received authority from Dublin to issue meal, I will take it as a great favour, if you can give us two tons for Baltimore. The poor people here have been in the greatest destitution for the last three days for want of any kind of food, to be procured even for money. Three days in succession have we sent to get either meal or flour from some one of the mills in the neighbourhood of Skibbereen, but the answer was, that for want of water to grind, they could send us nothing. This day I called myself at one of Mr. Swanton's mills (the nearest to the town) and was informed that they could probably send us a ton of meal-flour to-morrow at 18s. the least, and perhaps 19s. The first mentioned price would have made 2s. 3d. per stone, and I afterwards found a better article retailed in one of the shops of the town (of the same sort) at 1s. 10d. per stone. This will show you what a predicament we shall be in, if left dependent on the merchant, and abandoned by the Government. I may add, that Baltimore for Tullagh the name of the sub-district is in the Skibbereen or West Curbery district.

THE RELIEF COMMITTEE OF KILFAUNAGH AND KILMACADRA to COMMISSARY HUGHES.

We the undersigned members of the Relief Committee at Leap, for the parishes of Kilfaunagh and Kilmacdra, beg to address you on the want of food in this locality.

From shortness of water, the mills in this neighbourhood are unable to work with their usual power, and the consequence is, that, in this vicinity, there exists at the present moment an absolute scarcity.

As you have under your charge a large store of meal to be opened when an emergency arises, we desire most emphatically to announce that that emergency has arrived here, and to call upon you to supply our store (which has been lately often empty than not,) with such quantities of meal as we may from time to time require. We are sending cars from Leap for it.

If the state of things at present existing here goes on much longer, it is impossible to say what results may ensue. Two tons of meal came to Leap yesterday and was all sold before six o'clock in the evening. It was also pay-day on the New Road making at Glendore in the parish of Kilfaunagh; but as the meal was all gone, many of the labourers were unable to procure a morsel, although they had money in their hands. We know many instances of persons who have not tasted food for 24 hours, because the meal was not to be had; which is, in fact, a state of starvation.

We hope upon perusing this statement, you will feel at liberty to let us have a few tons of meal for present urgent necessity, till you can receive orders for so doing; as we feel quite persuaded that if the authorities, under whom you act, were aware of the deplorable state of the poor people here in, they would not longer withhold from them the meal intended for their use. But if, after this distressing appeal, you should still consider yourself bound to deny our request, we beg that you will not lose a moment in forwarding this application to such superior authorities as have the power to direct an immediate issue of meal for this place.

At a meeting of the Sub-Committee for the Union of KILMACADRA and KILFAUNAGH, held at Leap Police Barrack, on Friday, Sept. 18, 1846.

The Rev. Richard Hayes, in the Chair,—

For the purpose of making such arrangements as would for the future insure regular supplies of meal, for the suffering poor of the district; the Committee having experienced considerable inconvenience and expense by the irregularities of mercantile establishments,—

It was unanimously recommended that the members of this Relief Committee should at once wait on Mr. Commissary Hughes, at Skilbreen, and represent to him the impracticability of obtaining meal from the mills in the neighbourhood, they being now idle from want of water;—and that the Committee, fearing the consequences which must naturally attend the want of food among a hitherto peaceable people, respectfully but emphatically call his attention to the state of this locality; and earnestly request that this relief district, which has, up to the present time relieved thousands, should be supplied from the Government dépôt, at Skilbreen, the retail price having now risen to the exorbitant rate of 1s. 9d. per stone.

The Committee avail themselves of the opportunity of suggesting the expediency of establishing, in convenient locations, Government dépôts, in connexion with the Skilbreen Stores, which may supply the Relief Committees of the district, and check that spirit of monopoly now exercised by private speculators.

And he it further resolved, that the members of the Committee about to wait on Mr. Commissary Hughes, should request of him, to give from his store a few tons of meal for immediate use, the present sufferings of the people from want of food being so very extreme.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

GEORGE FINCH, *Honorary Secretary.*

THE RELIEF COMMITTEE OF SKILBREEN to SIR R. ROUTH.

SIR,

Skilbreen, Sept. 14, 1846.

The Relief Committee of Skilbreen beg to state that, not wishing to interfere with private speculation (*discontinued three weeks ago*), in the sale of meal, in the town of Skilbreen, and wishing to carry out the view of the Government in this respect, under the impression that a sufficient quantity of Indian meal would have been brought into the town to supply the want of the people at the time of closing the relief stores; but their expectations have been disappointed, and the consequence has been, that for the last few days the greatest alarm and uneasiness has existed in the town and country, there being no food to purchase in the town, except on such terms as placed it beyond the reach of the people, and on *Saturday evening, the 12th inst.*, not a single pound of Indian meal or baker's bread was to be found in town.

Under these frightful circumstances, the Relief Committee were called together at an early hour this morning, for the purpose of devising the best means of supplying the people with food, fearing that unless some provision was made, that a hungry and starving people would be prompted into some act which their cool reflection would condemn; accordingly not being able to provide any meal or flour in this town or country, a deputation waited on Mr. Hughes this morning, to request that he would, either sell or lend some quantity, until some could be got for a supply; but he replied "that his instructions prevented him from complying with the request, however anxious he was to supply food to the people," and at the same time, referring us to Sir Randolph Routh, who is at the head of the Commissariat Department; therefore, as there being no Indian meal in the town, nor any prospect of getting any for some time, we

have to request that, you may be pleased to order Mr. Hughes, to sell at a reasonable price to the Skibbereen Relief Committee, such a quantity of Indian meal as would be sufficient to meet their wants on the present occasion, their intention being, that unless private speculators bring into the country the necessary quantity, to lay in and have on hands, a supply to meet a similar emergency in future. We shall only add, that the frightful state of this town and country, arising from the want of the necessaries of life, demand the most serious and immediate attention of the Government.

SIR,

Schull, County Cork, September 21, 1846.

THE undersigned, members of the Schull Relief Committee, respectfully solicit from you such an order, addressed to the Commissary-General at Skibbereen, as will empower him to furnish to the Schull Relief Stores, for each, 12 tons of Indian meal, to meet the emergency created by the present drought, which has stopped all the water mills.

They wish to assure you, Sir, that this application has not been made, until every other resource has been tried without success. It is now more than a week since their supply has ceased; and in the interval every possible exertion has been made to procure provisions for the poor, by sending orders to every quarter where meal was heretofore to be had, and one ten only could be procured, and that with the greatest difficulty; while the week's demand, under the most economical management, exceeds eight tons; and this state of things exists in a locality inhabited entirely by destitute poor, and where, except the Relief Committee, not an individual has yet been induced to attempt the sale of provisions, so that food is not now to be had on any terms.

ROBERT TRAILL, D.D.
JOHN L. MUNICH, J. P.
ALEXANDER M. CAPE, CLK.,
Secretary and Treasurer.

SIR R. ROUTH to MR. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, September 24, 1846.

I SEND you a letter from Deputy Assistant Commissary-General Campbell from Longford. It will give you some idea of the state of that county.

I also send you a copy of my letter of this morning to Deputy-Commissary-General Dobree, that you may see my views with respect to his charge—that is, at present.

Such is the deficiency of food, or rather will be, that I fear at times that the quantity cannot be obtained, and I wish our part of the responsibility to be secured by this timely precaution against such risk.

I have this instant, whilst writing, a visit from a large proprietor, of the name of M'Donnell, from the barony of Costello, asking for a supply of food for his part of the country, which is in county Mayo, and begging to have a dépôt for his own particular neighbourhood. This seems to be the general feeling—to recur immediately to Government, without an intention, or even a thought, of any individual effort to assist. Surely such things cannot last. I took some pains to convince him, to explain that time must be allowed for importations to reach our coast. I spoke of the advantages of the present high prices for owners of property before the competition of the fall arrivals, and the necessity of bringing the home produce into the market; but I fear with little effect, for on quitting me he said, "After what you have explained, I can only come to the conclusion that, before a fortnight, all will be plunder and disorder."

At Youghall, close to Cork, with so many advantages and a sea-port, and a large residue in hand of the subscriptions of last year (150L), the same want of union is prevalent, and no arrangement is made to secure a supply. The people, for two days, have assembled in immense masses, pillaged the bakers' and provision shops; and when the news came away, the tumult had not subsided.

ENCLOSURE.

MR. CAMPBELL to SIR R. ROUTH.

Longford, September 23, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I have been to-day in *Strakenstown*, where the pressure on the store is such, that the constable may be fairly considered blockaded. He wrote to me yesterday that, notwithstanding his being next door to, and protected by, the police, he feared the crowd would break in on him. I, in consequence, at once wrote to Captain

Lawrence, 41st Regiment, and followed up my application by going there personally; and on so doing, find that he writes to-day, for authority to supply a guard, to Adilone, where also I have myself addressed Colonel Smith, Assistant Adjutant-General, pointing out the necessity of protection.

The Longford Relief Committee to day speak of opening a store themselves; on reconsideration, I do not think I should give them any supplies, as doing so would not enable me to shut my own.

The country will be in a sad way, I fear, immediately—not the least appearance of co-operation.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. DOUGLASS.

Dublin Castle, September 24, 1846.

I hope to be able to send you by this day's post, a proof of our Instructions for the accounts, and I beg your attention to the last paragraph, which is, however, rather an observation than an instruction.

You have, at your present post, a difficulty to contend with in the excess of the constabulary depôts. You are aware that this defect is one of the remains of the operations of the last season; and it has been permitted to go on hitherto, because the home produce of oats and other grain were not ready for the market. This period, however, must now have passed by; and whilst our depôts at Sligo, and the neighbouring ports, are in course of formation, we ought to suspend, from time to time, as you can accomplish it, the least necessary of these constabulary establishments.

I have not received the approval of the Lord Lieutenant for the promulgation of our instructions to committees; on which point it would appear that he is in correspondence with the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The issue of these instructions would furnish you with a good pretext for calling on the committees to perform the duty now carried on by our constables, and it will be necessary to excite them by every means in our power to exertion and co-operation, for which they are obviously responsible altogether, until the arrival of the importations from America, when we shall share that duty with them.

In Cork the committee is hoarding wheat, which is coarsely ground up with all the bran, taking nothing from it, and it becomes a cheaper food than the Indian corn at its present price.

Our principal object at present is to reserve our supplies, whilst our depôts are in process of formation. The natural period for us to come into the market is the spring and summer; and though we shall be obliged to infringe this principle in the utter destitution which prevails in some parts of the country, yet we must keep it in view, and return to it as soon as it is practicable.

The district which will be most urgent on you is county Donegal; but still even there they have had a harvest and a grain crop, and it will be a necessary point with you to obtain good information as to its extent, and the period to which it will suffice; for we must endeavour to insist that the home produce should be brought first into consumption, and that we should not be called upon until these resources have been exhausted. You will no doubt have many calls upon you from Fermanagh, from Cavan, and Enniskillen; but independently of the arguments now used, these counties have means of direct communication with the east coast of Ireland, from Belfast to Drogheda; and it is their obvious duty to avail themselves of those means to supply their own wants.

Mr. GRIFFIN to Mr. STANLEY.

*Queen's Printer's Office, Dublin,
September 23, 1846.*

REFERRING to your letter of yesterday's date, I beg to state that, considering the present circumstances of the country, and the anxiety of the Commissioners for Relief to give publicity to the Acts passed this Session which bear upon the subject, I beg that you will have the kindness to convey to the Commissioners my brother's and my wish to contribute in every way towards the furtherance of their views.

In this spirit, as it appears from your letter that the Commissioners have no fund at their disposal which they would like to charge with the expense of printing the various Acts required, viz. 9 and 10 Vic., cap. 107, 9 and 10 Vic., cap. 71, 9 and 10 Vic., cap. 78, 9 and 10 Vic., cap. 108, 9 and 10 Vic., cap. 109, 9 and 10 Vic., cap. 101, I beg to say that my brother and I will feel much pleasure in printing any number of them required for the Commissioners for the actual sum which we pay to our printers, without any additional charge whatever, the Government supplying the paper.

The paper required for 5000 copies of each Act will make a total of 70 reams.

Captain HAMILTON to Mr. PENNINGTON.

Admiralty, September 24, 1846.

WITH reference to my letter of the 16th instant, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, to transmit to you herewith for the information of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, copy of a letter from Rear Admiral Pigot, dated the 19th instant, No. 844, showing the manner in which Her Majesty's vessels have been employed in the conveyance of meal to

the distressed districts of Ireland; and an extract from a letter dated the 19th instant, addressed by Commissary-General Sir R. Routh to Sir Hugh Pigot, expressive of his thanks for the Rear-Admiral's ready co-operation.

ENCLOSURE.

Rear-Admiral PIGOT to Mr. WARD.

Myrmidon, at Cork, 19th September, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th instant, together with its enclosures, having reference to the employment of Her Majesty's vessels on the coast of Ireland, and to request you will convey to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty my best thanks, for the manner in which their Lordships, by their answer to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, have been pleased to view the arrangements for the disposition of the force under my command. I can assure their Lordships, that since the receipt of the confidential orders of the 2d of January last, the subject of the relief to be afforded to the distressed districts of Ireland, has received my increasing attention as the voluminous correspondence in my office, the records of Haulbowline, and the logs of Her Majesty's ships and vessels will verify; and I should, as the commanding officer of this station, be wanting in my duty did I not bring under their Lordships' notice (which I now take the opportunity of doing, though I had intended to have reserved it until the labours were over) the zeal of the officers in command of the vessels employed in the conveyance of Indian meal, and the exertions of the men throughout this, to them, harassing and laborious duty, but up to this time all has been cheerfulness and willingness, but one object in view, that of relieving the wants of a suffering people.

2. I enclose herewith, for their Lordships' information, a return of the cargoes conveyed by Her Majesty's steam vessels direct from Haulbowline to the various ports on the west coast, by which their Lordships will perceive that 63 voyages have been made from Cork, to say nothing of the numerous trips of the smaller steam-vessels in the Shannon, in the transfer of the cargoes from the larger steam-vessels; the meal thus conveyed amounting to 47,517 barrels, without including biscuit or oatmeal, and this too in all weathers, and without a single accident, and the other duties of the station in the movement of troops, provisions, &c., performed.

3. I will here relate an instance or two, out of the many, of the despatch of the steam-vessels, as their Lordships can then well judge of the harassing work performed.

4. The "Rhodamanthos," last Monday, the 14th instant, disembarked a division of the 55th Regiment, and the baggage alongside Haulbowline, she coaled, loaded with 1000 sacks of meal of 280 lbs. weight each, 160 bags of biscuits, and the next evening, Tuesday, she proceeded out of harbour with her cargo to Dingle. Complement 60 officers and men.

5. The "Dee" arrived on Thursday forenoon, 17th instant, with the "Madagascar," coaled, loaded with 900 sacks of meal, and was ready the following afternoon, Friday, at 5 o'clock, and proceeded at daylight this morning to Payne's Island in the Shannon. I kept her in for the night to give rest to the men. Her crew consist of 60 officers and men.

6. The "Stromboli" left on Thursday for Tarbert with 830 sacks of meal, and my only acknowledgment is with reference to my recent reports about this vessel's capabilities for carrying troops, that so large a quantity can be stored below in a ship in no way fitted like the "Dee," and "Rhodamanthos" for cargoes, but I attribute it to a laudable desire on the part of Commodore Fisher, to carry out the orders given to him.

7. The Supernumerary Royal Marines on this station, 44 in number, I divided into small parties, to assist the crews of the vessels named in the margin, and to lighten the work.

8. With Commissary-General Sir Randolph Routh, I have had but little communication, and that very recently; copies of my correspondence I beg to enclose for their Lordships' information, that my desire to meet his wishes and forward the service may be seen; but I feel assured if the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, were to refer to Commissary-General Hewetson, with whom I have more immediately acted since January last, he will, as he has ever done, bear strong testimony to the zeal and exertions of all branches of the Naval Department, whether officers or men. Frequently has he said to me that without our assistance serious would have been the consequences, for had the "Dee" or "Rhodamanthos" failed to make their passages at times, not a bag of meal was available in the Commissariat Depôts for issue to the distressed.

9. Notwithstanding Commissary-General Sir Randolph Routh's Report to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, I beg to state, for their Lordships' information, that seven cargoes since the 8th of this month, have been removed round to the west coast from Cork, equal to 5425 barrels of meal, and 160 bags of biscuit, and that only 2647 sacks of meal remain in the magazines at Haulbowline in Lieutenant Westworth's charge (who discharges the duty of a Commissariat officer), to put on board the "Madagascar."

10. Her Majesty's vessels having finished with the removal of meal from Cork, I shall employ them in the shipment of biscuit to the Commissariat Depôts. The "Rhodamanthos" will, therefore, take on board, on return from Dingle, 1500 bags for conveyance to Westport and Sligo, in addition to 8000 empty meal sacks; this service performed, I purpose ordering her to Glasgow from Sligo for the head-quarters, and four companies of the 87th Regiment for conveyance to Pembroke, taking on board at the same time in the Clyde, the 63 ton of Navy provisions ordered to be returned from Dumbarton, if she has room for the same without inconvenience to the troops.

Myrmidon,
Dee,
Rhodamanthos,
Alban,
Flora.

From the foregoing statement it will be seen that Her Majesty's steam-vessels serving on the coast of Ireland made 63 voyages, or trips, direct from the magazines at Cork with Indian meal, for the relief of the suffering poor on the west coast, in addition to the river and coast conveyance.

The shipments were made at the commencement in barrels, afterwards in sacks, but the whole is calculated in barrels to avoid confusion.

Extract from a Letter addressed by Commissary-General Sir R. Routh to Rear-Admiral Sir Hugh Pigot, dated Dublin, 19th September, 1846.

"I MAKE due note of your advice of the movements of the "Rhodamanthus," the "Stromboli," and the "Deo," and I beg to return to you my thanks for your ready co-operation with us in these matters."

TREASURY MINUTE ON the above.

29th September, 1846.

Write to the Secretary to the Admiralty, that their Lordships have perused with much satisfaction the statement contained in Rear-Admiral Sir Hugh Pigot's letter, of the arrangements made by him for employing the Naval force under his command in aid of the operations which it has become necessary to recommence for the relief of the suffering arising from scarcity in Ireland, and they desire to express their sense of the great public advantage derived during the past season from the cordial and active co-operation of Admiral Pigot, and the officers and men under his command, with the officers of this Board, and their reliance upon a continuance of the same exertions during the period of more severe distress which has now commenced.

Their Lordships request that the whole Naval force on the Irish station may be held available for this important service, and that any additional assistance in ships and steamers, that may from time to time be required, may be immediately furnished.

In order to give full effect to the co-operation of the Naval force, it is obviously necessary that a close and constant intercourse should be maintained between Sir Hugh Pigot and Sir Randolph Routh, the head of the Commissariat Relief Establishment in Ireland, and their Lordships rely upon those distinguished officers acting with perfect unanimity and cordiality for the public benefit, under the present circumstances of that country.

Transmit a copy of the letter from the Secretary to the Admiralty, of its Enclosures, and of this Minute to Sir R. Routh, for his information.

Lord MONTEAGLE to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Mount Trenchard, September 25, 1846.

I THINK you will be glad to hear that sound principle can be, even with austerity, adhered to, and this without mischief, if the case is fairly explained and the rule applied with discretion. The rise in the price of meal, from 1s. to 1s. 8d., was a hard trial to our claimants at the Relief Committee; but we took the step nevertheless, and told them that we were practically husbanding their own money by avoiding sales at a loss; and they have submitted with a resignation and good sense which you could hardly equal, and could not exceed.

I think you can do some service, both to yourselves (Treasury) and to our Relief Committee. We are now buying at 13*l*, and it has since risen. Now, if we can buy corn, and grind ourselves, we shall buy cheaper, occupy our old widows and men at grinding—and we know not how to occupy them; and, above all, when the great supply comes in from the United States in December and January, we shall have the means of working it into food: the mill-power being wholly deficient in this neighbourhood. Under all these circumstances, I think if you were to place at the disposal of the Commissariat officer a few small steel mills and querns (*i.e.*, hand-mills), you would do great practical good, without any improper interference with trade or sacrifice of principle.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Castle, Dublin, September 26, 1846.

I HAVE the greatest pressure on the Longford dépôt for counties Ross common, &c.; and as my most serious fear now is the apprehension that we shall not succeed in obtaining the quantity we require to make up the deficiency of food in the country, it becomes necessary to think of substitutes, and certainly none can be better than barley, from which meal might be manufactured at the Plymouth and Portsmouth mills, and sent to Dublin. Its price also will make it acceptable to the people. But if you decide on this, you had better make a large purchase; for the instant holders are aware that there is a run on barley, the price will rise like the Indian corn. Whatever you mean to buy, you should buy at once. In everything relating to grain and flour, you should be decided in your movements.

I hope to send you a proof of the Instructions to Committees to-night, as finally decided on by the Lord-Lieutenant. They will not satisfy you; but he says that he does not object to the issue of the other matter contained in them subsequently. We must take it as it is, and make the most of it, and supply its deficiencies by increased attention to the correspondence.

The letter of the Treasury, received to-day, about the concentration of the biscuit, comes very conveniently; and as the Ordnance have received the corresponding instructions, we shall set to work in good earnest; and I hope it will afford me the means of supplying Roscommon, parts of Sligo, Mayo, Leitrim, Longford, and Cavan, whilst their oats are getting ground at their mills. There is on every side a cry for the Commissariat; and I heartily wish we could make 48 out of the 24 hours.

TREASURY MINUTE.

September 22, 1846.

WRITE to Sir R. Routh, and desire that he will call upon the Commissariat officer in charge of the dépôt at Sligo, to furnish a statement for the information of this Board of the issues of meal from the dépôt during each of the six weeks immediately preceding the receipt of this direction at that place, distinguishing the quantities which have been sold by retail on the spot, from those which have been sent to sub-dépôts, and explain in detail the cause of any considerable increase that may have taken place at any period in the rate of the issues.

Their Lordships desire to express their continued sense of the great public importance of the stock of food in the Government dépôts in the west of Ireland, being hoarded as a last resource, and of issues being made from them only when no sufficient supplies of food are procurable in the market.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, September 26, 1846.

ADVERTING to your letter, No. 298, dated 21st instant, in regard to the issues of meal by Assistant Commissary-General Stevens at Sligo, I have the honour to lay before you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, a statement transmitted by that officer, of his issues between 10th of August and 19th September, averaging about 557 Indian corn, and 98 tons of oatmeal.

It must be admitted that the pressure upon this dépôt has been severe, and still continues. As a specimen of the demands, I lay before you a letter from the coast-guard officer at Lochrus, dated 20th instant, and I believe it exhibits a true picture of the state of a large portion of county Donegal.

ENCLOSURE.

STATEMENT of PROVISIONS issued by Assistant Commissary-General STEVENS, at Sligo, from 10th August to 19th September, 1846.

Date.	To whom issued.	Indian Meal.	Oatmeal.	Remarks.
1846				
August 10	Constabulary Depôt, Swinford .	..	11,200	
"	Ditto ditto Tubberary .	..	11,200	
"	Coast Guard, Roslind . . .	11,200	..	
"	Ditto Port Neo . . .	11,200	..	
August 11	Constabulary Depôt, Mullaghbroe .	11,200	11,200	
"	Relief Committee, Carberry . .	35,392	11,200	
"	Ditto ditto Killargy . . .	2,240	..	
"	Ditto ditto Drunkerran . .	1,620	..	
"	Ditto ditto Elphin . . .	17,920	..	
August 15	Sundry Persons by retail at Stores	693	10,542	
		96,565	55,342	
		or	or	
		Tons, cwt, qrs, lbs.	Tons, cwt, qrs, lbs.	
		43 2 0 21	24 14 0 15	
August 17	Relief Committee, Drunkerran .	2,016	..	The issues in detail at the main depôt, at Sligo, have been suspended, and the constabulary station at Mullaghbroe withdrawn. R. J. R.
"	Constabulary Depôt, Ballina . .	33,600	11,200	
"	Ditto ditto Ballaghaderreen .	22,400	11,200	
"	Ditto ditto Ballymote . . .	11,200	11,200	
"	Coast Guard, Killybegs . . .	..	11,200	
"	Ditto Greedone . . .	11,200	..	
August 20	Constabulary Depôt, Tubberary .	15,680	5,600	
"	Relief Committee, Dunsany . .	4,480	..	
"	Ditto ditto Carran . . .	13,440	..	
"	Coast Guard, Lochras . . .	11,200	..	
"	Relief Committee, Drumsambo, Leitrim .	22,400	..	
"	Relief Committee, Drumsambo, Leitrim .	6,720	..	
"	Sundry Persons by retail at Stores	2,184	10,124	
		156,520	60,594	
		or	or	
		Tons, cwt, qrs, lbs.	Tons, cwt, qrs, lbs.	
		69 17 2 0	27 0 1 16	
August 24	Relief Committee, Carran, Sligo	17,920	..	
"	Ditto ditto Carberry, Sligo	25,416	..	
"	Ditto ditto Elphin, Roscommon	22,400	..	
"	Constabulary Depôt, Ballaghaderreen, Mayo.	22,400	11,200	
"	Constabulary Depôt, Swinford, Mayo.	15,680	6,720	
"	Constabulary Depôt, Tubberary, Sligo.	11,200	..	
"	Coast Guard, Killybegs, Donegal .	33,600	..	
"	Ditto Lochras, Donegal . .	33,600	..	
"	Ditto Palleahany, Sligo . .	22,400	..	
"	Relief Committee, Drumsambo, Leitrim .	4,480	..	
"	Relief Committee, Drunkerran, Leitrim .	9,184	..	
"	Relief Committee, Killargy, Leitrim	2,240	..	
August 29	Sundry Persons at Depôt Stores .	5,430	10,738	
		242,422	48,816	
		or	or	
		Tons, cwt, qrs, lbs.	Tons, cwt, qrs, lbs.	
		108 4 1 25	21 15 3 14	
August 31	Relief Committee, Elphin, Roscommon.	13,440	..	
"	Relief Committee, Killargy, Leitrim	2,240	..	
"	Ditto ditto Carran, Sligo . .	6,720	..	
"	Sundry persons at depôt stores .	756	720	
Sept. 1	Relief Committee, Carberry, Sligo	34,720	-4,480	
"	Ditto ditto Drumsambo, Leitrim .	15,680	..	
"	Relief Committee, Drunkerran, Leitrim .	13,440	..	

Statement of Provisions issued by Assistant Commissary-General Storren, &c.—continued.

Date.	To whom issued.	Indian Meal.	Oatsmeal.	Remarks.
1846				
Sept. 1	Constabulary Depôt, Ballina, Mayo	75,040	11,200	
"	Do ditto Ballymote, Sligo.	13,440	4,480	
"	Constabulary Depôt, Tubbercurry, Sligo.	22,400	4,480	
"	Constabulary Depôt, Ballaghaderreen, Mayo.	22,400	4,480	
"	Constabulary Depôt, Swinford, Mayo.	33,600	..	
"	Relief Committee, Pettigo, Fermanagh.	4,480	..	
"	Relief Committee, Killybeg, Leitrim.	3,360	..	
"	Sundry Persons at Depôt Stores.	5,965	9,014	
		277,683	38,863	
		or Tons. cwt. qrs. lbs. 124 17 0 19	or Tons. cwt. qrs. lbs. 17 6 3 27	
Sept. 7.	Coast Guard, Killybegs, Donnegal.	17,920	..	The almost total decay of the potato crop having suddenly manifested itself at this period, and the merchants not being prepared with any quantity of supplies, together with the want of water, which still continues at the country mills, the people who have corn being unable to get it ground, have ceased the great run on the depôt.
"	Constabulary Depôt, Mullaghroe, Sligo.	33,600	..	
"	Relief Committee, Tirill, Sligo.	67,200	..	
"	Do ditto Esker, Sligo.	22,400	..	
"	Do ditto Masselhamilton, Leitrim.	11,200	..	
"	Relief Committee, Linty, Sligo.	2,240	..	
"	Coast Guard, Brackles, Donnegal.	33,600	..	
"	Constabulary Depôt, Ballaghaderreen, Mayo.	33,600	..	
"	Relief Committee, Carberry, Sligo.	33,928	2,240	
"	Do ditto Drunkernan, Leitrim.	29,400	..	
"	Relief Committee, Drumsambo, Leitrim.	13,440	..	
"	Relief Committee, Ballyhamis, Mayo.	20,160	..	
"	Constabulary Depôt, Tubbercurry, Sligo.	22,400	..	
"	Relief Committee, Skerrin, Sligo.	2,240	..	
"	Relief Committee, French Park, Roscommon.	22,400	..	
"	Relief Committee, Elphin, Roscommon.	22,400	2,240	
"	Relief Committee, Carrin, Roscommon.	6,720	..	
"	Relief Committee, Dromshair, Leitrim.	11,200	..	
"	Relief Committee, Coolavin, Sligo.	2,240	..	
"	Constabulary Depôt, Ballymote, Sligo.	22,400	4,480	
Sept. 12	Coast Guard, Gweedore, Donnegal.	33,600	..	
"	Sundry Persons at general Depôt Store.	8,778	6,224	
		474,306	15,184	
		or Tons. cwt. qrs. lbs. 211 14 3 14	or Tons. cwt. qrs. lbs. 6 15 2 8	
Sept. 14	Relief Committee, Drunkernan, Leitrim.	19,264	..	The decrease of the business arising by complying in almost every instance with only the half of the requisitions on the depôt.
"	Relief Committee, Masselhamilton, Leitrim.	4,480	2,240	
"	Relief Committee, Drumsambo, Leitrim.	15,680	..	
"	Coast Guard, Brackles, Donnegal.	31,360	..	
"	Do Killybegs, Donnegal.	17,920	..	
"	Constabulary Depôt, Ballaghaderreen, Mayo.	15,680	..	
"	Constabulary Depôt, Mullaghroe, Sligo.	39,120	4,480	
"	Relief Committee, Long, Carrin.	4,480	..	
"	Do ditto Bergh, Roscommon.	11,200	..	
"	Do ditto Carberry, Sligo.	27,776	..	
"	Do ditto Esker, Sligo.	6,720	..	

Statement of Provisions issued by Assistant Commissary-General Stevens, &c.—*continued.*

Date.	To whom issued.	Indian Meal.	Oatsmeal.	Remarks.
1846				
Sept. 14	Relief Committee, Pettigo, Fermanagh.	4,480	..	
"	Relief Committee, Kilmarnery, Leitrim.	4,480	1,120	
"	Relief Committee, Killybeg, Leitrim	2,240	..	
"	Ditto ditto Drumahaire, Leitrim.	6,720	..	
"	Relief Committee, Elphin, Roscommon.	11,200	2,240	
"	Relief Committee, Coolerin, Sligo	4,480	..	
"	Constabulary Depot, Ballina, Mayo	33,600	..	
"	Ditto ditto Tubbercorry, Sligo	17,920	4,480	
"	Ditto ditto Swinford, Mayo	17,920	4,480	
"	Relief Committee, Derrygonally, Fermanagh.	2,240	..	
"	Relief Committee, Ballyhaunis, Mayo.	11,200	..	
Sept. 20	Sundry Persons at Store . . .	4,564	7,520	
		304,724	25,566	
		or Tons, cwt. qrs. lbs.	or Tons, cwt. qrs.	
		136 0 3 0	11 17 0	

Sligo, September 25, 1846.

WM. STEVENS, Assist. Commissary-General.

Mr. MOORE to Mr. STEVENS.

Lackan, September 20, 1846.

I HAVE ONE bag this day remaining (which I will sell this day in small quantities to persons in absolute want) of the 14 tons. We sold 83 yesterday; we had the Catholic clergyman in the store till 12 o'clock last night. I never witnessed anything like it, and hope I never will again. Persons coming a distance of 18 miles for a small quantity of meal, who had to go home wanting, it being wholly out of my power to supply them. I may safely say two parts of the people were not supplied. Every day is throwing more and more on us; the man with a large farm is at this moment as destitute as the man who did not set a potato. Numbers will die of starvation if you cannot send an immediate, and keep up a constant supply. I beg of you to be quick in sending a supply here, and also to Port Nao, as if you do not supply Port Nao, I will not be able to stand the pressure on me here.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Castle, Dublin, September 28, 1846.

MR. REDINGTON left for London in the packet of yesterday, in the morning, in consequence, I believe, of the outbreak at Youghall. You are aware that this is a great place of export, in consequence of the heavy corporation-dues at Cork, and this is always here an occasion of excitement. I mentioned to you, that all the meetings hitherto held in Ireland have all ended in resolutions complaining of the measures and petitioning the Government. No one thinks of uniting to bring forward any local plan of relief—they all look exclusively to the Government; and it appears to me, that persons of wealth and property and influence encourage this course to screen themselves from any share of the burthen.

I am now putting myself in communication with the committees, and sending out the Instructions in all directions, and I shall not fail to impress the truth on all parties.

The people, including all ranks and classes, are crying out for Commissariat depots for Indian corn, and high wages. They are astonished when they are told that Indian corn is not in the country, that it has to come 4000 miles—from America—and cannot arrive in any quantity until 1st December to 1st January; that its present price is 52s. per quarter, as dear, when it is ground, and freight, and other charges paid, as the wheat at their own door, which ground, with all its bran, has been purchased this day at Dublin, at 15l. per ton, and may be cheaper in country localities. Oats are rather falling—16s. a barrel; and 18l. oatmeal, per ton. The country is full of grain and supplies; and my argument is, that these home supplies of Irish produce must maintain them until the foreign importa-

tions arrive, and that it is for the benefit of the holder to sell now, before those arrivals shall compete with him.

The same spirit pervades the whole country. A gentleman from Armagh, to-day, called on me, to establish a *dépôt* in his neighbourhood. Local or personal exertion seems to be banished from men's thought.

It has occurred to me, that you would do well, under pretence of its being for us, to lay in a stock of new biscuit at Haulbowline. It is not necessary to say anything about it; but such a supply might be required for the troops, and you had better be prepared. It can result in no loss. We are grinding the corn received at Sligo.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

September 28, 1846.

I OBSERVE that the Lord Lieutenant has insisted on the omission from the Instructions to the Relief Committees of the advice about the corn dealers, as well as that to the landowners about employing their own poor in productive labour on their own estates, but promises not to oppose its being promulgated in another shape hereafter. We must consider what that shape ought to be. At present I am inclined to think that it had better form part of our Instructions to the Commissariat officers who are to communicate with the local committees. Pray tell me what you think; and at such *leisure* as you have I shall be obliged to you to commence the preparation of those Instructions, and to send me your first draft, in order that I may work at it, under the direction of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in communication with the Lord Lieutenant.

I am ready to comply with your wishes about steel mills, if you will tell me what they are.

I will write to you in detail to-morrow about supplies; and I will only say that I am satisfied that you will be of opinion that we are doing the utmost which circumstances allow.

Pray send me a fresh supply of Indian corn pamphlets of both sorts, and a number of Hewetson's hominy circulars, which he tells me you have approved of.

I have told Erichsen to send the Liverpool meal to Westport.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, September 29, 1846.

I TOLD you that I was writing far and wide to the committees to explain the views of Government, and to call upon the men of property and influence to encourage the farmers to bring their home produce into market for consumption.

I send you one of the answers from a very respectable person in Queen's County, and I also enclose an advertisement of a miller at Sligo, highly honourable to him. This shows some effect, but I fear very limited. The exports of oats have amounted, since the harvest, to 300,000 quarters. I speak from good information, but not from official documents. It was this exportation that caused the riot in Youghall. I know there is a great and serious objection to any interference with these exports, yet it is a most serious evil, and what is almost a greater evil, considering the large quantity of spirits in bond, is the distillation going on.

Our great reliance until the 1st of January is the home produce in the country, of which there is great abundance; but it is doubtful, such is the passion for hoarding, even if you could by any legitimate means prevent exportation, whether the farmers would bring their produce to market. You will see by our return how low our supplies are; though we do all in our power to reserve them, they do not bear even a very distant proportion with the demand. What I fear is, that *quantity* cannot be realized; that even the American arrivals will not place us in a commanding position; and, indeed, we know nothing yet on which we can build any solid expectation with regard to America, what she may be able to export, and whether the want of freight may not offer some serious impediments.

But I will not fatigue you with my apprehensions. We shall soon learn the facts.

ENCLOSURE.

Mr. HAMILTON to Sir R. ROUTH.

*Roundwood, Monmouth, Queen's County,
September 28, 1846.*

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 26th instant, and to say that the reasons therein contained for the determination of Government are quite satisfactory to me individually. I shall read the letter at our adjourned meeting, and do all in my power to satisfy others of the soundness of the policy, of which I approve, and to impress upon our farmers the expediency of bringing their produce into the market without delay, the withholding of which is the cause of the present difficulty, as there can be no doubt that there is sufficient corn in the country for some months' supply, if it were only brought forward to the markets.

DROMAHAIR MILLS.*Notice to the Public.*

On account of the Potato failure this season
OATS WILL BE TAKEN IN EXCHANGE FOR MEAL,
 OR GROUND FOR THE FARMERS,

To enable them to keep Provisions in the country. If taken in exchange there will be no delay, as they get the Meal on delivering the Oats.

WHEAT

Will also be Ground on Hire.

OATS

Bought as usual at the Mills.

Dromahair Mills, 17th Sept. 1846.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.*September 29, 1846.*

My letter to Mr. Hewetson, a copy of which you will find overleaf, will, I hope, do some good on a point of vital importance.

I also send the last of several papers which have been prepared for me by the most competent judges on the subject of the corn trade, and they entirely coincide with the general tenour of the rest of the information which I have received.

I fear we have relied too much on the resources of the American market; the fact being that only a limited quantity of the produce of the last harvest remains in store at the ports, and that the produce of the present harvest will only begin to be fit for exportation in December or January, and even then it will be subject to the serious obstruction arising from the closing of the rivers from the ice.

It is also little known what a formidable competition we are suffering from our continental neighbours. Very large orders are believed to have been sent out to the United States, not only by the merchants, but by the governments of France and Belgium, and in the Mediterranean markets they have secured more than their share; all which will appear perfectly credible when it is remembered that they are buying our new English wheat in our own market.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Commissary-General HEWETSON.*September 29, 1846.*

LORD MONTAGLE suggests that the revenue cutters, "Hamilton" and "Speedwell," stationed in the Shannon, should be made available for the conveyance of Indian meal for the Relief Committees, by which the funds of the committees would be relieved of a charge of 10s. a ton, and greater security and convenience of storage would be obtained.

This appears to me to be a good suggestion, and if you concur, I shall be obliged to you to communicate with Sir James Dombtrain, through Sir R. Routh, in order that the Committees may have all the assistance which can be given by these boats, and any others within the limits of your superintendence.

When you made the remark contained in your letter of the 21st instant, on the

late rise in the price of Indian corn, you could not have been aware of the general state and prospects of the provision trade.

Taking the United Kingdom as a whole, wheat is barely an average crop, oats below an average, barley decidedly deficient, peas and beans the same; and as regards potatoes, I need make no remark.

It is more difficult to obtain trustworthy estimates of the state of the crops abroad; but of this there can be no doubt, that prices have been higher in France, Belgium, and Germany than they have been in England, and that these nations are not only very formidable competitors with us in the American and other foreign markets, but are actually drawing off supplies from us, by making purchases in our own home markets.

Under these circumstances, what possible means are there of obtaining a share of the available surplus of foreign countries, and of securing an economical consumption of such stock as we have, except the existence of high prices? If those who ignorantly call for a reduction of price had their wish, the scarcity would be converted into a famine in six months. Last year the scarcity was local, and the deficiency of one part of the country, could therefore be supplied from the superabundance of others; but this year the crops, taken as a whole, are deficient everywhere, and the attempt to make an artificial cheapness in one quarter would be attended with disastrous results elsewhere.

In Ireland we have not only to protect and encourage the internal trade in corn, but we have positively to create it. It will hardly be asserted that the artificial machinery of the Relief Committees can, or ought to be permanently relied upon for the purpose of distributing in detail the grain or meal upon which the people will hereafter have to subsist. How senseless and suicidal, therefore, is the clamour, which not only heaps odium upon the profession of the corn-dealer, but makes it positively insecure, and gives a supposed sanction and justification to the outrages which are being committed. So far from new persons being encouraged to enter into the trade, the existing dealers are barely able to hold their own, and the country will severely suffer from the manner in which they have considered themselves obliged to contract their operations, owing to the prevailing feeling of insecurity.

We rely upon your using the influence of your prominent official station to correct, as far as is in your power, this mischievous popular delusion.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Lord MONTEAGLE.

September 23, 1846.

THE accompanying copy of a letter I have written to Mr. Hewetson will be a sufficient answer to a great part of the notes which you have been so kind as to write to me, and will show you how thoroughly I coincide with you about prices.

I am fully aware of the insufficiency of all the existing means for grinding the vast quantities of corn that will be required for the consumption of the people, and am applying to it the only effectual remedy in my power by grinding as much as possible in this country, leaving the mills in Ireland to the private trade.

Handmills, with the use of which I was familiar in India, would, I think, be a valuable resource, and I am to procure some steel mills from Sir R. Routh, as specimens, when I receive proper directions from him; but as far as I am at present able to judge, it would be difficult for the Government to supply such mills in any quantity likely to be of use, and this forms a branch of the operations which ought to be left to private management. Are not handmills, or querns, still extensively in use in some parts of Ireland?

You will find an extract of a letter from Captain Percival at the end of the copy of my letter to Mr. Hewetson, from which it would appear that Indian corn may, by being properly soaked and boiled, be eaten whole, like pease.

The sanction to the works at Foynes Harbour will go forward to-morrow.

Deputy Commissary-General DOUBREE to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Sligo, September 29, 1846.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th inst., and to express my gratification with your assurance that the views I take of the present crisis in Ireland are just and sound; for at the present moment there is no officer in the country, however humble be his station, whose conduct may not contribute more or less to give a right or wrong bias in executing the arduous task before us.

I hear the landlords in the neighbouring counties are intending to avail themselves of the Drainage Act; but I should like to see the example liberally set by those whose duty it is to lead, so that it may be followed by those still sceptical of its success. Many object to the Act because, after providing for all the poor on their own estates, they are compelled to contribute their quota to large presentment works, rendered necessary by the apathy of many of their neighbours to the duties within their own sphere respectively. So deep-rooted are the prejudices and the usages of the Irish, and so ignorant are they of all those little useful arts by which the lower classes of other countries turn new and strange kinds of food to good account in times of need, that every change and innovation is met by almost insuperable objections; our biscuit is no boon to them, because they have not been accustomed to it; they withhold broaching their cots because this is not the usual period, and this year they say they mean to keep their stock to *look at*. The large millers will not take the trouble of grinding the poor man's sack, though they are not at work, and the small mills have no water. Every step we take there are difficulties which ought to disappear before the pressure of the times; and the gravamen of all in my mind is, that they are assuming the progress of a torrent the bursting of which it is awful to contemplate.

I am using every exertion to husband our resources, and at the same time to dole them out judiciously amongst the six neighbouring counties. The bakers' shops at Sligo were last night broken open and plundered; and I am threatened on all sides with outrages and disturbances if I do not send meal. Thank God we have had heavy rain, and now that the ground is saturated I trust that a quantity will be thrown off to set the small mills at work—for the last month they have been quite dry, and had not our depôts been in operation the people must have starved. I can vouch, from my own close observation, that a man, after a hard day's work, will scarcely dig a sufficient quantity of good potatoes to feed his family for two days. So soon as the country mills have water, I will enforce the consumption of the home produce as much as I can; but you must not forget how many thousands there are in my district who have grown no oats, whose potatoes are gone, and who have little or no work. What will be the position of the people two years hence?

I see by the papers that two companies of Sappers and Miners are under orders for Ireland; I trust they will be at the disposal of the Board of Works, and that they will supersede all over the country the present class of gangsmen, with "long-tailed coats, knee breeches, hands in pockets, and pipe in mouth." These Ordnance men, spade in hand, may rouse the Irishman to a discovery of his own powers, and teach him that by means of task work he has remunerative wages within his reach. Why are the energies of these people, which are so rampant when called into action in *foreign* climes, so torpid and listless on their own dunghill? I ought to mention, that in these six counties the trade is totally and entirely inoperative; they seem to have generally sent orders to the home and foreign markets, which could not be effected at the price they had limited their purchases. With the exception of the employment we give, the large commercial mills are comparatively idle: for at this season, in other years, they are cramming with the produce of the harvest for exportation. I am endeavouring to induce them to import wheat and grind it into whole meal, which they could sell at 13s. to 14s. per cwt., or exchange it for oats, or meet the exigencies of the times in any way their interests would point out; but I am sorry to say that as yet the old cycle has not completed its revolution with any one class of the community.

To give you only one instance of the many hindrances we meet with on all sides, I will add, that at this very moment it is reported to me that the carmen here have struck work, and refused to go on completing the discharge of the

Sligo steamer which I had hired, and was most anxious to dispatch to Ballina with a little meal for the interior of Mayo, because they would assert their pretensions to convey it themselves by land, without regard to the probability of its being entirely damaged by rain in transit.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

September 30, 1846.

I BEG to suggest that you should test Captain Perceval's experiment, as explained in the accompanying extract of a note I have received from him.

It certainly would be an advantage if Indian corn could be converted into a wholesome food by simple cooking, without either grinding or bruising.

Extract.

"If necessary, the corn might be issued in whole grain; I have tried it, having had it steeped in water for 12 hours overnight, and boiled the next morning, when it makes a very nice podge, which looks like peas-pudding, and eats much like gruel, but sweeter, and, to my taste, is preferable to the 'stirabout.' The breaking of it into pieces before soaking, as in the 'hominy' receipt, is not necessary."

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

September 30, 1846.

My official letter to you of to-day's date, in reference to supplies, is of grave importance, and cannot be too extensively promulgated.

You are aware, from the copies of Mr. Erichsen's letters, which I daily send you, of the increasing amount of our purchases; and in order that you may have them before you at one point of view, I have requested him to furnish a tabular statement of them, a copy of which I will send you.

Some of the earlier cargoes may be daily expected, and I shall order them to Sligo and Ballina.

Independently of the cargoes sent direct to Ireland, I shall keep the three Admiralty mills at Deptford, Portsmouth, and Plymouth in constant work, at high pressure, besides the private mills already employed for us, and a much larger private mill, for which I am in treaty. I have sent two cargoes of Indian corn to Portsmouth to be ground, and the same to Plymouth, while I shall keep the three mills on the Thames supplied with barley when Indian corn is not to be had. An additional steam-engine is being put up in the mill at Plymouth, which will double its powers.

I have completely exhausted the London and Liverpool markets of Indian corn, with the exception of a very small quantity, which is held at fancy prices; and I am obliged to buy English barley to keep the mills at work.

You will recollect that I may have to supply the western coast and islands of Scotland out of the supplies turned out by our English mills; but I expect that Ireland will come in for much the largest share.

I get new sacks from the Ordnance for bagging the meal at our mills, and leave you to employ the empty sacks in store at Cork in bagging meal at Sligo, Ballina, or wherever else they may be required.

Assistant Commissary-General Bishop will proceed to Dublin this evening, to place himself under your orders.

With reference to the important subject of prices, the following extracts from letters I have received from Lord Montague are well deserving of your attention. The inevitable result of the Government and Relief Committees' prices not following the market price, would be the absence of sufficient check upon the consumption, and the destruction of private trade. Imports could not take place into a country where prices are artificially depressed, but, on the contrary, the food already in the country would be exported to quarters where a fair market price could be obtained.

Extract.—September 20, 1846.

"Our difficulties, however, are extreme. We have bought our last Indian

See Treasury Minute, dated the 29th September, at Page 43.

"meal for the Relief Committee at 13l. 10s. This raises our sale price at prime cost more than 50 per cent. If we sell lower, and at a loss, in turning our capital three times it will be absorbed. What course are we to take?"

Extract—September 25, 1846.

"I think you will be glad to hear that sound principle can, even with austerity, be adhered to, and this without mischief, if the case is fairly explained, and the rule applied with discretion.

"The rise in the price of meal from 1s. to 1s. 8d., was a hard trial to our claimants at the Relief Committee. But we took the step, nevertheless, and told them that we were practically husbanding their own money by avoiding sales at a loss, and they have submitted with a resignation and good sense which you could hardly equal, and could not exceed."

The O'Connor Don has made a statement to me, which it is necessary that I should communicate to you. He says that he has received repeated complaints from Roscommon that the agent of Mr. Young, a large landed proprietor, has the practical management of the depôt at Castlereagh, and that the issues are made to Mr. Young's tenants and dependants, who are thereby enabled to hoard their corn, while poor unprotected people, who have no store of food, are not able to obtain supplies.

Pray inform me who has charge of the depôt at Castlereagh, and ascertain how far there is any foundation for the statements which have been made to the O'Connor Don.

I shall also be obliged to you seriously to consider whether the root of the evil does not lie in the fact of our prices being too low, and that the scramble for our supplies is indicative, not so much of a general destitution, as of a perfectly natural desire to get food where it is to be had at the cheapest rate. I cannot believe that there is no store of food from the oat harvest in Roscommon.

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RETURN OF PURCHASES MADE FOR ITALY IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER, 1946.

Quantity Purchased.	Date.	Price.	From what Port, whether English or Foreign.	To what Port to be consigned.	When it may be expected to arrive, or duration of actual detention.	Remarks.
570½ qrs. Ind. Corn	26 August	33 6 to 34 6 per quar.	London	Sligo.	.	Shipped per "Superior."
605½ "	26 "	33 6 to 34 6 per quar.	Ditto	Ditto	.	" " "Harmony."
770 "	26 "	35 0 "	Liverpool.	Wexford	.	" " "John."
765 "	27 "	35 0 "	Merchandise—about	Sligo.	In October.	" " "Margaret"—arrived.
518 "	28 "	35 0 "	Liverpool.	Ditto.	.	" " "John and Ellen."
238 "	28 "	35 0 "	Ditto	Ditto.	.	" " "Lucia."
213 "	28 "	35 0 "	Ditto	Ditto.	.	" " "Margaret."
1280½ "	31 "	35 6 "	Tientsin—about	Ditto.	In October.	" " "Mary Stuart."
234½ "	2 Sept.	36 0 "	Ditto ditto	Ditto.	Ditto	" " "Bosidar."
1500 to 2000 qrs.	3 "	36 0 "	Tientsin	.	In November and December	To be shipped in September or October.
1800 qrs.	14 "	41 3 "	Venice—about	.	In November	Shipped per "Santonius."
1200 to 1300 qrs.	16 "	40 6 "	A port in the Adriatic	.	In December	To be shipped in October.
1400 qrs.	18 "	42 6 "	Venice—about	.	In November	Shipped per "Mardiana."
5000 "	18 "	39 0 to 41 0 per quar.	United States.	Sligo and Galway	In January and February.	To be shipped in December.
160 tons Meal.	21 "	29 0 per 240 lbs.	Liverpool.	Wexford	.	To be shipped in a few days.
700 qrs. Ind. Corn	18 "	42 0 per quar.	London	.	.	(Ground into meal here, and part already shipped to Dublin.)
292 "	28 August	42 0 per quar.	Antwerp	.	.	Will be shipped to Plymouth.
579 "	28 "	35 0 "	Ditto	.	.	Ditto
500 to 600 qrs.	14 Sept.	45 0 "	Ditto	.	.	.
236 qrs.	18 "	47 0 "	.	.	.	.
1400 qrs. Ind. Corn	23 Sept.	42 6 per quar.	Venice	.	.	To be shipped in October.
1085 " Barley	25 "	33 0 to 34 0 per quar.	London	.	.	To be shipped to Plymouth.
720 "	26 "	43 0 per quar.	Ditto	.	.	(To be shipped on the arrival in Genoa of vessels now on their way out—Shipped per "Pigeon."
610 "	26 "	42 0 "	Antwerp	.	.	Latest period of shipment, 31st January.
4510 "	29 "	42 6 "	Genoa	.	In December or January	.
750 to 800 qrs.	29 "	44 0 "	Cerfo—about.	.	In November	.
8050 qrs.	29 "	40 0 to 42 0 per quar.	United States.	.	In February	.
		41 0 to 43 0 "	.	.	.	.

Making, to 22nd September, about 20,500 quarters Ind. Corn, and 100 tons Meal.

Making about 15,000 quarters purchased since 22nd September.

20,300 ditto purchased previously.

Total of purchases, about 35,500 quarters Indian Corn.

100 tons of Meal.

1,050 quarters Barley.

London, 30th September, 1946.

E. ERICHSEN.

Rev. T. MATHEW to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Cork, September 30, 1846.

UNWILLING to add to the enormous press of business under which you labour, I have not had the pleasure of addressing you for the last two months. I also deemed it unnecessary to trouble you, as I was well aware that you had, if I may use the phrase, too much information on the wretched state of this unfortunate country. It is more to give expression to the feelings of despondency that oppress me, than to presume to suggest any measure that I may deem calculated to alleviate the miserable condition of our people, I now intrude on your so fully occupied time. I have been, during the last four weeks, in many parts of the kingdom, and I found everywhere the population in a state of sullen desperation. The recent, I may call it, abandonment of the Repeal agitation by Mr. O'Connell has produced this state of the public mind, much more than the potato blight. The people were elated with false hopes of I dare not say what, and now are utterly confounded, on finding themselves disappointed.

The men in the several districts of Ireland, who were accustomed to take a lead in the Repeal movement, acting as wardens, &c., now seek to continue their occupation by exciting to tumult the poor stricken people: hence the riots that have lately occurred.

The measures of Government to provide remunerative employment are above all praise, yet have not been accepted with gratitude. The Treasury Minute directing that the rate of wages on the Public Works should be lower than that paid by the farmers, has afforded a pretext for much discontent. But no rate of wages will save the people from extreme distress, unless the price of provisions be kept down.

A shilling a day, or even one and sixpence, is nothing to a poor man with a large family, if he is obliged to pay twopence per pound for Indian meal. At present it nearly averages that price in the country districts. If I may presume to give an opinion, it appears to me to be of more importance to keep down the price of Indian or other meal, than to provide labour. There are so many opinions as to the amount of blighted potatoes, and consequently of the required quantity of corn as a substitute, it would be of advantage to ascertain the number of acres that were under that crop throughout Ireland. In one week the constabulary force could supply the most accurate information on that important point. It is a fact, and you are not to attribute my alluding to it to vanity, that the late provision riots have occurred in the districts in which the temperance movement has not been encouraged.

Our people are as harmless in their meetings as flocks of sheep, unless when inflamed and maddened by intoxicating drink. If I was at liberty to exert myself, as heretofore, no part of Ireland would remain unvisited; but the unavoidable expenses of such a mighty reformation are now an insurmountable obstacle. Were it not for the temperate habits of the greater portion of the people of Ireland, our unhappy country would be before now one wide scene of tumult and bloodshed. Thank God temperance is now based on such a firm foundation, nothing can weaken its stability! Intemperance, with the Divine assistance, will never again be the national sin of the Irish people. If possible, dear Mr. Trevelyan, have the markets kept down, and thus save from woe unutterable our destitute population.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, September 30, 1846.

NOT only we, but the trade also, must experience difficulty in obtaining any supplies of moment before December 1 to January 1, and the Irish home produce ought to be made to suffice until that period, and which in its abundance it is fully equal to meet.

The country is abundantly supplied with wheat and oats, the prices are most encouraging for sale, but nevertheless, for *payment of rent*, they are exported to Liverpool and Scotland; and the people, deprived of this resource, call out on the Government for Indian corn, which requires time for its importation. I know of no way to stop the run upon our depôts but to increase our prices. They are now 12*l.* for Indian corn, and 16*l.* for oatmeal. We must make them 14*l.* for

the first, and 18*l.* for the last, which will leave a better opening for the trade, and to those who will bring their home produce to sale.

The prices will fall in December, but not in my opinion permanently. Taking into view the deficiency of the potato, the exportation of the grain crops, and the reasonable quantities to be expected from America, I think we cannot fairly look for any permanent fall in the markets.

The case at Youghal was unique. The *démarche* took place on account of the exportation of supplies; for it is a large place of export (on account of the corporation duty at Cork), and the town is full of corn; nevertheless, in lieu of purchasing this, the magistrates send to the Admiral for Indian corn meal from the Cork dépôt, now in course of transfer to Limerick, and the Admiral prepares the "Alban" to convey it. The magistrates write to the Lord Lieutenant also for the Indian corn meal. Here was the first case in which the Government policy was brought on the tapis; and I stated to his Excellency that if we yielded to it, it would have the effect of encouraging outbreaks, and that he must expect to have the whole of the south claiming similar advantages; and I remarked the contradiction in the appeal of the magistrates asking for food to be sold to them at Cork, whilst they were shipping it from their own quays. Mr. Dokree is doing very well at Sligo. Mr. Stevens' accounts were in a sadly confused state. Too many coast-guard and constabulary depôts, which we propose to diminish if possible altogether, and transfer this duty to committees, selling from our depôts to them.

I send you a fresh supply of Indian corn pamphlets of both sorts; but I am drawing up a more explanatory form of the small sort. Mr. Hewetson's circular was only an extract from these pamphlets, containing no new matter.

About the steel mills, the ironmongers must understand the thing. They are something like a coffee-mill; indeed, I should think what is applicable to one might be to the other, only that Indian corn being so much harder, would require the teeth to be sharper and stronger. Two or three at first as a sample would be sufficient.

MR. TREVELYAN to the Earl of AUCKLAND.

October 1, 1846.

WE entirely concur in the opinion expressed by Sir R. Routh at the conclusion of the accompanying letter, that it would be advisable to have a moderate store of Navy biscuit at Haulbowline, with the means in this country of promptly replenishing it, in anticipation of it being required for Army purposes.

In the present state of Ireland it is probable that a force may have to be directed on particular points at a very short notice, and the scarcity of immediately available food is such, that the consequences might be very serious, both as regards the force itself and the effect of drawing upon the already insufficient resources of the country towns and villages to provision it, if we had not Commissariat supplies ready.

For the same reason we think a certain proportion should be retained at Haulbowline of the salt pork which was laid up with the biscuit at the different military stations in Ireland, but was lately ordered away, in common with the biscuit by the Lords Justices, without any notice of their intention being given to the Treasury. The salt pork is packed in small barrels, two of which can be conveyed on an open car.

These supplies should, we think, be held at Haulbowline as *for naval purposes*, with the understanding that they will be immediately available if they are required by the Commissariat for *Army*, but not for relief purposes; by which means a great deal of correspondence will be saved, and we shall keep the thing quiet and not excite alarm.

It will also of course be necessary to have at least one steamer always waiting in Cork Harbour, ready to convey these army supplies to any point at which they may be required.

I requested some days ago, through Captain Hamilton, that a store frigate might be got ready with the least possible delay, to be loaded with meal now being ground at the Admiralty mills at Portsmouth, Plymouth, and Deptford, and at two private mills on the Thames, and to be sent to a suitable station on the north-western coast of Scotland; and Captain Hamilton informed me that your Lordship had given orders accordingly.

Earl of AUCKLAND to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Admiralty, October 1, 1846.

I HAVE lost no time in attending to the matters to which my attention has been drawn by your letter and by that of Sir R. Routh. Lord John Hay will go immediately to the Victualling Office, and provide for the transmission of a quantity of biscuit and pork to our store-houses at Haulbowline. He will consider whether the biscuit may not, as well as the pork, be packed in small barrels. It is likely to be injured if much moved about in bags. We have given eight steamers to Ireland, which I hope will be enough. Sir Hugh Pigot will no doubt so organise the transmission of supplies as, if possible, always to have a steamer available for unforeseen emergencies. If his present eight steamers should not be sufficient, we will give him more; but as the calls for more shall be urgent, so will they be inconvenient. The store frigate is ordered. What we are doing we will do for "Naval purposes." But Sir Hugh Pigot will be instructed to attend to the requisitions of the Commissariat.

P.S.—I omitted to mention in my letter, that we ought to have some measure of the quantity of biscuit, &c., which will be required at Haulbowline. I have suggested such quantities of beef and pork as will supply 2000 men for six weeks. This will probably be as much as will be required within any moderate limit of time, and as consumption goes on we may send more.

Mr. TREVELYAN to the Earl of AUCKLAND.

October 1, 1846.

WHAT you have done (beef and pork for 2000 men for six weeks) appears to be quite sufficient for the present; for food riots are quite different from organized rebellion, and are not likely to be of long duration.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

October 1, 1846.

I REGRET to say that the news which has just arrived from the United States has confirmed my worst anticipations.

As soon as it was known in America that the potato crop in the United Kingdom had failed, prices went up, but there was no stock at the ports of shipment worth speaking of, and the new corn will not be fit to be exported before December or January. I will send you a note I have received from Erichsen on the subject, which is at present with the Chancellor of the Exchequer, but you will no doubt see plenty about it in the newspapers.

This news will, and, although it is painful to say so, ought to cause a farther rise of price, and I have therefore given directions for making new purchases before it has produced its full effect.

It is necessary to equalize our prices with the neighbouring market prices, not only for the sake of protecting our depôts and making them answer their object of furnishing a last resource when everything else has failed, but also to give us a fair chance of drawing out the resources of the country. The holders of oats and other kinds of food cannot be expected to bring their stores into the market in the face of artificial low prices caused by the interference of the Government; and under such circumstances they cannot be blamed for sending what they have to sell elsewhere, where they can get a fair market price, according to the circumstances of the time. In every point of view, it is indispensably necessary, if we wish to avoid heavier calamities hereafter, to raise our depôt prices to a level with the market prices.

Mr. Erichsen has furnished me with his general statement, and you shall have a copy of it to-morrow.

We beg of you not to countenance in any way the idea of prohibiting exportation. The discouragement and feeling of insecurity to the trade from such a proceeding would prevent its doing even any *immediate* good; and there cannot be a doubt that it would inflict a permanent injury on the country. The reasons against the prohibition of distillation do not lie so near the surface, but they are equally conclusive.

Although the prohibition of exportation is objectionable everywhere, it would be still more so in Ireland under present circumstances, and it would be impossible for us to defend the double interference—of artificially lowering prices on the one hand, and on the other, interfering to prevent the holders of corn from sending their article to places where it would not be thus depreciated.

Captain HAMILTON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Admiralty, October 1, 1846.

HAVING laid before my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty your letter of the 29th of September, expressing the satisfaction of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury at the arrangements made by Rear-Admiral Sir Hugh Pigot, for employing the naval force under his orders in the relief of the distressed districts in Ireland, I am commanded by my Lords to transmit to you herewith a list of Her Majesty's vessels, now under Sir Hugh Pigot's orders, which are available for this service; and my Lords request that they may receive early notice if, in the opinion of the Lords of the Treasury, a greater number of ships should from any future emergency be required. My Lords trust, however, that their Lordships will keep in mind the possibility of this department being called upon to furnish the means of transporting grain on the west coast of Scotland, and the variety of demands from all quarters for the services of Her Majesty's ships to which this Board is subject.

ENCLOSURE.

Admiralty, October 1, 1846.

A RETURN of HER MAJESTY'S SHIPS and VESSELS at present employed, and to be employed, on the Coast of IRELAND.

"Stromboli," steam sloop	Employed on the general duties of the station.
"Rhodamantus," steam troop ship	Employed in conveying mails to various parts of Ireland, and also in the movements of troops when required.
"Dec," ditto	
"Myrmidon," steam vessel	Employed in the conveyance of mail to the several ports, in its removal from larger ships and conveyance up the rivers.
"Pluto," ditto	
"Alton," ditto	
"Madagascar," store ship	Stationed in the river Shannon as a depot for mail.
"Swallow," steam vessel	Employed as tender to "Madagascar."
"Comet," steam vessel	Employed conveying specie to several ports in Ireland.
"Blazer," steam vessel	Will be sent from Harwich almost immediately.
"Dasher," ditto	Will be sent from Portsmouth immediately.
"Tartarus," ditto	Now employed in surveying duties in Ireland,—will be appropriated to the general duties of the station.
"Lucifer," ditto	

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

October 2, 1846.

Transmit copies of this letter and of its enclosure to Sir R. Routh, and desire that he will, as soon as he has made final arrangements, in concert with Rear-Admiral Sir Hugh Pigot, for the employment of such number of steam vessels as may be required to support the relief operations, report thereon for their Lordships' information.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

October 2, 1846.

THE following passage from "Burke's Thoughts and Details on Scarcity," is much to our present purpose:

"Another cause, and that not of inconsiderable operation, tended to produce scarcity in flesh provision. It is one that, on many accounts, cannot be too much regretted, and the rather as it was the sole cause of a scarcity in that article which arose from the proceedings of men themselves. I mean the stop put to the distillery.

"The hogs (and that would be sufficient) which were fed with the waste wash of that produce, did not demand the fourth part of the corn used by the farmers in fattening them. The spirit was nearly so much clear gain to the nation. It is an odd way of making flesh cheap to stop or check the distillery.

"The distillery itself produces an immense article of trade almost all over the world, to Africa, to North America, and to various parts of Europe. It is of great use, next to food itself, to our fisheries and to our whole navigation. A great part of the distillery was carried on by damaged corn, unfit for bread, and by barley and malt of the lowest quality. These things could not be more unexceptionably employed. The domestic consumption of spirits produced,

"without complaints, a very great revenue, applicable, if we pleased, in counties to the bringing corn from other places far beyond the value of that consumed in making it, or to the encouragement of its increased production at home."

It may be added, as applicable in an especial manner to the present time, that any unusual interference with the freedom of trade must have a general bad effect, by disheartening the merchant, and rendering all his calculations uncertain. We have already gone to the utmost limits which the circumstances of the case justify, by appearing in the market ourselves in the capacity of dealers, and if we go beyond this, to adopt further restrictive measures which are not obviously and immediately necessary for putting food into the mouths of starving people, sudden and violent interference with the regular course of trade will be regarded by the mercantile community as the habit of the Government, and the effect upon our social system, in the present crisis of the country, may be disastrous indeed.

It must also be observed that, as regards the distilleries, the increased price of the material works its own remedy, by increasing the cost of the spirit to the manufacturer on the one hand, and diminishing the means of the people to purchase it, on the other.

In every point of view, it is indispensably necessary that our depôts should not be opened while there are supplies of oats and other food in the neighbourhood; and that when they are opened, it should be at prices proportioned to the nearest market prices. However abundantly the country may be supplied with wheat and oats, an artificial scarcity must be immediately created the moment our depôts are opened at prices below the market price, for the plain reason that nobody will, or ought to be expected to, regulate his prices by the example of the Government instead of by a reference to the state of the demand for, compared with the supply of food, upon which alone the calculations of the merchants are founded.

You will see by my official letter that I have ordered specimens of steel mills, which will be sent to you after they have been examined by the Chancellor of the Exchequer and myself.

I am again making inquiries for an able accountant for you, who, although not equal to Bromley, may yet be able in some degree to supply his place.

TREASURY MINUTE.

October 2, 1846.

WRITE to Commissary-General Carey that my Lords are desirous of availing themselves of his assistance in collecting information in regard to the mill power in the islands of Guernsey and Jersey which might, if necessary, be engaged for the purpose of grinding Indian corn, barley, or oats.

Mr. Carey will lose no time in reporting to this Board on the following points:—

- 1st.—The number of mills which could be placed at the disposal of Government.
- 2nd.—The number of quarters of meal per week which could be ground in each mill.
- 3rd.—The price demanded for grinding each of the above kinds of grain.
- 4th.—The situation of each mill with reference to the facilities afforded for receiving the grain and embarking the meal.

My Lords would be glad to be put in possession of any other particulars bearing on the subject which Mr. Carey's local experience may enable him to supply.

It is not their Lordships' desire that Mr. Carey should enter into any engagement for grinding, but they would wish to be apprised of the earliest period at which grain might be landed at Guernsey or Jersey, consigned to the owners of mills, to be ground into meal at specified rates.

Mr. Carey will, in the first instance, report on the above points as regards the island of Guernsey, adding such information respecting Jersey as he may have it in his power to furnish, upon good authority; and he will afterwards visit Jersey and complete his report on the disposable mill-power in that island, and the expediency of employing it.

Annex the copy of a letter from a correspondent in Jersey to the Agents employed by this Board in purchasing grain, which gives some particulars on the subject, but not of a sufficiently definite nature to be acted upon.

ENCLOSURE.

MR. BLANCHARD to Messrs. ERICHSEN and Co.

Jersey, September 2, 1846.

I HAVE your favour of the 29th ult., and in reply to your inquiries respecting the mill-power here, I beg to state there is sufficient mill-power here at present unoccupied to grind 1000 quarters of Indian corn per week. But our millers, never having ground any Indian corn, are at a loss to name a price per quarter.

I think your better plan would be to send over 50 quarters, and I will place it in two or three parties' hands, and ascertain the lowest price I can get it done at.

I suppose you would require the meal to be dressed just like biscuit-meal—merely the bran to be taken from it. I shall be happy to undertake the management, and to give it my best attention.

As to commission, much will depend on the quantity manufactured, but I suppose you would not consider $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. too much, as a good deal of attention would be required in delivering the corn, and receiving the meal from the millers.

TREASURY MINUTE.

October 2, 1846.

WRITE to the Secretary, and request that he will move the Lords of the Admiralty to direct that such quantities of oatmeal in the Naval Victualling Storehouses at Deptford, as are not immediately required for the Naval Service, may be delivered to the order of Messrs. Erichsen and Co., for shipment to Dublin, in aid of the relief operations in Ireland.

My Lords are informed that the steam-vessels by which it is proposed to forward this meal leave the river for Dublin, every Tuesday and Friday.

Acquaint Messrs. Erichsen with the above direction, desiring that they will forward to Sir R. Routh the shipping papers of these supplies, and copies of them, to this Board, as is the practice in respect to other shipments.

Transmit copy of this Minute to Sir R. Routh, for his information.

TREASURY MINUTE.

October 2, 1846.

WRITE to the Secretary of the Ordnance, and request that he will state to the Master-General and Board, that Sir R. Routh has represented to this Board that it might be of advantage to bring into use, in some parts of Ireland, a small kind of steel mill for the purpose of grinding Indian corn.

Sir R. Routh describes the mill which he would recommend as something like a coffee-mill, having, however, the teeth sharper and stronger, because Indian corn is much harder than coffee.

My Lords request that immediate directions may be given for providing and forwarding to this Board one or two mills of the above description, as specimens, with a view to their being sent to Dublin, after being inspected and approved.

Transmit copy of this Minute to Sir R. Routh for his information.

MR. TREVELYAN to Mr. BYHAM.

October 10, 1846.

WE are anxious to have the specimens of steel mills about which I wrote to you officially a few days ago.

Sir R. Routh says they are known by the name of plantation mills, owing to their being, or having been, sent out for the use of the plantations in America, and that they are also used for bruising grain for fodder.

You are, I think, aware that every service in any way connected with the scarcity in Ireland and Scotland is to be considered as emergent.

MR. TREVELYAN to Mr. TRAILL.

October 5, 1846.

Will you be so kind as to procure for me, and send to me at the Treasury, a handmill, of the simplest form in use in the Shetland Islands, or anywhere in your quarter; and also to inform me at what rate persons could be found to contract for making a large number, and how soon they could be delivered?

Also pray inform me what I am to pay for the specimen sent.

Lord MONTREAGUE to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Mount Trevelard, October 10, 1846.

Our querns are precisely your Indian hand-mills.

Two horizontal stones working on each other, with a little hollow on the surface of one; a hole or little hopper in the centre. The handle is fixed perpendicular to the upper horizontal stone, and more or less removed from the central point or hopper, so as to lengthen the lever or power. The whole is fixed into a wooden frame, raised to a convenient height for labour. It may be worked by one or two women. It is literally the Scripture mill—"Two women labouring at one mill," &c.

They used to be made of some kind of grit or burr stone. The double object would be gained of extending mill-power, and of employing persons who will be thrown otherwise on gratuitous relief.

I hope to induce a respectable merchant and baker to come down to Foynes, and establish a sale of corn and meal, &c.; baking there on *ordinary commercial principles*. What is wanting, is to try to establish a natural machinery that will afford supplies, when the artificial machinery of relief committees can be dispensed with. I have prevailed on my colleagues here to adopt my views of not selling at a loss; but in most committees the other course is adopted.

It is impossible to carry your rules into effect respecting the boundaries or number of relief committees; but two amendments will set this right:—after "consisting of two parishes," insert or "parts of parishes;" and after your list of persons add, "together with such other persons as the Lieutenant shall, in reference to the peculiarity of the district, recommend."

With this explanation it will do.

Mr. TRAILL to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Castlehill, October 10, 1846.

I YESTERDAY received your letter of the 5th, just as I was setting out for Wick, at the request of Mr. Loch, to make arrangements for the employment of the people in works connected with the British Fishery's establishment there.

I had directed a letter to be written to my correspondent in Lerwick, desiring him to forward to you by the first steamer, a specimen of the hand-mill used in Shetland; but on further inquiry I found that the steamer has ceased for the season, so that there would have been considerable difficulty and great delay in obtaining it. I subsequently was informed by a clergyman who had been for some time stationed in Shetland, that the hand-mill to which you allude, is simply the quern, used in various parts of the North of Scotland. A friend of mine at Wick, being possessed of one of these, I requested him to forward it to you, and I expect you will have it in the course of next week.

Should you find it expedient to make use of this rather primitive invention, I would recommend you to have the stones prepared by Messrs. McDonald and Leslie, of the Marble Works, Aberdeen. I should have recommended this even if the communication with Shetland had been open, as I have no doubt that these gentlemen will execute your order with much more dispatch than could have been done by the workmen of the country.

Mr. HENDERSON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Wick, October 10, 1846.

MR. TRAILL having mentioned to me your wish to have a specimen of a hand-mill or "quern," I have forwarded one per steamer to your address, which I happened to have in my possession.

That sent is not one of the best specimens of these primitive mills, but as they are now entirely out of use in this county, it will be difficult to get you a better.

The mode in which these mills are wrought is by placing the stones on a plank, raised to a convenient height from the ground; one person then turns the uppermost stone by the upright handle, and another feeds the mill with

corn through the hole in the top, and the meal falls from between the stones on a sheet spread to receive it.

Sometimes the mill is wrought by a person seated on the ground with a leg on each side.

They are frequently larger and weightier than the specimen sent.

Unless the corn is highly dried, which is done in a cast-iron pot, the mill does not answer well, and the meal is seldom made into cakes, but used with milk without further cooking.

When smuggling prevailed in the North, these mills were found convenient for grinding malt when the water-mills were stopped from frost.

I have written by Mr. Traill's desire to Shetland on the subject of your letter, and if they have there hand-mills of a superior description, one will be sent you, with the other information you require.

As I kept the "quern" merely as a curiosity, you are quite welcome to retain it.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Mr. HENDERSON.

October 29, 1846.

I HAVE delayed my reply to your letter, dated 10th instant, until the quern referred to in it had arrived, which it now has, and I beg to thank you both for the trouble you have taken in sending me the quern, and for the satisfactory explanations which your letter contains.

I have procured another quern from the west of Ireland, and a hand-mill, precisely on the same principle, from the museum at the India House, and by putting all three into the hands of skilful workpeople, I hope to be able to produce something which may be of service, at least during this temporary deficiency of grinding power.

I shall hold your quern at your disposal. It looks as if it had come down from remote times, and is a curious relic of a bygone state of manners.

Mr. BYHAM to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Office of Ordnance, October 12, 1846.

IN reply to your note of the 10th instant, I have the honour, by direction of the Board of Ordnance, to transmit herewith, for the information of the Lords of the Treasury, the copy of a communication, which the Board have received from the Principal Storekeeper's Department, respecting the provision of the Steel Mills alluded to in your note above quoted. And I am to acquaint you that, so soon as the mills are received, they will be transmitted to the Treasury, for their Lordships' inspection, directions having been given to the Department of the Principal Storekeeper, for the preparation of the mills to be hastened, and a copy of your note sent to that officer for his guidance.

I am further to acquaint you, in reply to the concluding paragraph of your note, that all matters connected with the subject of the scarcity in Ireland and Scotland, which come before the Board, receive their immediate attention.

ENCLOSURE.

Mr. PORRETT to Mr. BYHAM.

*Principal Storekeeper's Office, Tower,
October 9, 1846.*

I HAVE to refer to the orders of the Board, 8th October, 1846, ^{viz.} signifying the desire of the Lords of the Treasury to be furnished with one or two specimens of hand corn-mills for grinding wheat in Ireland.

I have accordingly to state, that having made the best inquiry in my power in London, I find that the common steel mill, such is used for coffee, is in principle the most useful for the grinding of Indian corn, by hand labour, the cylinder being cut and tempered especially for the latter purposes.

The prices vary according to the size, as will be seen by the papers which I submit herewith.

Mr. White's mills do not appear to me, in point of usefulness, inferior to those of Mr. Surago, and he is much cheaper.

I have, therefore, ordered him to make two mills, calculated for the labour of one man—one upon an independent stand of iron, which will cost 5*l.* 11*s.*, and one without stand, which may be fixed to a post at 4*l.* 10*s.*

Those prices are for a single mill. Should a quantity be required, they would be about 15 per cent. less. As the mills are kept only in very small quantities, there must be allowed for making such as would be required for grinding Indian corn.

Immediately the two pattern-mills are received, they shall be forwarded to the Board.

Mr. BYHAM to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Office of Ordnance, October 12, 1846.

WITH reference to the Board's communication of this day's date, I have the honour, by direction of the Board of Ordnance, to transmit herewith, for the inspection of the Lords of the Treasury, the two steel mills, together with three samples of meal.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

October 13, 1846.

Transmit copies of the two letters from the Board of Ordnance, of the 12th instant, and of and of their respective enclosures (including the three specimens of meal), to Sir R. Routh for his information, and state that the two hand-mills referred to therein have been forwarded to him, and desire that he will pay the cost of them out of the funds at his disposal.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Mr. MELVILLE.

October 17, 1846.

If there happens to be a common Indian hand-mill in the museum at the India House, or anywhere else within your reach, I shall be much obliged to you to send it to me, and it shall be duly returned.

As several millions of people in Ireland and Scotland, who have hitherto lived upon potatoes, are now obliged to have recourse to corn, the existing mill-power is insufficient for the occasion, and it has been suggested (not I think without reason) that hand-mills might furnish a cheap and readily available temporary resource.

I have procured specimens from the Shetland Islands, and from the west of Ireland, of the hand-mills which are still used in those districts under the name of querns; but I think the Indian hand-mill, with which our daily supply of grain used to be ground in camp, is the simplest and best of all, for which reason I wish to procure a specimen, from which numerous others might be made by contract at the different stone-works in the United Kingdom, if it should be so determined.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, October 24, 1846.

ADVERTING to your letter No. 331, of the 14th instant, advising the orders which the Right Honourable my Lords' Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury had directed to be given for the supply of two portable mills for service in Ireland, I have the honour to acquaint you that they have been since received, and yesterday I examined them minutely, and had them tried in the presence of competent persons.

The mill and wheel on the post is charged	£5 16 0
That on the iron stand	5 11 0
	£11 7 0
Mats and packing	0 5 0
Freight from England,	1 2 0
Total amount	£12 14 0

The first-mentioned of these on the post, though the most expensive, is intended to be a fixture, and unless it were so, the post would move too much in its socket to resist the pressure.

That on the iron stand is, I think, the best, as being more portable, but the iron-work is not solid, and the diameter of the wheels of both is too small.

Since their arrival I have received an offer from Messrs. Samuel Gatchell and Sons of Dublin, to supply me with a mill precisely of the same description as that on the iron stand of Mr. James White, except that it is more solid and more powerful, and altogether more strongly made, and the diameter of the wheel considerably larger. His charge is 5*l.* for each mill, with an offer to deliver six weekly, and 3*l.* for those on the post, but which I have not yet seen.

I have purchased one at 5*l.*, and I think as the offer of this house is so much more advantageous, being on the spot, that it will not be necessary to send any new order to Mr. James White.

I shall take an early opportunity of forwarding two to Belmullett, two to Clifden, and the same number to Westport, after due communication with the officers at those ports, and I shall give the same information to the several Relief Committees, in case they feel disposed to purchase this article on their own account.

TREASURY MINUTE ON the above.

October 27, 1846.

Write to Sir R. Routh that my Lords approve of his proceedings in this matter, it being understood that only a limited number of hand mills will be sent by him on Government account, to be deposited as specimens in the Commissariat offices in those parts of the west of Ireland, where such articles are likely to be most required.

SIR R. ROUTH TO MR. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, October 2, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, a report from Commissary-General Hewetson of his journey to Cork and Cahirciveen, with a view of determining the plan of landing the "Madagascar," and of inspecting Cahirciveen as a third depot on the coast of Kerry, and generally to obtain a more intimate knowledge of the interior of that county and of its localities, as applicable to Commissariat purposes.

ENCLOSURE.

Commissary-General HEWETSON TO SIR R. ROUTH.

Tralee, September 29, 1846.

You are aware I left Limerick on Friday night; on Saturday I visited Haulbowline, and examined the old biscuit disposable there for our service, and which I find in very good order. I shall not enter into particulars touching its distribution to the several depôts; suffice, they were in accordance with your directions, and ere this, Sligo and Westport will have been supplied. I also visited the "Madagascar" frigate, fitted for a floating depot; she is partly loaded with the remainder of the Indian meal, destined for the Shannon, my 1386 sacks, and would take on board 1650 bags of biscuit; I look for her at Tarbert about the end of the week. In consequence of an outbreak at Voughal, which called for the employment of all the Queen's steamers at Cove, I was obliged to give up my intended visit by sea to Skibberene, and proceed direct overland to Cahirciveen. The only building fit for our purpose, in which to place a reserve depot in that town, is the property of Mr. Maurice O'Connell, M.P., which, on learning my object, he at once offered to place at my disposal, without any charge for rent; some small repairs and additions necessary for its security to be made at our cost. I have required a person, who will undertake to accomplish these, to send me a memorandum of its expense—I should say about 12*l.* The timber made use of may be sold at the expiration of the service; but I shall again report to you, previously to acquainting Mr. O'Connell, whether we shall or not avail ourselves of his offer. Cahirciveen is a very good position for a depot for that part of Kerry including Valencia, and accessible by steamers close up to the town. Dingle I was not able to visit, the Coast-guard officers, to whom I applied to put me across the bay, not deeming it prudent to risk the passage in such weather in their open boats.

The enclosed are copies of my communications to Mr. Hill and to the Secretary of the Relief Committee, Valencia, in reply to applications made for supplies. I have had interviews with the Killarney, Cahirciveen, and Tralee Committees; the first and last have made arrangements to purchase supplies for present use from the trade. I have taken care to impress upon them the necessity of their using every exertion to purchase food, to be independent of our reserve—that even those would not be finally complete, and brought into operation, until the arrival of importations into the United Kingdom from the United States, which cannot be obtained before the end of November; and that even then, except under pressing emergency, they will not be available for large towns. I have likewise called their

attention, and also that of the Valence and Cahirveens Committees, to purchasing wheat and grinding it into whole meal.

The Tralee Committee have called for tenders for 100 tons of barley meal, and as there is an abundant supply in the market of wheat, barley, and oats, the produce of the present harvest, these grains should be made use of until Indian corn and meal can be largely imported, and had at moderate cost.

I have, in travelling through Kerry and other parts, made many inquiries as to the time the potatoes may be expected to last. The accounts are conflicting: in some parts (bog land) even until Christmas, others till November; and again, in some localities, October only. I have gone into the fields and cabins, and examined those digging and cooking by the potatoes for their daily meal; I found them generally small and partially diseased, and when cooked not possessing that farinaceous appearance, or palatable flavor, as when in a sound state. The late relief operations have, no doubt, had the effect of bringing upon Committees a mass of people clamorous to be supplied, who, though previously suffering more or less from destitution, depended upon other sources for food, now lost to them by the failure of the potato crop. I return to Limerick this afternoon, via Tarbert. I would here observe, that Kenmare and Kilmeglin are both points where depôts can be formed hereafter, if circumstances should require it; but I should hope that the three which will be shortly completed, and the "Madagascar" at Tarbert, will suffice for the whole of this seaboard from Skibbereen. At Kenmare, the only building to be had is in such bad and insecure condition that I should be extremely loath to occupy it.

TREASURY MINUTE ON the above.

October 6, 1846.

Write to Sir R. Routh, acknowledging the receipt of this letter and the accompanying report from Commissary-General Hewetson, which does not appear to require any particular remark.

SIR R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, October 3, 1846.

See page 62.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 305, dated 30th ultimo, communicating to me the views which the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, entertained of the nature of the present emergency in Ireland, and I shall communicate these instructions to the officers in charge of the depôts, for their information and guidance.

MR. TREVELYAN to Mr. MORRISON.

October 3, 1846.

I THINK it right to mention to you, that the demands for silver coin for Ireland are likely to be very urgent, and it is therefore necessary that the utmost activity should take place in putting the Mint again into a working condition.

MR. TREVELYAN to Commissary-General HEWETSON.

October 3, 1846.

CAN you inform me what gave rise to the statement overleaf, extracted from the "Limerick Chronicle?"

I do not for a moment suppose that you ever contemplated acting, without authority, so directly in contravention of one of the most essential points in your instructions, and I should not give the matter a thought if the particularity of the assertion ("to be delivered monthly in this district"), did not seem to point to some circumstance which would explain the mistake.

It is so desirable that the remainder of the meal should be removed from Haulbowline to Limerick, at the earliest possible date, that if Admiralty vessels are not forthcoming, private vessels ought, I think, to be hired for the purpose, which you could no doubt manage through Mr. Cummins, without going to Limerick yourself.

It is utterly out of our power to undertake for the east, as well as the west of Ireland, and we must therefore take care not to derange the measures of the merchants, or relieve them from their responsibility.

Extract.

"The Commissariat Department are inquiring for a supply of 2,000 tons of "Indian meal, to be delivered monthly in this district."

SIR R. ROUTH TO MR. TRAVELTAN.

Castle, Dublin, October 3, 1846.

Our prices were raised on the day I last wrote to you to 18*l* oatmeal and 14*l* Indian meal per ton, and 12*s*. per cwt. biscuit, and the biscuit which has been repacked and assorted at Haulbowline to 14*s*. per cwt. I was partly prepared for the news from America, and I quite concur in all your opinions as relate to prices.

I do very much regret that Mr. Filder has kept back Mr. Adams. He has a description of intelligence which would have assisted here in the commission duties, and kept up all our Committees to their work, and moved about in all our own depôts and kept me practically informed as if I had been present among them myself. I never proposed to keep him at the desk or at accounts, farther than to know how these duties were going on to enable him to keep up a proper combination and uniformity at other posts. I have nobody who could take so enlarged a view as he would be prepared to do, and I know him well, as he has been with me from a boy at least 20 years.

I am very glad you have made the arrangement about the biscuit, &c. at Haulbowline. I think it is a judicious precaution, and in the present high price of every article I think it not at all unlikely we may be called upon for supplies to the troops.

I make particular note of your letter No. 305, of the 30th September, and I Page 63. communicate the remarks it contains, which are very applicable, to all the Departments for their guidance. I am anxious to find a moment to make the small Indian corn pamphlet more useful, but I am so pressed that I have hitherto been prevented.

I was very much gratified by your letter of the 29th September and its Page 64. enclosures, which are admirable, and I keep it close at hand to refresh my memory. We shall have our mills all occupied I hope, by the end of the month, at Sligo; but we have not yet much hope of grinding at Westport, though I think we shall succeed hereafter. We shall be thankful for a good cargo of meal at Westport, and I am closing our constabulary depôts in that neighbourhood, for as long as we continue them open, the public will cease from all exertion. I have sent to enquire into the affair mentioned by the O'Connor Don. Mr. Young is a large agent, but not, I believe, a landholder. The fact is, that the depôt at Castlereagh ought to cease. His residence is about a mile from the town, and Mr. Young lives on the other side of it, nearly about the same distance. The constables cannot be expected to exercise a proper discretion as to the cases in which sales ought to be made, and I wish to condense and concentrate our depôts as much as possible under our own charge, and let the Committees act.

The most important part of your letter to-day is the American news, and the necessity we shall probably feel to think of substitutes. In the first place, I certainly recommend barley, but there will be soon a great run on that grain. Have you thought of rice, and peas, and beans, and do you recollect those Portuguese beans or lupins that I showed you. The Americans frequently grind up peas with their Indian corn meal. Then the *Bleu Sarrazin* or Buckwheat. These are not things for immediate consideration, but hereafter they may become so.

I send you the papers on the drainage of land, and I should think that they were equally applicable to Scotland.

I also enclose to you a curious calculation, showing the total quantity and value of Indian corn and potatoes from 15th October to 15th August required for the whole Irish population; it has been made out in the Commission Office.

ENCLOSURE.

Commissariat Relief Office, 3rd October, 1946.

ESTIMATE OF THE QUANTITY AND VALUE OF INDIAN CORN, AND OF POTATOES, for the Subsistence of ALL PERSONS above the Age of One Year and not over Five Years, from Five to Fifteen Years, from Fifteen to Sixty Years, and above Sixty Years; allowing per Diem for the 1st Class, 3 lb. of Indian Corn, or 5 lb. of Potatoes; for the 2nd, 1 lb. of Indian Corn, or 6 lb. of Potatoes; for the 3rd, 1 lb. of Indian Corn per Week, or 10 lb. of Potatoes per Diem; for the 4th, 1 lb. of Indian Corn, or 2 lb. of Potatoes per Diem. Also, the Total Quantity and Value of Indian Corn and of Potatoes required for the Support of such Classes: the Indian Corn valued at 1d. per lb., the Potatoes at 2½d. per 14 lb. The period of the Estimate is from the 15th October, 1946, to 15th August, 1947, being 10 Months or 304 Days. The Allowances of Potatoes to each Person is founded on the Workhouse Dietaries. The Population taken from the Census of 1941.

Persons above the Age of

Five Years and not exceeding Fifty Years.

One Year and not exceeding Five Years.

Number of Persons for whom no Allowance has been made, as their Ages do not exceed One Year.	Indian Corn, 3 lb. each per Diem.				Potatoes, 6 lb. each per Diem.			
	Persons.		Value, at 1d. per lb.		Quantity.		Value, at 2½d. per 14 lb.	
	Quantity.	Total.	Quantity.	Total.	Quantity.	Total.	Quantity.	Total.
Persons 341,474	684,869	99,069-025	548,620-633	548,311-280	400,122-107	£	5,427,146	5,791,531-668
							5,945,720-920	1,679,117-741
								Total

Persons above the Age of

Sixty Years.

Fifteen Years and not exceeding Sixty Years.

Persons.	Indian Corn, 12 lb. each Weekly.				Potatoes, 16 lb. each Daily.			
	Quantity.		Value, at 1d. per lb.		Quantity.		Value, at 2½d. per 14 lb.	
	Quantity.	Total.	Quantity.	Total.	Quantity.	Total.	Quantity.	Total.
4,517,799	1,031,679-694	9,802,569-146	6,132,550-715	10,319,740-438	333,794	48,117-143	448,150-337	59,658-378
								Total
								100,000-120
								7,413,700

Total Estimated Allowance for the Populations, aged above One Year.

Indian Corn.				Potatoes.			
Quantity.		Value, at 1d. per lb.		Quantity.		Value, at 2½d. per 14 lb.	
Quantity.	Total.	Quantity.	Total.	Quantity.	Total.	Quantity.	Total.
1,420,154-031	11,424,327-436	8,142,393-358	13,471,596-713				

This total Quantity of Potatoes required for subsistence between the 15th of October, 1946, and 15th of August, 1947, appears to represent the Quantity of Potatoes 1946, exclusive of the usual reserve for seed, the portion of the Produce given to Cattle, &c.; also the Quantity annually Expended to Great Britain. Lessing these out of the calculation, the estimated loss is £12,570,999.

SIR R. ROUTH TO MR. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, October 5, 1846.

I AM not able, not from want of matter but want of time, to write this evening further than a few lines. I have an extraordinary letter from Youghall, which I must submit to you, but I have not time to-day. I have had a deputation from Galway, who are very earnest to obtain a supply of meal from the dépôt; we have about 300 tons there, our price 14*l*. They implore it as the means of giving them time to grind, and they state, which is true, that the millers cannot send their meal and flour into the interior except under strong escorts, arising from the apprehension of the people that there is not a sufficient supply in the town. There is a sad rabble at Galway and its neighbourhood. They have voted from their city funds a sum of 500*l*., and they have 600*l*. left of last year, to purchase and grind home produce, but they want time to prepare it. This is their story, and I have promised a reply to-morrow. Under the circumstances I would not hesitate, but I fear the precedent. I shall see Mr. Labouchere and the Lord Lieutenant, and act in concert.

I shall inquire about the remains at Haulhowline, in which I think there is some error, but even then the quantity of biscuit is too small.

On Wednesday next I shall commence my reports for the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and send them regularly Wednesdays and Saturdays. The mass of things that come before me to be expedited, and the interruptions I cannot avoid, have occasioned the delay; but I am getting into order, and I already feel the advantage of Mr. Bishop, and think I shall be able to get on in the accounts with his assistance. Mr. Cameron came to the office for a few hours to-day.

I think you are succeeding very well with Mr. Erichsen, who appears to be very regular and attentive. It is very difficult to judge of the actual state of supply in this country, where everybody hears; but I should not be surprised if even the stock of potatoes were much greater than we imagine, and therefore I am altogether of your opinion to keep our dépôts in reserve. I like, also, your plan of buying abroad; it does not affect the markets here and in England, where our appearance in a large way might tend to produce a scarcity, by encouraging speculators and high prices, and increasing apprehensions. The prices will fall in December, but now they are certainly doing us good, for ours is the best market, and we shall get all that is going. I am very sanguine about the result. I only fear that in the spring there may be a difficulty in finding freight equal to the quantity the Americans can spare us. I see the harvest is quoted at 480 to 500 millions of bushels of Indian corn, of which they can spare near a fifth. Freight is always scarce in the south, and they do not like to ship entire cargoes of Indian corn; it is generally mixed with cotton and other goods. Our merchants should think of this, and send shipping.

We are quite ready for the plantation steel hand-mills. This is, I think, the name.

Commissary-General HEWITSON TO MR. TREVELYAN.

Limerick, October 5, 1846.

I AM as much in the dark and surprised as you are, touching the statement you have sent me, extracted from the "*Limerick Chronicle*," which—having been absent in Kerry, and seldom having leisure to look into the newspapers—I had not before seen: it shall, however, be contradicted.

You are perfectly right in not for a moment supposing I could think of acting in any shape without due authority: I only regret you should have deemed it necessary to say this much. I know too well, in the position in which I am placed, the necessity of using the greatest caution in all my proceedings; and I am so strongly impressed with this feeling, that it rules all my actions.

The supplies have some time since been all removed from Haulhowline, the only remaining are about 500 sacks of meal and 1000 bags of the old biscuit, which I have held back to stock the reserve dépôt I have but just returned from fixing at Cahereiveen. The 6000 bags of new Navy biscuit in store there (Haulhowline) in charge of the naval storekeeper, is at our disposal if called for.

I expect reinforcements of troops will immediately be wanting in Ireland. Here, demands for military protection are coming in thick upon the commanding officer of the district, and he is now sending off a company of infantry to Kilmaree, where

the people are in a very excited state. There are so many detachments of cavalry and infantry out, the strength of this garrison, looking to the feverish state of the adjacent country, is woefully diminished. I should wish to see a line-of-battle ship from the squadron of evolutions anchored in the Lower Shannon, either at Tarbert or Foyes; it would afford an excellent addition to our moveable force, and command respect. But you will say I am going out of my course on this subject.

The quantity of wheat and oats coming daily into this city for exportation is very large, as also at the neighbouring ports. The mill power, too, is becoming in request. I have tried Captain Perceval's receipt with the whole corn; it was steeped 12 hours in cold water, and well boiled three hours and a half the next morning. I have just eaten half a plateful for my luncheon; it is excellent, either with salt alone, or with a little fat or butter; and as the cottier seldom wants for fuel in this country (turf), he has no difficulty in the cooking. No man, woman, or child can cry starvation on such nutritious food: I trust December will bring abundance of it into the United Kingdom.

An unfortunate fracas has just occurred at Castle Connell, eight miles from hence. A detachment of the 88th Regiment, on their march to Cork to embark for foreign service, appears to have had some grudge against the police; they attacked the police-station in the night. The result is, one soldier badly shot, and a countryman of the village who joined the soldiers killed. The row has nothing to do with want; no doubt the attacking party were drunk.

MR. ROBERTSON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

London, October 5, 1846.

I NOTICE in the journals a day or two since some embarrassments in the Customs in Ireland, in regard to the duties to be estimated on Indian corn, imported in the cob or in the ear. Our invariable rule in the United States is to count two for one; say two bushels of corn in the ear will measure or produce one bushel of shelled corn, varying at no time more than a mere fraction, sometimes more and sometimes less; this you may easily prove by what is now in the warehouse. I take the liberty of mentioning this to you, as I feel persuaded there will be large amounts imported in the ear. If corn is imported in bulk, mixed together, the shelled and in the ear, it is less liable to heat, and in truth the greatest preservative, the cob absorbing the moisture, and occupying (in that way) no increased space, the corn being packed in the cob by Him who perfects all things. The corn will actually occupy a greater space, after being separated from the cob, than it previously occupied, including the cob.

The corn is separated in the United States from the cob by what is termed a corn-sheller, costing 1*l.* to 2*l.*; one man with it will do more than 10 men threshing.

MR. TREVELYAN to Mr. ROBERTSON.

Treasury, October 6, 1846.

I FEEL indebted to you for the information with which you have kindly furnished me in your letter of yesterday's date, on the practice in the United States in regard to the relative proportions of Indian corn in the ear and when shelled, and other matters connected therewith; but, before making use of it, I am anxious to have your assistance in clearing up a point which may appear obscure to persons who are not familiar with the subject.

Is there not, at least, an apparent inconsistency in the following two passages of your letter, a copy of which I send herewith, as you may find it convenient to refer to it?

"Our invariable rule in the United States is to count two for one, say, two bushels of corn in the ear, will measure or produce one bushel of shelled corn."

"The corn will actually occupy a greater space after being separated from the cob, than it previously occupied, including the cob."

I have no doubt it is capable of explanation; but, before writing to our officers, I wish to be able to make the matter perfectly plain to them.

Mr. ROBERTSON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

London, October 7, 1846.

I AM in receipt of your favour of the 6th instant, and do not feel surprised, on reflection, at the difficulty you experience in reconciling my apparent inconsistency; but if you had been familiar with the article, you would have perfectly understood me. You are aware how much bulk corn in the ear must take, thrown into a measure by itself, leaving large spaces, but if filled with shelled corn, the interstices would be occupied. I do not know that I can explain it to you sufficiently well; but if you will direct them in Ireland to take two bushels of corn in the ear, and then shell it, throwing the cobs away, they will find just one bushel of shelled corn; and then if they will take a single ear, roll it up in paper, and then draw it out, leaving the form and bulk of the whole ear, and then shell the corn and put it back in the paper, you will find the paper will barely hold it; but when you throw the ears in a measure by themselves, they will occupy double the space of the grain when separated from the cob. Do instruct them to make the experiment in Ireland. If you had a bushel of ears of corn before you, the matter, I think, will be very plain.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTE.

October 5, 1846.

I HAVE derived much satisfaction from observing from your letter, dated 3rd instant, that we are of one mind about the proper mode of managing our depôts, and that you have begun to set fairly on our united views.

I hope nothing will induce you to establish a new depot, or to reopen an old one, the issues from which you have not good reason to believe you will be able to maintain. It is better that the people should depend upon their unassisted exertions for procuring food, than that they should be induced to rely upon us, and be afterwards left without resource, owing to the impossibility of our supplying such great multitudes.

The Government establishments are strained to the utmost in this service, and we are buying as much as we can venture to buy without raising prices to a degree which must attract attention, and lead to a counter-pressure against the Government in this country.

I had a conference with Lord Auckland to-day at the Admiralty, and we agreed upon immediately carrying into effect the following measures:—

1. Two frigates to be fitted out as store-ships for the north-western coast of Scotland, to be laden with 700 tons of meal each.

2. An additional steam-engine to be set up at Plymouth, by which the powers of that mill will be doubled; and—

3. Orders to be sent to the Commissariat Officers-in charge at Malta to buy, and to the Admiral Superintendent to grind, as much Indian corn as possible in the Admiralty mill at that place, and to send the first cargo to Limerick, and the subsequent cargoes as you may advise.

I have also made arrangements for procuring millpower in the Channel Islands, which I shall make use of to the extent to which I can supply grain.

It is important that you should keep me constantly advised of the destinations which you wish us to give to the different cargoes of corn and meal. The best plan will be for you to send me, at least, a weekly list of the different depôts, noting the relative urgency of their being replenished, taking care to distinguish corn and meal according to the local means of grinding.

I have made inquiries through other channels besides the Ordnance about handmills. In India, handmills, of the simplest construction, are in general use; merely one small round stone, fitted with a groove into another, with a hole in the middle of the upper stone, into which the grain is put, and a handle on the side; and I imagine that the querne, which I understand is still in use in some parts of Ireland, is something of the same kind. Could you procure a querne and send it to me; for if it is merely composed of two stones, like our Indian mills, I might have large numbers made, without much delay, at a moderate expense, and sent to Ireland to be distributed where they are required. I have also written to the Shetland Islands for a specimen.

MR. TREVELYAN to MR. LABOUCHERE.

October 5, 1846.

It belongs to the province of the Lord Lieutenant to determine, in communication with the country gentlemen, whether rye or bere, or any other seed not at present available in this country, should be imported, to help to supply the void occasioned by the failure of the potato cultivation. And my object in writing to you on the subject is merely to say, that if it be resolved to procure any such seed, I am ready to get the necessary supply, either through our Commissaries, who are stationed in every colony, or by means of agency which I could employ in foreign countries.

Commissary-General HEWITSON to MR. TREVELYAN.

Limerick, October 6, 1846.

In looking this morning at yours of the 2nd, it seems you are under the impression that delay had taken place in removing our establishment and supplies from Cork and Haulbowline; but this is not the case. At the commencement, when the Treasury Minute first appeared, we did not get the steamers as soon as looked for, as they were employed in removing and exchanging troops between Plymouth, Dublin, Liverpool, and Cove; but when that service was performed, we went on rapidly; in the meantime the supplies were moved down the river from Cork in lighters to Haulbowline, and the "Rhodamanthos," "Dee," "Stromboli," "Alban," and "Plato" steamers, besides a hired vessel, the "Humility," were all actively employed between that place and our depôts on this coast. The mills and granaries at Cork were vacated about the 20th ult., and the buildings all given up; the new reserve depôts at Skibbereen and Dingle were supplied, as were Sligo and Westport, and finally, what remained, lodged here and in the "Madagascar" frigate, our floating depot, now moored at Tarbert. Considering we had hitherto to work in the equinox, I think the service was well done; the only hired vessel engaged, the smack "Humility," was taken, as her draft of water admitted of her going quite up the river from Castle Townsend to Skibbereen. I merely recapitulate this much to remove the impression, as before observed, you seem to have entertained.

SIR R. ROOTH to MR. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, October 6, 1846.

I TRANSMIT to you the reply of Deputy Assistant Commissary-General Campbell, in relation to the case which was represented to the O'Connor Don. As the other reports reach me, I shall send them to you. We are reducing the constabulary issues to two days in the week, preparatory to their entire discontinuance for the time being.

ENCLOSURE.

Deputy Assistant Commissary-General CAMPBELL to SIR R. ROOTH.

Longford, October 5, 1846.

HAVING, in consequence of the representation to you of the O'Connor Don, written to the stipendiary magistrate, sub-inspector of constabulary, and constable, at Castlerea, on the influence supposed to have been exercised by Mr. Young on our issues, I find the impression must have arisen thus:—

Mr. Young is the under-agent of Lord Mount Sandford, and gave us accommodation in a house of his, in which he himself occasionally, and on his Lordship's behalf, issued provisions under first cost to the poor; but not, as I understood, during the time our constable issued.

Mr. Young is a man of high character and humanity, and Head Constable Irwin being also a man of seal and excellent character, and, as I fully believe, disposed to act with strict impartiality, the liability even to observation, much less impropriety, in being under the same roof, I confess did not strike me.

Mr. Wray, the magistrate, whose letter I beg to enclose, as embracing the subject, (and without waiting for those from the others written to,) seems, however, to admit that our occupying the same house is objectionable; and I have, therefore, requested him to look out for some other suitable concern, to which we can remove.

I regret this much; but conscious of my own integrity, (pardon me,) and believing that all was conducted, not only correctly, but above suspicion, I submit the facts as they are.

SEN,

Castlereagh, October 4, 1846.

ALTHOUGH this should be a "day of rest," yet I feel it right to reply to your letter of yesterday without delay. What gave rise, I presume, to the report of unfair distribution of food from your sub-depôt here, is the fact of your store of public property, and Lord Mount Sandford's store of private property, being in one and the same house, which I thought, and think, objectionable, if it could be avoided. I am quite satisfied that Mr. Young did not (so far as I could hear) at all interfere with the public issue; and also, that even when distributing the supply of food provided by him as my Lord Mount Sandford's private account he was not exclusive to their own tenantry; however, it is possible, and not improbable, he may have given more of it to some than to others. I believe in my heart, that Head Constable Irwin did his utmost to supply the poorest creatures indiscriminately, yet he may have been imposed upon; and I form this opinion of that officer's conduct, as I have myself taken some pains and some liberty too, in watching over the issues, when I had time; which, indeed, I feel to be the duty of every public officer, under existing circumstances.

I am, &c.

Deputy Assistant Commissary-General Campbell.

J. WRAY.

TREASURY MINUTE.

October 6, 1846.

WRITE to the Commissariat officer in charge at Malta that Sir Lucius Curtis, the Rear-Admiral Superintendent at Malta, will be instructed forthwith to cause all the available mill power at the disposal of the naval department at that station, to be employed, until farther orders, in grinding meal for the relief of the distress prevailing in parts of the United Kingdom, owing to the failure of the potato crop.

The grain is to be purchased and supplied to the mills by the Commissariat, and is to consist altogether of Indian corn, if a sufficient supply of that description of grain is to be obtained; but if this should prove not to be the case, then barley is to be provided; and, in the last resort, wheat, of an inferior but of a perfectly wholesome quality.

It appears to my Lords that it will be expedient to secure at once, either by purchases in the market or by contracts for cargoes afloat, such quantities of grain as will suffice to keep the mills at work for three or four months, unless local circumstances may be of sufficient weight to justify the adoption of a different course.

On this particular occasion, my Lords are pleased to dispense with the observance of the ordinary rules prescribed by the Commissariat regulations, of obtaining supplies by public advertisement; and they authorize the officer in charge of the department at Malta to employ for the purpose a broker of well-known respectability, with whom he will communicate confidentially, and whose advice and recommendations will be of essential service in regulating his (the Commissariat officer's) proceedings.

He will receive by the present opportunity two copies of the Blue Book laid before Parliament, of correspondence explanatory of the measures taken by Government for the relief of distress in Ireland, one of which he will deliver to Sir Lucius Curtis. A reference is made on the covers of those books to some passages which relate to kiln-drying and grinding Indian corn, according to the practice successfully adopted in this country.

Tonnage is to be secured in the usual manner by the naval department for the conveyance of the meal, and the first cargo is to be sent to Limerick, consigned to Commissary-General Hewetson, and instructions will be hereafter forwarded respecting the subsequent cargoes.

He will communicate these instructions to the officer commanding, requesting his assistance in case he should require it, and he will specially acknowledge the receipt thereof, and report his proceedings for their Lordships' information, as soon as his arrangements are matured.

It is desired that every possible despatch may be observed in the execution of this service.

Transmit a copy of this Minute to Sir R. Roath, and desire that he will inform my Lords to what ports he would recommend that the meal ground at Malta should be sent.

Write to the Secretary of the Admiralty, transmitting to him a copy of the foregoing Minute, and requesting that he will lay the same before the Board of Admiralty for their information.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Deputy Commissary-General IBBETSON.

Treasury, October 6, 1846.

ADVERTING to the official letter of yesterday's date, by which you were directed to make purchases of grain to be ground into meal by the Naval department, I now send you a copy of a memorandum from the Comptroller of Victualling on the mill-power and cooorage at Malta, and the resources of the island in grain.

It is my wish, that a considerable quantity of grain should be purchased at once, consisting altogether of Indian corn, if it is to be procured, or, if not, partly of Indian corn, and partly of barley, oats, or wheat, of an inferior but wholesome quality.

You will understand that a preference is to be given to the above descriptions of grain, in the order in which they are specified; but that, at all events, it is essential to secure, without delay, a large supply of some one or more of these kinds of grain.

The grain purchased is to be paid for by bills at par on this Board.

ENCLOSURE.

Memorandum

October 5, 1846.

MILL, &c.

THERE are at Malta, 20 pair of stones, worked by mules, and 12 pair of stones in the new victualling establishment, to be worked by steam.

The former may perhaps yield half as much meal as the latter.

The latter are, it is said, ready for work, but I am not aware of any official report to that effect.

Formerly, when there was a large naval force employed in the Mediterranean, private wind-mills were used, of which there are many, but such has not been the case lately. If required, many may no doubt be hired.

CORN.]

There can always be purchased at Malta, the following descriptions of grain, &c. :—

Wheat, in general, a large quantity is kept.

Wheat, from Odessa, is good, but hard, and can be ground only with "Lava" stones.

Egyptian wheat is of an inferior quality, and biscuit made from it not liked.

Oats are in general to be had in abundance.

Barley is not so abundant.

They are both said to be of good quality.

COORAGE.

There is on the victualling establishment at Malta, one head cooper, under whom two or three working coopers are generally employed on the provisions in store; and occasionally, when wanted, in making flour casks from such as may have been returned from ships, including oat-meal and peas casks.

It has not been necessary to send out any new staves from this country.

Beds . . .	269
Pencocks . .	468
Englebacks .	421
Harrels . . .	254
Half-harrels .	1481
Small Casks .	348

Total . 3014

But this includes full and empty casks, and there is no means of ascertaining the exact number of empty dry casks.

Coopers form a numerous class at Malta, and may be hired in considerable numbers, if wanted, as has often been the case.

The number of casks in store at Malta, on the 30th June last, is shown on the margin; and a sufficient quantity of stores, of various kinds, can be obtained there until such further supplies of scantling, sawn up from Quebec staves at Deptford, as may be deemed necessary, can be sent out.

Under all circumstances it is submitted, that so far as relates to the casks to be provided, Sir LUTHER CURTIS should be directed by the overland mail to order as many casks of the size of a half-harrel, each containing about 168 lbs., to be manufactured as expeditiously as possible, either from materials in store, or from such as, it is understood, can be procured at Malta, so flagged as to render them impervious to water, as may be required to contain the meal to be ground from corn to be provided by the Commissariat. Hiring such a number of coopers as may be necessary for the purpose, and reporting to their Lordships by the first overland mail, whether any, and what number, of Quebec scantling will be required; as well as what number of iron hoops will be wanted, in order that they may be sent out from Deptford.

Captain LARCOM to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Board of Works, October 6, 1846.

See Board of Works Series, page 96.

IN your letter read to us to-day by Colonel Jones, you overlook the crop of grass. It has been enormous this year in Ireland, and must have produced beef, mutton, and wool, which are convertible into grain.

Our quays are crowded with cattle.

I do not know whether it is general in other parts of Europe.

Mr. PIERCE MAHONY to the EARL OF CLARENDON.

The Stephen's Green Club, October 6, 1846.

I CAME here yesterday, and at last I can assure your Lordship, that I confidently expect that we are all safe from famine in Ireland. The Government

have, at last, boldly entered upon the task (difficult, no doubt), of providing for the people; and in return, they may be assured of the most strenuous and devoted support from the higher class, of all sects and parties, in this country. The proclamation from the Lord-Lieutenant, which appears in the *Dublin Evening Post* now sent, will remove all just causes for alarm, and if the Government can supply a sufficient number of depôts with Indian meal, throughout the counties of Cork, Kerry, Clare, Galway, and Mayo, until aid can be procured through the mercantile energy of the country, if it exists on this side of the channel, the severity of the present pressure will cease by the 1st December.

We want, and must have depôts for food, to be opened *only* in case of need, to supply the wants of the people.

We want troops in each principal town to protect the inhabitants from rioters, and to patrol the districts in which they may be quartered.

We want a rigid system of *task-work* to be introduced, and let it be aided by the poor-house relief, even to the objectionable extent of giving food at the door, sooner than employing on the day labour system.

The intended meeting in Dublin will be now abandoned, as the promoters of it must be satisfied with Lord Bessborough's proclamation.

SIR R. ROUTH to MR. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, October 7, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 314, dated 5th instant, transmitting to me the Minute of the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury in relation to the purchase of grain by the Commissariat at Malta, and the grinding thereof into meal by the naval department at that island; and I beg to suggest to you that, as there are more than 80 mills in the Queen's bakery at Malta under the superintendence of the Commissariat, it is probable that these means at the disposal of the department may be made to contribute to this operation.

It appears to me that my Lords have very judiciously selected Limerick as the port to which the first cargo should be sent, and I should recommend the continuance of the same system, and that Limerick should be made a general port of consignment for all cargoes shipped from Malta.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

October 9, 1846.

Transmit a copy of this letter to the officer in charge of the Commissariat in Malta, for his information and guidance with reference to the letter of this Board of the 6th instant.

State that if a quantity of grain can be purchased more than sufficient to keep all the mills in Malta which are employed by the naval department in constant work, it is their Lordships' desire that the mills at the disposal of the Commissariat may also be made use of to the utmost extent to which they are available.

Observe that the instructions already transmitted from this Board relate to the necessity of kiln-drying *Indian corn* before it is ground, and describe the process successfully employed in the United Kingdom in respect to that kind of grain; and my Lords rely on the local experience of the officers superintending the operation of grinding in Malta to determine whether, supposing the propriety should be admitted of kiln-drying any other kind of grain purchased by the Commissariat, some modification of the process, as described in the Instructions before referred to, may not be admitted.

Transmit copy of Sir R. Routh's letter, and copy of the foregoing Minute, to the Secretary, to be laid before the Lords of the Admiralty for their information with reference to the Letter of this Board of the 6th instant.

SIR R. ROUTH to MR. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, October 7, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, copies of my account current from the 1st to the 31st July, and from the 1st to the

31st August, 1846, leaving a balance in my hands on the 31st August of 23,308*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.*

The originals of these accounts have been this day forwarded to the Commissioners for Auditing Public Accounts.

I, also, lay before you a general account current of the receipt and expenditure of Indian corn, Indian corn meal, and other stores in my charge between the 1st February and 31st August, 1846, calling your attention to the balance of stores therein remaining, the value of which, when finally disposed of, will leave an excess of something more than 10,000*l.* over and above my estimate of 60,000*l.*, as detailed in my balance-sheet, page 249 of the Blue Book.

I, also, submit to you a general account current of my receipt and expenditure of public money between the 1st December, 1845, and the 31st August, 1846; and I trust that all these documents will be found satisfactory, and to afford all necessary explanation: but I should remark that the Coast Guard accounts are not yet settled, nor can I expect that they will be so until the receipt of the September accounts, and that even some items may extend into the month of October. This delay results from the nature of the service and the inexperience of the persons employed on it in matters of account; but, hitherto, I have found everything very correct, though deficient in form, with frequent occasion to admire the alacrity and disinterestedness with which the Coast Guard have discharged these duties.

ENCLOSURE.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE RECEIPT AND EXPENDITURE OF PUBLIC MONEY IN IRELAND, under the direction of Commissary-General Sir RANDOLPH J. ROUSE, between the 1st day of December, 1845, and the 31st day of August, 1846, in relieving the Distress occasioned by the Failure of the Potato Crop of the year 1845-46.

<i>Dr.</i>	<i>To Sums received.</i>	<i>Amount.</i>		
		<i>£.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
To Her Majesty's Paymaster-General		4,408	19	6
To Paymaster of Civil Services, Dublin		45,000	0	0
<i>To Sales of Indian Corn Meal, Oatmeal, &c., viz. :—</i>				
To Poor Relief Committees	£95,027	12	5	
To Poor Families, in small quantities	9,559	1	8	
At Coast Guard Stations	13,066	11	1	
By Public Auction or Private Sale	1,739	4	10	
To Poor Law Unions	25	12	0	
		119,479	2	0
		£168,888	1	6
<i>Cr.</i>	<i>By Sums paid.</i>	<i>Amount.</i>		
		<i>£.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
By Donations to Relief Committees by His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant		69,703	11	6
By Purchases made in the United Kingdom and paid for in Ireland		7,440	15	0
By Freight, Lighterage, &c., on Indian Corn Meal, &c.		10,119	7	6
By Labour and Cartage at the several Depôts		2,818	16	9
By Grinding Indian Corn into Meal by Contract Millers		9,757	9	7
By Repair and Fitting up Premises at the Depôts		31	13	7
By Rent and Charges for Premises and Magazines		1,267	6	7
By Expenses of the Relief Commission in Dublin		2,043	2	10
By Expenses of Visiting and Reporting upon Fever Districts		154	12	6
By Pay of Commissariat Officers and Subordinates		4,264	13	6
By Travelling Expenses of ditto		308	17	1
By Printing, Advertisements, &c.		33	2	9
By Postage and Conveyance Disbursements		287	17	11
		108,161	12	1
By Board of Works, Advances on account of		7,420	0	0
By Her Majesty's Paymaster-General for Sums realized		30,000	0	0
		145,581	12	1
Balance in Ireland, 31st August, 1846		23,308	9	5
		£168,888	1	6

Dublin Castle, October 6, 1846.

R. J. ROUSE, C. G.

COMMISSARY-GENERAL, SIR RANDOLPH J. ROUTH, in account current with the LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF HER MAJESTY'S TREASURY, so far as relates to the Receipt and Expenditure of Indian Corn, Indian Corn Meal, &c., in relieving the Distress in Ireland, between the 1st February and 31st August, 1846.

Dr.—EXPENDITURE.

	Indian Corn.	Indian Corn Meal.	Outward.		Cards.	Cards.	Sacks.	Indian Bards.	Indian Bards or Pardons.	Bards with Iron Hoops.	Half Bards with Iron Hoops.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	Cwt.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
To House Baring	35,602,565	2,067,222	241,390	..	..	..	1,006	37,378	..	..	..
For Losses made in the United Kingdom . . . . .	..	..	436,000	..	253	650	7,318	..	..	..	..
Ovalum, Board of . . . . .	..	..	..	34,104	..	..	77,623	..	..	..	41
Admiralty . . . . .	..	..	632,543	..	..	..	..	..	1,628	150	..
Master Miller at Lee Mills, Cork . . . . .	..	4,875,697	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Contract Millers . . . . .	..	18,612,804	..	..	..	..	71	..	..	..	..
Supplies in Store on reweighing	147,437	..	4,445	..	..	..	1	..	30	..	..
Total	35,602,565	31,975,703	1,774,130	14,104	253	650	85,429	37,378	320	1,623	191

Cr.—RECEIPTS.

	Indian Corn.	Indian Corn Meal.	Outward.		Cards.	Cards.	Sacks.	Indian Bards.	Indian Bards or Pardons.	Bards with Iron Hoops.	Half Bards with Iron Hoops.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	Cwt.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
By Poor Relief Committees . . .	67,990	20,867,794	680,607	9,604	..	..	14,373	9,371	..	..	..
For Losses made in the United Kingdom . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
For Families in small quan- tities . . . . .	..	1,382,062	340,603	..	..	..	1,446	140	..	..	..
Contract Millers . . . . .	..	4,760,439	257,680	4,500	..	..	9,741	5,404	..	..	..
Lee Mills and Kils, Cork . . .	..	..	..	275	631	..	..	..	..	..	..
Master Miller at Lee Mills . . .	5,178,138	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Contract Millers	20,224,321	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sale by Auction, &c.	303,235	347,378	..	..	8	28	164	15,616	100	90	..
Contracted per Board of Sur- vey	32,649	1,569	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Deficiency on reweighing, &c.	..	4,618	..	..	..	..	..	31	..	..	..
Total Issued	35,602,565	31,975,703	1,774,130	14,104	253	650	85,429	37,378	320	1,623	191
Balance remaining	9,247	6,438,134	267,912	..	..	..	38,791	10,816	210	1,383	150
Total	35,602,565	31,975,703	1,774,130	14,104	253	650	85,429	37,378	330	1,623	191

Dublin Castle, October 5, 1846.

R. J. ROUTH, C. G.

STATEMENT of the BALANCE of Commissary-General Sir R. J. ROUTH'S ACCOUNT CURRENT with the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, for service in Ireland, from the 1st to the 31st of July, 1846.

	Total Sterling. £. s. d.
In possession by myself at Dublin	8,822 6 4
of Commissary-General Coffin at Limerick	2,348 13 4
of Commissary-General Hewetson at Cork	3,843 4 1
of Deputy Commissary-General Dobson at Waterford	1,104 9 0
of Assistant Commissary-General Wood at Galway	1,083 8 5½
of Assistant Commissary-General Lister at Dublin	628 2 9
of Assistant Commissary-General Stevens at Sligo	1,156 13 11
of Captain Percival at Westport	802 11 11½
of Deputy Assistant Commissary-General Campbell et Longford	47 4 9
of F. S. Parker at Athy	893 1 4½
of A. Waller at Dendalk . . . . .	..
Total	21,529 15 11½

Dublin Castle, 1st August, 1846.

R. J. ROUTH, C. G.

The Right Honourable the LORDS COMMISSIONERS of HER MAJESTY'S TREASURY in ACCOUNT CURRENT with Commissary-General Sir RANDOLPH J. ROUTE, for service in Ireland, from 1st to 31st July, 1846, inclusively.

Dr.	£.	s.	d.
To sums imprested to Assistant Commissary-General Cameron at Dublin	6,756	13	8
" remitted to Paymaster-General	23,800	0	0
" issued at Limerick by Commissary-General Coffin	31,733	4	11
" issued at Cork by Commissary-General Hewetson	13,829	1	1
" issued at Waterford by Deputy Commissary-General Dobree	3,559	4	6
" issued at Galway by Assistant Commissary-General Wood	3,618	11	1
" issued at Dublin by Assistant Commissary-General Lister	2,088	17	3
" issued at Sligo by Assistant Commissary-General Stevens	747	4	2
" issued at Westport by Captain Perceval	2,408	8	4
" issued at Longford by Deputy Acting Commissary-General Campbell	1,900	11	9
" issued at Athy by F. S. Parker	1,308	3	9½
" issued at Dundalk by A. Waller	1,090	19	1
To balance carried to next account	21,529	15	11½

£119,599 17 7

Cr.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
By balance brought from last account	23,139	15	6½			
Deduct in transit to Waterford	750	0	0			
By sums received by myself at Dublin				22,889	15	6½
" Commissary-General Coffin at Limerick				36,249	14	6
" Commissary-General Hewetson at Cork				25,543	10	11
" Deputy Commissary-General Dobree at Waterford				14,004	19	8
" Assistant Commissary-General Wood at Galway				4,329	19	11
" Assistant Commissary-General Lister at Dublin				4,430	19	11½
" Assistant Commissary-General Stevens at Sligo				1,707	4	0
" Captain Perceval at Westport				1,603	8	8
" Deputy Acting Commissary-General Campbell at Longford				2,026	8	0½
" F. S. Parker at Athy				2,195	15	8
" A. Waller at Dundalk				1,710	5	10½
				786	14	10

£117,599 17 7

Dublin Castle, 1st August, 1846.

R. J. ROUTE, C. G.

STATEMENT of the BALANCE of Commissary General Sir R. J. ROUTE's ACCOUNT CURRENT with the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, for Service in Ireland, from the 1st to 31st August, 1846.

In possession by myself at Dublin	Total Brought.	£.	s.	d.
" of Commissary-General Sir E. Coffin at Limerick	11,795	10	5	
" of Commissary-General Hewetson at Cork	491	16	3	
" of Assistant Commissary-General Wood at Galway	3,045	0	9	
" of Assistant Commissary-General Stevens at Sligo	1,529	8	6	
" of Captain Perceval at Westport	2,805	5	2	
" of Deputy Assistant Commissary-General Campbell at Longford	2,805	13	11½	
" Commissariat Clerk Parker at Athy	306	17	0	
" Commissariat Clerk Cameron at Clonmel	3	16	0	
	463	1	5	

Total £23,306 9 5½

Dublin Castle, 1st September, 1846.

R. J. ROUTE, C. G.

Dr.

The Right Honourable the LORDS COMMISSIONERS of HER MAJESTY'S TREASURY in ACCOUNT CURRENT with Commissary General Sir R. J. ROUTE, for Service in Ireland, from the 1st to the 31st August, 1846, inclusively.

To sums imprested to Assistant Commissary-General Cameron at Dublin	£.	s.	d.
" issued at Limerick by Commissary-General Sir E. Coffin	7,233	4	7
" issued at Cork by Commissary-General Hewetson	9,329	2	2
" issued at Waterford by Deputy Commissary-General Dobree	5,122	10	8
" issued at Galway by Assistant Commissary-General Wood	1,270	18	0
" issued at Dublin by Assistant Commissary-General Lister	870	6	11
" issued at Sligo by Assistant Commissary-General Stevens	1,102	6	11
" issued at Westport by Captain Perceval	85	12	3
" issued at Longford by Deputy Assistant Commissary-General Campbell	1,547	16	6
" issued at Athy by Commissariat Clerk Parker	307	7	6
" issued at Clonmel by Commissariat Clerk Cameron	1,403	0	3
" issued at Athy by Commissariat Clerk Parker	1,809	0	9½
" issued at Clonmel by Commissariat Clerk Cameron	575	11	4
To balance carried to next account	23,305	9	5½

£54,144 7 4

<i>Co.</i>	<i>£.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
By balance brought from last account	21,529	15	11½
By sums received by myself at Dublin	10,205	8	8
" Commissary-General Sir E. Coffin at Limerick	7,472	5	1
" Commissary-General Hewatson at Cork	4,334	7	4
" Deputy Commissary-General Dobson at Waterford	160	9	0
" Assistant Commissary-General Wood at Galway	1,316	6	11½
" Assistant Commissary-General Lister at Dublin	474	4	2
" Deputy Commissary-General Dobson at Dublin	86	12	3
" Assistant Commissary-General Stevens at Sligo	3,256	7	9
" Captain Percival at Westport	2,400	9	6
" Deputy Assistant Commissary-General Campbell at Longford	852	12	6
" Commissariat Clerk Parker at Athy	1,009	15	3
" Commissariat Clerk Carmichael at Offord	1,038	12	9
	<u>£ 54,344</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u>

Dublin Castle, 1st September, 1946.

R. J. ROYEN, C. G.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

October 9, 1846.

Write to Sir R. Routh acknowledging the receipt of this letter and its enclosures, and expressing their Lordships' satisfaction at the forward state of his public accounts.

MR. TREVELYAN to SIR R. BOUTH.

Treasury, October 7, 1846.

I HOPE your bi-weekly report will not prove a serious burthen to you.

It would, I think, be easier to you, and more descriptive of all that is going on, if it were kept in the form of a journal; and after you have given two or three examples of what you wish it to be, you might entrust the preparation of it to Colonel Archer or Mr. Bishop, only correcting it yourself.

It should have appended to it, copies of all the most interesting and important letters issued and received by you, which was part of the original arrangement.

Pray send me three dozen copies of the instructions to the Relief Committees.

Do you find these work well? and do you expect that subscriptions will be raised to any considerable extent?

How far do you find a call for the early superintendence of the Committees by our officers?

If I am able to send a person to supply Mr. Bromley's place, who will be thoroughly satisfactory to you, which I hope to be able to do, you might depute Colonel Archer or Bishop, or both of them, to set the Committees right on any points at which they may stumble at the commencement.

We shall have some of our other officers soon; Mr. Osborn may arrive any day; and Mr. Milliken writes that he hopes to report himself at the Treasury on the 16th or 17th. I shall make another attempt to get Mr. Adams—short, of course, of giving a positive order.

You say that you should be glad to have a cargo of meal at Westport. The Liverpool cargo of 100 tons of meal is already on its way to that port.

We shall ship to Dublin this week a thousand bushels of oatmeal, which the Admiralty fortunately had in store of their own, and consented to transfer to me, and 250 bushels of Indian corn meal, which is the last we have, and after that we must grind barley with all our might for the Scotch frigate which is to be fitted out from the Thames. The other will be fitted out from Portsmouth, and will be loaded with the produce of the Portsmouth and Plymouth mills.

Do not forget that I must know from you, before the 15th instant, to which of the three ports of Limerick, Sligo and Galway, on the west coast of Ireland, or Portsmouth or Plymouth in the Channel, you wish our purchase of 8000 quarters of American corn for spring delivery to be consigned. You will, I presume, divide it between two or more ports.

Sir R. BOUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, October 7, 1846.

I give an epitome of our Commission correspondence, but it will not be ready until to-morrow. It will be made up on every Wednesday and Saturday

night and forwarded on Thursday and Monday. You will have the first from September to this date.

I was speaking with Mr. Kennedy about Mr. Labouchere's letter which I sent yesterday. He says that you would do well to have a power of sale on the estates for payment of these loans, inserted in the Act of Parliament, so as to have a hold on the payment, for the prevalent idea is, that they will never have to pay; but if there is such a power in the Act to take a slice of the property for payment, then it will not only make it sure, but prevent people running headlong into expenses in the near prospect of never being called to repay.

It seems to me a good and prudent idea, and it is a case in which precaution is necessary.

I am a little tired with accounts, and my time is so broken in upon by people from the country, who will not be refused, that I must be brief.

You will see that I recommend Limerick for all you can send from Malta.

The querne is a wretched affair; it is not worth imitation. The Plantation steel hand-mill they send to the West Indies, is what they use to braise or break corn for the horses.

Our two depôts, besides Limerick, for *meal*, are Westport and Dublin; Sligo and Galway for corn. Our next corn cargo must be sent to Galway, to keep our mills at work.

Mr. ROCHE to the LORDS of the TREASURY.

Mayor's Office, Cork, October 7, 1846.

I HAVE the honour of enclosing to you herewith the Memorial of the Magistrates and Cess-payers of the Borough of Cork, assembled at Petty Sessions on Monday the 6th instant.

May I beg your earliest possible consideration to the prayer thereof.

ENCLOSURE.

To the Leeds Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury.

The Memorial of the Magistrates and Cess-Payers of the City and Borough of Cork, associated in Extraordinary Presentment Sessions on the 2nd and 6th of October, 1846, under the 10th Viet., c. 107,

HUMBLY SHOWETH,

THAT Memorialists' best exertions have been directed to devise employment for the labouring poor of this city and neighbourhood; and that as large a sum as could be usefully employed for that purpose has been cheerfully voted by the already heavily-taxed ratepayers of this borough.

That, in consequence of the exorbitant price to which Indian meal has risen in the markets, employment, however extensive, cannot give that relief to the people which they so much need, and which your Memorialists are most anxious to afford; and that the intervention of Government in reducing the price of food, particularly in the country districts, is imperatively called for.

That Memorialists were given to understand, that the Reserve Depôts of Indian meal which have been already formed by the Government in remote districts would be opened for sale to the labouring classes in the event of unreasonable and immoderate prices being demanded by the corn-dealers; that *two shillings per stone, or sixteen pounds per ton*, has been already exacted by the sellers of this food; that the highest rate of wages permitted to be given by the Government on relief works would not admit of the labourer supporting his family with such prices for his daily food; and that, as there is no prospect of any immediate arrivals of Indian corn from abroad, or in such quantities as may affect the markets, the distress and difficulties of the labouring classes, if not averted by the Government, will necessarily be further augmented.

Memorialists therefore pray—

That your Lordships will be pleased to direct that the Reserve Depôts of Indian meal, which have been already formed in the country districts, may be forthwith opened for the sale of food to the labouring poor at a reduced price, and that such other steps be taken by your Lordships as will operate upon the markets in the reduction of the price of food.

And Memorialists will ever pray.

Signed on behalf of the Magistrates and associated Cess-Payers,

ANDREW F. ROCHE, *Mayor of Cork,*
Chairman.

City Court House, Cork, October 6, 1846.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

October 13, 1846.

Write to the Mayor of Cork that, in the present season of general scarcity, it is not in the power of their Lordships to lower the price of food; and that if the attempt were to be made, it would, by inducing a rapid consumption of the stock of provisions, and by checking and suspending the bringing forward of supplies from other sources, render the existing pressure more severe.

Their Lordships have undertaken to establish Reserve Depôts for the sale of food to Relief Committees in districts on the Western side of Ireland, to which the ordinary operations of the provision trade cannot be expected to extend; but the same reason does not exist for their interference in respect to the cities and towns on the Southern and Eastern Coasts and to the neighbouring districts; and, being convinced that the course which they are pursuing is the only one which is consistent with the public safety, their Lordships cannot hold out any expectation of their deviating from it.

In order to make the supplies provided by the Government for the remote districts on the Western Coast answer the purpose for which they are intended, it is indispensably necessary that the Government Depôts should not be opened while the markets can be supplied from the produce of the late harvest, and that, when they are opened, it should be at prices proportioned to the neighbouring market prices.

Transmit a copy of this Memorial and Minute to Sir R. Routh for his information.

REV. W. O'SULLIVAN to the LORDS of the TREASURY.

*Poor Relief Office, Cork Institution,
Cork, October 8, 1846.*

I AM directed by the Relief Committee of the city of Cork most respectfully to call the attention of your Lordships to a proposition submitted to the Lord Lieutenant, on the 3rd of September last, by a deputation from in reference to the alarming prospect of scarcity of food and consequent exorbitant prices.

The intentions of the Government having been announced to remove its Commissariat establishment from Cork, and to cease the issue of provisions at moderate prices, this Relief Committee dreading the consequences of leaving the supply of food in the hands of the very limited mercantile body of Cork, considered it their duty to submit to his Excellency the following plan for counteracting its injurious tendency.

A balance of 3,000*l.* being still in their hands, the Committee proposed that Her Majesty's Government should advance a loan of 7,000*l.*, to be secured on the whole stock of corn which they would purchase or import, to the extent of the entire 10,000*l.*, and repaid as the corn was withdrawn from store and sent into consumption.

This proposition received the favourable attention of his Excellency, who promised to transmit the same for the consideration of your Lordships, and who no doubt has done so. The Committee having received no communication since on the subject, and all sorts of grain having reached here what must be considered famine prices, again most respectfully beg your Lordships' favourable consideration of this proposition; it is the more important now, as the season for the first importations from America of Indian corn is close at hand, and unless the Committee are then enabled to make large purchases, they strongly fear, from their experience of commercial monopoly here for the last two months, that even very large importations will have but small influence on the present excessive prices.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

October 13, 1846.

Write to the members of the Relief Committee that their Lordships must refer them to the Instructions for the formation and guidance of Committees for the Relief of Distress in Ireland consequent on the Failure of the Potato Crop in 1846, issued from the Commissariat Relief Office in Dublin, and it is

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not in their power to give them any assistance beyond that which is afforded to other Relief Committees under those Instructions.

Transmit a copy of this Letter and Minute to Sir R. Routh for his information.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Castle, Dublin, October 8, 1846.

I AM not pleased with the epitome of the Commission business as it is drawn up, but we must improve and become more concise, and hit upon a better plan. It goes to day as it has been prepared.

I return to you the printed extract from the Manchester paper, but I think the writer decidedly underrates the American supplies, particularly the maize, of which their crop is reported to be 480 millions of bushels, or 60 millions of quarters, of which they can always spare one-fifth, if they have shipping to convey it. This is a more important consideration than the writer appears to admit, and though we shall get no part of it before April, yet it is a resource of great magnitude, and well worthy of our considering how it may be brought into use, or by what means it may be transported to this country, for I am aware that the greater deficiency of the two would rather be the shipping than the corn.

The hand-mills do not seem to be forthcoming; those in the paper you sent me are all too costly, and not portable. The plan of steeping the corn overnight can always be resorted to, and I intend to try it. We are beginning to want a cargo of meal of some kind at Westport, and we must appropriate the next shipment of meal to that port; and we want some corn to employ our mills at Galway, and I can grind at Banagher and Longford, but better at Banagher, as the other is as yet untried.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

RETURNS of CORRESPONDENCE from Tuesday, 1st September, to Saturday, 3rd October, 1846.

Applications for Depôts.

Cavan—Two from Tullymore.
 Clare—Clonice,
 Clare,
 Eamie,
 Bannymore,
 Miltown Mallock.
 Cork—Bandon,
 Bantry,
 Fernoy,
 Two from Newmarket,
 Tullagh (sub-depôt).
 Donegal—Dunfennaghy,
 Ramelton,
 Tullaghbeg (perish).
 Fermanagh—Three from Enniskillen.
 Galway—Ballygar,
 Culra,
 Maylough.
 Kerry—Kenmare,
 Valencia.
 Leitrim—Clonoe,
 Two from Mananagh.
 Limerick—City district.
 Longford—Droghda.
 Mayo—Clareanna,
 Cong,
 Crossmolina,
 Ballyvaughan,
 Foxford,
 Inchicore.
 Roscommon—Three from Boyle,
 Ferry.
 Sligo—Dromore, West,
 Skreen.
 Tipperary—Nenagh, or Toomavara.
 Waterford—Carrickbeg,
 Dungarvon,
 Lismore.
 Wicklow—Ballinglass.

Answered.—Stating that it was not the intention of Government to open Commissariat depôts

Applications for Depôts, &c.—continued.

where the markets could be supplied by the trade; that the districts in which it was necessary to form depôts were under consideration; that where the depôts were established they would only be opened where food could not be had from private dealers; that from the deficiency of foreign grain in the markets it would be desirable that gentlemen of local influence should unite in exertions for having the home harvest produce brought extensively into use, at the same time remarking that foreign supplies would not be available in sufficient quantities to lower the market prices until December.

Applications for Grants.

Cork—Two from Ballinaspittal,
 Carrickree,
 Mucma,
 Kilmaen,
 Ossin,
 Templemacurry,
 Westonberry.
 Leitrim—Mananagh.
 Limerick—Adare,
 Limerick City.
 Longford—Maydow.
 Mayo—Kilmaen.
 Sligo—Three from Carran,
 Two from Lincry, Lower.

Answered.—I. That donations would not now be recommended as subscriptions raised during the period of relief before 1st September.

II. That Government did not contemplate making any grant except upon subscriptions raised in the period of distress, commenced 1st September, which would receive consideration provided the Committee be constituted in accordance with the Instructions.

Applications for Employment, in Sale of Meal and in Office.

Ten in sale of meal,
Fourteen in office.

Answered.—I. That the depôts would be undertaken by officers at present in the Commissariat.
II. Noted for future reference.

Proposals to provide Storage for Meal, &c., at

Cavan—Claremorris,
Mountscent.
Donegal—Ballyvaughan,
Carrickglenn,
Two from Dunfinghy,
Letterkenneyward.
Galway—Clifden.
Leitrim—Closca.
Wexford—Gorey.

Noted and referred to the Commissariat Officer of the district for his information, except one from Gorey and one from Mount Nagsat.

Applications for Books, Papers, &c.

Callow—Poor Law Guardians.
Clare—Two from Corcomroe Relief Committee.
Ennistymon Committee.
Cork—Two from Ardfield Committee,
Two from Bantry ditto,
Coosies ditto,
Youghal-arna ditto,
West Carberry.
Donegal—Carnport,
Buncrana.
Down—Newry Committee.
Fermanagh—Fermanagh district,
Lisnaskea Committee.
Galway—Ahascragh Committee,
Clifden ditto,
Kilness ditto,
Loughrea ditto,
Tuam ditto.
Kerry—Ballymac Elloght.
Kildare—Naas Committee.
Kilkenny—Iverk ditto.
King's County—Mohill ditto.
Limerick—Kilmeane ditto.
Longford—Three from Longford,
Lanesborough,
Tulmin.
Mayo—Castlebar,
Two from Cong,
Ballisrobe,
Swaneford.
Meath—Kildalky,
Nobben.
Roscommon—Bellinabber, North,
Drum Commonee,
Elphin ditto,
French Park ditto,
Two from Roscommon.
Sligo—Three from Carberry Committee,
Sreen ditto,
Tyrrell ditto.
Tipperary—Clogheen,
Nenagh.
Tyroce—Quadrang.
Wexford—Coshmore and Coshbide,
Doors within Drum,
Dungarvan.
Wexford—Gorey,
Fethard,
Ferus,
Edinmore,
Killurin.

Applications for Books, Papers, &c.—cont.

Onart,
Shelbourne,
Templeshambo.

Answer.—Books, &c., &c. supplied where the Committees were recommended in accordance with the Instructions.

Applications for Issues of Meal, Food, &c.

Cavan—Three from Killyshandy.
Cork—Carberry, West,
Clayne,
Inishannon,
Kilworth,
Mallow,
Myross,
Newtownhamilton,
Shibbereen,
Tullagh.
Donegal—Carrickglenn,
Dunfinghy,
Two from Glenties,
Two from Glenties,
Inishkeel,
Letterkenneyward,
Templemore.
Galway—Ahascragh,
Clifden,
Galway,
Killeroran,
Tesseraugh.
Longford—Longford,
Two from Templemore.
Mayo—Two from Belmullet,
Two from Claremorris,
Two from Cong,
Two from Crossmolina,
Fosford,
Newport,
Four from Swinford.
Queen's County—Mountmellick.
Roscommon—Tulak.
Sligo—Ballymote,
Carberry,
Corran,
Drumohilly,
Manorhamilton,
Tyrril.
Tipperary—Rawson.
Waterford—Carrickbeg.
Wexford—Newtownabarry.

Answered as Applications for Depôt (see first column).

Miscellaneous.

I. Reconstruction of Committee.

Referred to Lieutenant or Vice-Lieutenant of County.

II. Prevalence of Fever, &c.

Referred to Poor Law authorities.

III. High Price of Markets, &c.

Informed that high prices arise from the insufficiency of supplies, and that same produce should be brought extensively into use.

IV. Unfinished Works.

Referred to Board of Works.

V. The Applications of Balances of late Relief Funds.

Referred to Circular of the 30th of July, 1846, as providing for this class of application.

Also, Accounts of Committees' Returns,

Increase of Distention,

Increase of Disease in Potato crop, &c. &c. &c.

Total number of Miscellaneous Correspondents,
219.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

RETURN of the Number of COMMUNICATIONS referred by T. N. REDINGTON, Esq., Under Secretary for Ireland, to Commissary-General Sir RANDOLPH J. ROSE, from 1st September, to 3rd October, 1846; showing the Number of Applications from each district.—1st. For the establishment of Depôts. 2nd. For Meal, Food, &c. 3rd. For appointments as Storekeepers. 4th. Proposals for Storage. 5th. Applications for Free Grants, &c. And 6th. Applications for Books, &c., for the use of the Relief Committees; also the general answer given to each Class of Application.

ESTABLISHMENT OF DEPÔTS.

Number of Applications.	County.	Locality.	Number of Applications.	County.	Locality.
1	Carlow . . .	Borris.	1	Kerry . . .	Iraghdeavour Barony.
1	Ditto . . .	Rodhilly.	1	Ditto . . .	Kearney.
1	Cavan . . .	Arva.	1	Ditto . . .	Kilkerney.
1	Ditto . . .	Ballymacnoll.	2	Ditto . . .	Tarbert.
1	Ditto . . .	Belmurbet.	1	Ditto . . .	Trillick.
2	Clare . . .	Ennistymona.	3	Ditto . . .	Valencia.
2	Ditto . . .	Kilrush.	1	Kilkenny . .	Kilkenny.
1	Ditto . . .	Lahinch.	1	Louth . . .	Carrigallen.
1	Ditto . . .	Scariff Union.	1	Ditto . . .	Cork-on-Shannon.
1	Cork . . .	Ballinacorney.	1	Ditto . . .	Dromod.
2	Ditto . . .	Bandon.	1	Ditto . . .	Drumkeen.
1	Ditto . . .	Bantry.	1	Ditto . . .	Hill Street (Drumna).
1	Ditto . . .	Berchaven.	1	Ditto . . .	Mountshannon, and Whitegate.
1	Ditto . . .	Carberry, West Barony.			
1	Ditto . . .	Castlehaven.	3	Limerick . .	Limerick.
1	Ditto . . .	Crookhaven.	1	Ditto . . .	Limerick Union.
1	Ditto . . .	Darrus.	1	Ditto . . .	Rathlenk.
1	Ditto . . .	Kanurk.	1	Longford . .	Ballymahon.
1	Ditto . . .	Kelworth.	1	Mayo . . .	Balla.
2	Ditto . . .	Millarney.	3	Ditto . . .	Ballyhenria.
1	Ditto . . .	Rosculberry.	2	Ditto . . .	Rehmalist.
1	Ditto . . .	Schull.	1	Ditto . . .	Ceng.
1	Ditto . . .	Skibbereen.	1	Ditto . . .	Passford.
1	Ditto . . .	Tynaghogue.	1	Ditto . . .	Hollymont.
1	Ditto . . .	Youghal.	1	Ditto . . .	Islandeady.
1	Donegal . .	Ballyshannon.	1	Ditto . . .	Kilrueagh.
1	Ditto . . .	Cross Roads.	1	Ditto . . .	Loughborough.
1	Ditto . . .	Dunfurlong.	1	Ditto . . .	Servestford.
1	Ditto . . .	Glen, or Candelough.	1	Monaghan .	Monaghan.
1	Ditto . . .	Mervagh, or Sheephaven.	2	Queen's . .	Moanmeth.
1	Fermanagh .	Derrygonnelly.	2	Ditto . . .	Meenmellick.
1	Ditto . . .	Enniskillen.	1	Roscommon .	Castleva.
1	Galway . .	Atherry.	1	Ditto . . .	Roscommon.
1	Ditto . . .	Ballindermis.	1	Ditto . . .	Roskey.
2	Ditto . . .	Ballygar.	1	Sligo . . .	Coolesey.
1	Ditto . . .	Cappashaff.	1	Ditto . . .	Belindefad.
2	Ditto . . .	Chilax.	1	Ditto . . .	Steen Parish.
1	Ditto . . .	Connel.	1	Ditto . . .	Tyrone Barony.
1	Ditto . . .	Gort.	1	Tipperary .	Tomavara.
1	Ditto . . .	Innesalta.	1	Ditto . . .	Holyross.
1	Ditto . . .	Kilkeera.	1	Ditto . . .	Canick-on-Say.
1	Ditto . . .	Kilvra.	1	Tyros . . .	Aughnacoy.
1	Ditto . . .	Roundstone.	3	Waterford .	Groenah.
1	Ditto . . .	Tam.	3	Westmeath .	Athone.
1	Ditto . . .	Team Union.	1	Ditto . . .	Carrigallen.
1	Kerry . . .	Calvergreen, and along the Western Coast.	1	Ditto . . .	Glasheen.
1	Ditto . . .	Dingle, and many.	2	Wexford . .	New Ross.
				Wicklow . .	Talbotstown Barony.

Answered.—Stating that it was not the intention of Government to open Commissariat Depôts where the markets could be supplied by the trade. That the districts in which it was necessary to form depôts were now under consideration. That where depôts were established, they would only be opened when food could not be had from private dealers. That from the deficiency of foreign grain in the markets, it would be desirable that gentlemen of local influence should unite in exertions for having the home harvest produce brought extensively into use,—at the same time remarking that foreign supplies would not be available in sufficient quantities to lower the market prices until December.

Return of Communications, &c.—continued,

SUPPLIES OF MEAL, FOOD, &c.

Number of Applications.	County.	Locality.	Number of Applications.	County.	Locality.
1	Cavan . . .	Killyshandra.	2	Kerry . . .	Listowel.
1	Clare . . .	Corofin.	1	Kilkenny . .	Moncofn.
1	Cork . . .	Aghalower.	1	Leitrim . . .	Drumkeen.
1	Ditto . . .	Condahol.	1	Ditto . . .	Drumshambo.
1	Ditto . . .	Cove.	1	Ditto . . .	Drumma.
1	Ditto . . .	Inishannon.	1	Ditto . . .	Killerga.
1	Ditto . . .	Killoona.	1	Limerick . .	Newcastle.
1	Ditto . . .	Silver Mines.	1	Longford . .	Edgeworthstown.
1	Ditto . . .	Youghal.	1	Ditto . . .	Lansdown.
2	Donegal . . .	Ardara.	2	Mayo . . .	Belmullet.
1	Ditto . . .	Geenal.	1	Ditto . . .	Erris and Tyrone
1	Ditto . . .	Dunfanaghy.			Baronra.
1	Ditto . . .	Gleatias.	1	Ditto . . .	Foanford.
1	Ditto . . .	Gleatias Union.	4	Ditto . . .	Swinford.
1	Ditto . . .	Inishkeel.	1	Queen's . . .	Ballycoveen.
1	Galway . . .	Alasragh.	1	Roscommon .	General.
1	Ditto . . .	Asherry.	1	Ditto . . .	Elphin.
1	Ditto . . .	Eyrecount.	1	Sligo . . .	Drumara, West.
2	Ditto . . .	Oatlands.	1	Westmeath .	Mullingar.
1	Ditto . . .	Roundstone.	1	Ditto . . .	Rathowen.
1	Kerry . . .	Glentworth.			

Answered in like manner as applications for Depôts.

APPOINTMENTS AS STOREKEEPERS.			PROPOSAL FOR STORAGE.		
Number of Applications.	County.	Locality.	Number of Applications.	County.	Locality.
1	King's . . .	Banagher.	1	Clare . . .	Milltown Malby.
1	Roscommon .	Roscommon.	1	Cork . . .	Skibbereen.
			1	Kerry . . .	Lisowel.
			1	Longford . .	Currickglass.
			1	Roscommon .	Roscommon.
			1	Wexford . . .	Newross.

Answered.—Stating that the care of Government Depôts would be undertaken by Officers at present in the Commissariat.

Noted and referred to the Commissariat Officer of the District, for his information.

FREE GRANTS, &c.			BOOKS, &c., FOR COMMITTEES.		
Number of Applications.	County.	Locality.	Number of Applications.	County.	Locality.
1	Cork . . .	Ardfield.	1	Longford . .	Lansdown.
1	Ditto . . .	Ovens.	1	Roscommon .	Boyle.
1	Donegal . . .	Inishkeel.			
1	Galway . . .	Chidea.			
1	Longford . .	Ballymahon.			
1	Ditto . . .	Edgeworthstown.			
1	Ditto . . .	Lemane.			
1	Sligo . . .	Tyrinill.			
1	Tipperary . .	Ballymackey.			
1	Wexford . . .	Rosbercon.			

Answered.—Stating, 1st. That donations would not now be recommended on subscriptions raised during the period of relief, before 1st September.

2nd. That Government did not contemplate making any grant, except upon subscriptions raised in the period of distress commenced 1st September, which would receive consideration, provided the Committee be sanctioned in accordance with the Instructions.

Books, &c., supplied where the Committees were reconstituted, in accordance with the Instructions.

Mr. TREVELYAN to the SECRETARY to the COMMISSIONERS of AUDIT.

October 9, 1846.

I HAVE been anxiously waiting for the answer of the Commissioners of Audit about Mr. Andoe; for knowing how extremely important it is that Sir Randolph Routh's time should be left free for the transaction of the great affairs which are entrusted to him, it is distressing to me to find that he is harassed and interrupted from the want of proper assistance in his accounts.

The Commissioners of Audit will not, I trust, object to Mr. Andoe's deputation, for even taking the limited view of saving time and trouble at the Audit Office, or, to put the case more correctly, of promoting the regular and easy transaction of the Audit Office business, I am satisfied that this object will be best attained by the deputation of Mr. Andoe, who will both superintend the compilation of the accounts, and examine and report on them for the assistance of the Commissioners of Audit in finally disposing of them.

Sir JOHN HILL to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Deptford Victualling Yard,
October 9, 1846.

WITH reference to our recent conversation, I beg to forward to you herewith a loaf and some biscuit, marked sample No. 1, manufactured from English wheat meal, with the *siddings pollard and bran* in it, and also some biscuit, sample No. 2, manufactured from English wheat meal, having *only the bran taken out*.

I think in these times of pressure we ought to economise our resources, and I should be glad to manufacture from either of those samples for the service, whilst scarcity prevails.

TREASURY MINUTE.

October 9, 1846.

WRITE to the Commissioners of Audit that the urgency of the service in Ireland, and the necessity of relieving Sir R. Routh from attending to the details of his accounts, induce their Lordships to request that an experienced examiner may be deputed from the Audit Office to proceed without delay to Dublin for the purpose of assisting Sir R. Routh, and my Lords would suggest that Mr. Andoe may be selected for this duty.

Commissary-General HEWITSON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Limerick, October 9, 1846.

I SEND you a copy of my circular memorandum, respecting hominy and the use of *whole* corn. I feel so confident that the latter mode of preparation (No. 2) will answer every purpose as a substitute for the potato, that I have written to the Killarney Committee thereon, and send you a copy of my letter. I also send by coach a small parcel of corn, and I should wish you to try it yourself. I steeped it in cold water, and boiled it the next morning three hours and a half; but if steeped in hot water, I should say it will not require so much boiling.

I have copy of Treasury Minute of the 6th, touching the purchase and manufacture of corn in Malta, and should think it an excellent arrangement; but the grain must be well kiln-dried, as I do not suppose they have the means of kiln-drying the *meal* as practised in the United States.

I say nothing upon the state of the country, as you must have the best account, that is correct, from Sir Randolph—best is altogether an inapplicable term, though bad as things are, there is always exaggeration.

ENCLOSURE.

MEMORANDUM for the consideration of POOR RELIEF COMMITTEES, and others, whom it may concern.

HITHERTO, the people of Ireland have confined themselves, as a substitute for the potato, to using Indian meal, either made into bread, griddle cakes, or porridge—but it should be known, and cannot be too widely published, that Indian corn, in its unground state, affords an equally wholesome and nutritious food, provided the grain be broken or crushed, either with good-sized pieces of stone, or in a quern, or hand-mill—after which, it should be well boiled in water, with (if at hand), a little grease or fat. When cooked, one quart of the corn produces one quart and-a-half of food, and so man can eat more in a day.

Another mode in which whole corn may be used with advantage, is first, to soak it at night in warm water, which should be changed in the morning to clear cold water, and then be boiled gently an hour and a half. It may be eaten with milk, or salt, or alone and may be warmed over when cold. Ten pounds of the whole corn, so prepared, is ample food for a labouring man for seven days; a convincing proof of the nutritious and strengthening quality of this grain.

Corn so used, will be considerably cheaper to the Committee, and the people, than meal, and will be well adapted to meet the deficiency of mill-power for its manufacture, in remote districts, and other parts of the country.

Lee Mills Depot, Cork, September 14, 1846.

To the Secretary of the "Relief Committee."

W. HEWITSON, *Commissary-General.*

Commissary-General HEWITSON to Mr. SAUNDERS.

October 8, 1846.

In reply to an extract from minutes of proceedings of the Killarney Relief Committee, dated the 5th instant, J. O'Connell, Esq. J.P. in the chair, addressed to me, I would state, that Indian corn was imported, on the Government account, during the relief operations, which terminated on the 15th August last, from the United States of America, chiefly the port of New York, through the efficient intervention of the house of Baring, Brothers, of London; their shipping agents in New York were Messrs. Grossell, Minturn, & Co., who gave every satisfaction in the quality. Their consignments, which were many thousand tons, were shipped in December, 1845, and January and February, 1846. Additional supplies were at a later period (July) purchased in the Liverpool and Cork markets, affoot, chiefly Mediterranean corn, shipped at Genoa, Naples, Trieste, Ancona, and Galatz; and, except in some few instances, where the corn had been too long on board, and become heated, was of excellent quality. The price at that time averaged from 7*l.* 10*s.* to 8*l.* per ton. The only agents I could name, in a foreign port, are Messrs. Grossell and Minturn of New York; but I would not recommend your Committee to send to a foreign port, to purchase on their own account; the risk is too great, and there are many other reasons why it is not desirable. I would rather advise all purchases being made in a port of the United Kingdom; and I would suggest the employment of Mr. N. Cummins, Anderson's Quay, Cork, who has had much experience in the trade, and is the correspondent of Messrs. Baring's house, to manage all your business. You may rely on his judgment and integrity, and by such intervention you will be secured from a recurrence of the reprehensible conduct, which I understand attended a recent order of your Committee, for Indian meal to Cork, and which doubtless must have occasioned not only considerable loss to the Committee, but great disappointment to the people.

I trust, at a later period, as supplies from the United States and Mediterranean, the produce of the late harvest, arrive, prices will have a considerable fall; though I must add, we have France, Holland, Belgium, and Germany, all purchasing in the home and foreign markets; and these nations are formidable competitors.

Of present home produce, upon which, pending importations, committees must fall back, barley at this moment is 3*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* 9*d.* per quarter; and peas, when ground, make an excellent mixture with other flour; there is nearly an average crop of them, and of good quality. Beans about half an average; whole wheat meal, with all the bran ground up, is selling at 15*s.* per ton. As regards Indian corn, I am of opinion for relief operations, it should be used whole, not manufactured, by the simple mode of cookery described in Art. No. 2 of the enclosed paper. It affords a most wholesome and nutritious food; and the saving of time and expense, in its conversion into meal, will be considerable; and the risk in its transport, from the effect of weather, avoided. I am so convinced upon this point, and the excellent quality of the food so prepared, that I would earnestly press upon your committee to make experiment upon the small quantity of Indian corn I now send. At the same time, I would request the trial be made with care, and under the eye of a person upon whom you can rely.

I shall shortly be prepared to aid you in water transport of any supplies you may purchase, on your giving me timely notice thereof.

MR. N. CUMMINS to MR. TREVELYAN.

Cork, October 9, 1846.

My last respects were of the 1st instant; since when our corn markets have continued to be largely supplied with home produce, prices of which have been receding for the last few days; Indian corn is unchanged in value; shipments of oats from this port are beginning to take place: during the week they have amounted to about 12,000 barrels of 14 stone; there has also been some small export of flour and oatmeal. A most abundant and providential take of fish, especially herrings, has greatly contributed to relieve the distress during the last 10 days in the coast districts; the supply of herrings, when salted, enables the people to make use of the remnant of the potato crop, which could scarcely be eaten without them.

The general topic of interest here at present is the proceedings of the Extraordinary Relief Sessions. Some of the earlier sessions held in this county, pro-

ceeded in the most reckless manner to present for sums in many cases exceeding the entire annual valuation, but those lately held have acted with more moderation, generally adopting 25 per cent. on the valuation as a maximum, and leaving even that to be reduced by the selection which must necessarily be made by the officer of the Board of Works; so that the ultimate amount of assessment, which it is expected may be sanctioned, will not probably exceed 15 per cent. generally on the valuation of the county of Cork.

The new arrangements in anticipation of an amendment of the law, lately promulgated by the Lord Lieutenant, appear to give universal satisfaction; and I have learnt that at a barony sessions held yesterday, a large amount was presented for the drainage of a private estate.

There has arisen within the last month an unprecedented demand for bere (barley,) for seed; the price has in consequence run up from 12s. to 25s. the barrel of 16 stone; it is a grain which comes to harvest fully a month before any other. I think it manifest, that this sowing is intended as a substitute for potatoes, and it certainly is a hardy prolific crop, well adapted for our poorer soils.

It occurs to me, that the new state of things, for which we must be prepared, I mean the total change in the national food, from the potato (which was seldom the subject of purchase or sale) to a corn food, for the procuring of which every man must each day have actual money in his hand, as also the fact, that all wages must henceforth be paid in money, will require an amount of currency, and more especially of silver, which may, if not provided for, give rise to difficulty.

I cannot, before I conclude, help observing with pleasure, that the most remarkable feature of all our late public meetings, is the total absence of all party feeling, either political or religious; men seem to have forgotten all differences in the present crisis.

ENCLOSURE.

Cork, October 9, 1846.

RECEIPT OF GRAIN IN CORK MARKET, from 2nd to 9th October, 1846.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
	5978	4177	11,624
Comparative RECEIPT for last Three Years to 1st October.			
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
1844 . .	24,756	12,019	43,114
1845 . .	13,414	5106	29,778
1846 . .	25,044	18,892	39,082

N. CUMMINS.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, October 9, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to report to you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the departure of Mr. R. M. Brounley, on the morning of the 7th instant, and who will have reported himself at their Lordships' Board on his arrival in London.

It gives me great pleasure to lay before you, with so much impartial justice, the merits of this gentleman, who possesses a clear comprehension of account, and an indefatigable character of industry in carrying out the results of his talent and perseverance.

From the nature of this service, and the suddenness with which our duties were undertaken, he had to rely chiefly on himself, with such assistance, under various interruptions, as I could afford him, and I have every reason to be satisfied with the successful accomplishment of his task.

I therefore beg respectfully to recommend to my Lords that Mr. Brounley's conduct may be noticed to the Lords of the Admiralty in the terms of just praise which his exertions have acquired for him.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

Transmit a copy of this letter to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and state that my Lords have much satisfaction in confirming Sir R. Routh's

statement that Mr. Bromley has rendered valuable public service by the industry and ability with which he applied himself to the important duty intrusted to him in connexion with the relief operations in Ireland; and their Lordships trust that his conduct will be noticed with approbation by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.

Transmit a copy of this minute to Sir R. Routh for his information, and state that my Lords have requested the Commissioners of Audit to place Mr. Andoe of their department at the disposal of this Board, for the purpose of immediately proceeding to Dublin to succeed Mr. Bromley in the superintendence of the Relief Accounts.

Also transmit a copy of this letter and minute to the Commissioners of Audit for their information.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

October 10, 1846.

Mr. Osborn made his appearance yesterday. I gave him leave to go for a couple of days to Calais to visit his parents; after which he will proceed immediately to Dublin.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer agrees with me that Adams ought to be made available for this service; and I shall write to Filder accordingly by next mail.

I have made a satisfactory arrangement for you with the Commissioners of Audit; and Mr. Andoe, who has audited your accounts, and is highly spoken of by every body, is to proceed immediately to Dublin to place himself under your orders. The advantage of this appointment is, that Mr. Andoe will not only compile your accounts, but will give them a preliminary audit also, and much time and trouble will thus be saved at the Audit office.

I shall be glad if you will take a suitable opportunity of relieving Mr. Stevens, and sending him back to his duties at the Audit office. The Commissioners of Audit complain much of Mr. Andoe being taken from them in addition to Mr. Haffay; and it would be a natural and suitable arrangement for Mr. Stevens, who was also taken from the Audit office, to return hither when Mr. Andoe arrives. We will write to you officially on the subject.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, October 10, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, a copy of a letter from the Directors of the Royal Canal, stating that the indulgence granted to the Government for the transit of stores free of toll on the Royal Canal could no longer be continued, in consideration of the great diminution it occasioned to the income of the shareholders.

It appears to me that this communication is in no way unreasonable; and, with their Lordships' permission, I propose, in acknowledging it, to thank them in their Lordships' name for the immunity which has been conceded.

ENCLOSURE.

Royal Canal Board Room, Broadstone,
October 6, 1846.

Sir,

In compliance with your request I have the honour to state, that the Directors of the Midland Great Western Railway and Royal Canal, when they granted the privilege of Indian meal, &c., being boated upon the Canal free of toll, considered that it was for a limited quantity, and for a limited time; that finding the quantity to be great, and that the tolls to be remitted amounted to 152*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.*, considered that they were not warranted in continuing an indulgence that deprived their shareholders of so much of their income, and consequently have discontinued it.

Sir Randolph Routh,
&c. &c.

I have, &c.,
SAMUEL DRAPER, Sec.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

October 13, 1846.

Write to Sir R. Routh that my Lords concur in opinion with him on this subject, and they approve of his communicating with the directors of the Royal Canal in the terms proposed by him.

Commissary-General HEWETSON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Limerick, October 10, 1846.

I HAVE the copies of letters upon Indian corn in the cob. I believe it is chiefly southern corn that is so shipped; but I have no experience in this matter, I fear it might be open to abuse; and in this country, they would have to learn how to separate the grain from the cob. We are sending out troops every day to protect corn coming in; the people cut the traces of the ear horses; in some instances obstruct them, and even strew the grain in the road. I have no doubt but the severest examples will ensue, if these unhappy outrages continue; the people are too ignorant to know they are injuring themselves.

ENCLOSURE.

Mr. LOCKERON to Commissary-General HEWETSON.

As your name is now associated with the introduction of Indian corn meal as a substitute for potatoes, I beg to say that there is quite a want of mill-power in Ireland, not only to grind Indian corn, but to make flour and oatmeal. This might be greatly obviated by immediately instructing the people to use Indian corn whole, or broken, as it is a matter of certainty that most excellent food is thus made. Where prejudice interferes, distribute querns and hand-mills, which, compared with the Government expense of grinding, would be a bagatelle, and go far in teaching a thoughtless, and perhaps indolent people, habits of economy and management, now so necessary. I cannot get at present whole Indian corn to purchase in smalls. All is mill monopoly; and why should this be with such an intelligent Commissariat?

II.—COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

RETURN of CORRESPONDENCE from the 5th to the 7th October, 1846, both inclusive.

Applications for Depôts.

Cork—Youghal,
Bandon.
Donegal—Killybegs.
Galway—Renvyle, Clifden.
Mayo—Ballyhaunis.
Roscommon—Committee recommend a change of place for the sale of meal at Roscommon, and that none be supplied without tickets from the Committee.
Sligo—Chapelfield.
Waterford—Glensheir Committee.

Applications for Meal, Food, &c.

Cork—Parish of Inver.
Donegal—Killybegs.
Galway—Roundstone.
King's County—Kinnetty.
Longford—Meyrow.
Meath—Navan.

Heads of Answer—That it was not the intention of Government to have Commissariat depôts, except in the western districts, and there only when not supplied by traders. That where the depôts are established, they will only be opened where food is not provided by traders in sufficient quantity. That from the deficiency of foreign grain as yet in the markets, it is desirable that gentlemen of local influence should unite in exertions for having the home harvest produce brought extensively into use. That foreign supplies will not be available in sufficient quantities to lower the market prices before December.

Applications for Grants, &c.

Cork—Ballaquittal Committee, on subscriptions.
Carrigrohane Committee on subscriptions,

Applications for Grants—continued.

Ovens Committee on subscriptions.
Galway—Clifden Committee ask loan of 100*l.*,
Kilmeen Committee, on subscriptions,
Galway Committee, on subscriptions.
King's County—Ballyroun Committee a free grant of 30*l.*
Longford—Kilgahan.
Mayo—Ballyhaunis.

Head of Answer.—I. That donations will not now be recommended on subscriptions raised during the period of relief before the 1st September.

II. That Government do not contemplate making any grant except upon subscriptions raised in the period of distress commenced 1st September, and which will receive consideration, provided the Committee be constituted in accordance with the Instructions.

Applications for Books, Papers, &c.

Cavan—Knockridge Committee,
Cavan, ditto.
Chester—Kilbarney,
Carroonore Committee.
Cork—Castle Bernard ditto,
Rosenberry ditto,
Skull ditto,
Mellison and Ballyquillane.
Donegal—Killyshandra,
Kilcar, &c. Committee.
Galway—Lettermore ditto.
Kerry—Broona ditto.
Larim—Drumhair ditto.
Leath—Dandee.
Roscommon—Roscommon Committee,
Ballintober, North.
Sligo—Liney, Upper, Committee.
Tipperary—Neagh ditto.

Application for Books, Papers, &c.—continued.

Westmeath—Castletowndelyin,
Moycashel.
Wexford—Enniscorthy,
Ferry Committee,
Fethard ditto.
Killegney ditto.
Wicklow—Ashford ditto.

Books, &c. to be supplied where the Committees are re-constituted in accordance with instructions.

Donations to Committees.

Cork—Bellinaghatta, 30l.
Longford—Moydow, 35l.
Sligo—Corran, 30l.

Committees have re-assembled.

Cavan—Bailieborough,
Cavan.
Cork—Castle Bernard.
Galway—Castle Kelly, Mountshelton,
Dunmore,
Roundstone.
Longford—Five Districts.
Louth—Clogher Head.
Tipperary—Barony of Lower Ormond,
Newagh.
Westmeath—Throughout the county.
Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
10th October, 1846.

Instructions objected to by Committees.

Clare—Miltown Malbeg.
Cork—Midleton and Ballyspilane,
Ferry.
Limerick—Castlesendell.
Tipperary—Tipperary,
Banaha.
Waterford—Carrickbeg.
Wicklow—Ashford.

Referred to Lieutenant of County.

Miscellaneous.

Galway—Oranmore. Asking to have a Committee formed in district, &c.
Answered, by referring to Lieutenant or Vice-Lieutenant of county.
Kerry—Knockane Committee, &c.
In reference to the disposition of the balance of their relief funds, &c.
Answered, referring to Circular of Relief Commission, dated 30th July, 1846, as bearing on this subject.
Wicklow—Arklow.
Representing the increase of Fever, &c.
Referred to Poor Law authorities, &c.
Total of miscellaneous correspondence, 25.

III.—COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

RETURN of CORRESPONDENCE from the 8th to the 10th October, 1846, both dates inclusive.

Applications for Depôts.

Cork—Bane and Barryroe,
Bane Committee,
Inchycody ditto,
Banahon ditto,
Dunmoreway ditto,
Barry ditto.
Limerick—Newspallan ditto.
Mayo—Westport ditto.
Queen's County—Mountmellick.
Sligo—Laney, Upper,
Shreen.
Tipperary—Ballyfoard Committee.

Applications for Food, Meal, &c.

Cork—Mill-street.
Denegal—Dungloe.
Mayo—Westport.
Roscommon—Frenshpark,
Mountshelton.

Heads of Answer.—That it was not the intention of Government to have Commissariat depôts, except in the western districts; and there only when not supplied by traders; that where the depôts are established, they will only be opened where food is not provided by traders in sufficient quantity; that from the deficiency of foreign grain as yet in the markets, it is desirable that gentlemen of local influence should exert efforts for having the home harvest produce brought extensively into use; that foreign supplies will not be available in sufficient quantities to lower the market prices before December.

Applications for Grants.

Cork—Mill-street Committee, on subscriptions.
Cavan—Virginia Committee, on subscriptions.
Stradone Committee, on subscriptions.

Heads of Answer.—I. That donations will not now be recommended on subscriptions raised during the period of relief before the 1st of September.

II. That Government do not contemplate making any grant, except upon subscriptions raised in the period of distress commenced 1st September, and which will receive consideration, provided the Committee be constituted in accordance with the Instructions.

Applications for Books, Papers, &c.

Armagh—Forkhill Committee.
Cavan—Killyshanna,
Ballyconnel.
Denegal—Killybegs.
Galway—Castle Island.
King's County—Parsonstown.
Louth—Ternanfeckan.
Roscommon—Ferry Committee.
Tipperary—Ballymacnaghy,
Claghers.
Westmeath—Tyrell's Pass,
Castlespollard.
Wicklow—Arklow Committee.
Wexford—Shelburne.

Books, &c. to be supplied where the Committees are reconstituted in accordance with Instructions.

Donations to Committees.

Cork—Carrigboy, £11.
 Longford—Lansmore, £45.

Committees formed.

Longford—The County.
 Clare—Ennis.
 Westmeath—Castlepollard.

Instructions objected to by Committees.

Cork—Westcarberry.
 Clare—Kilmanas,
 Tulla.
 Galway—Dunmore.
 Limerick—Newpollas.
 Tipperary—Ballyrackough,
 Thurles.
 Waterford—Cushmore,
 Coghbridge.
 Westmeath—Tyrell's Pass.
 Wexford—Carlow.

Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle
 10th October, 1846.

Instructions objected to by Committee—continued.

Answered by sending a Supplement of Instructions for the formation and guidance of Relief Committees, by which the Lieutenant of the County is empowered, should the ex-officio members be insufficient, to exercise a discretion in the appointment of the respective members of the Committee of the past season.

Miscellaneous.

Galway—Ballinasloe, relative to the Committee's contingent expenses, &c., also
 King's County—Benagher, on the payment of their Committee Secretary, &c.
 Westmeath—Athlone ditto.
 &c.
 Total of Miscellaneous Correspondence, 30.

Answered, that contingent expenses and the salaries of Secretaries are to be paid out of the fund raised by subscriptions, or the fund formed of subscriptions and the donation of Government.

II.—COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

RETURN of the Number of COMMUNICATIONS referred by T. N. REDINGTON, Esq., Under-Secretary of State for Ireland, to Commissary-General Sir RALPH J. ROUTH, from 5th to 7th October, 1846 (both days inclusive), showing the Number of Applications from each District:—1st, for the Establishment of Depôts; 2nd, for Meal, Food, &c.; 3rd, Proposals for Storage; 4th, Applications for Free Grants; 5th, Applications for Grants on Subscriptions; and 6th, Applications for Books, &c., for the use of Relief Committees; also, the General Answer given to each Class of Application.

ESTABLISHMENT OF DEPÔTS.

Number of Applications.	County.	Locality.	Number of Applications.	County.	Locality.
1	Cavan . . .	Swanlinbar.	1	Limerick . .	Clonwilliam Barony.
1	Clare . . .	Milltown Malbay.	1	Ditto . . .	Killfinane.
1	Cork . . .	Charleville.	1	Ditto . . .	Killygan.
1	Ditto . . .	Macroom.	1	Ditto . . .	Killmallock.
1	Ditto . . .	Schull.	1	Longford . .	Cashel Parish.
1	Donegal . .	Raphoe.	1	Queens . . .	Clermalagh.
1	Ditto . . .	Rathmullen.	1	Tipperary . .	Onbel.
1	Kerry . . .	Teslet.	1	Ditto . . .	Tipperary.
1	Ditto . . .	Valencia.	1	Waterford . .	Ardmore.
1	Kildare . .	Nasa.	1	Ditto . . .	Glenaberry Barony.
1	Leitrim . .	Droickeen.	1	Ditto . . .	Waterford.
1	Ditto . . .	Drummon.	1	Westmeath .	Kilbeggan.

Head of Answer:—That it was not the intention of Government to have Commissariat Depôts, except in the Western Districts, and there only when not supplied by the Traders. That, where the Depôts are established, they will only be opened when food is not provided by the Traders in sufficient quantities. That, from the deficiency of Foreign Grain as yet in the markets, it is desirable that gentlemen of local influence should unite in exertions for having the Home Harvest Produce brought extensively into use. That foreign supplies will be available in sufficient quantities to lower the market prices before December.

SUPPLIES OF MEAL, FOOD, &c.

Number of Applications.	County.	Locality.	Number of Applications.	County.	Locality.
1	Clare . . .	Kilcreest.	1	Kerry . . .	Faghenscany Barony.
1	Cork . . .	Bantry.	1	Leitrim . . .	Drumheir.
2	Donegal . .	Killybegs.	1	Ditto . . .	Drumshanbo.
1	Ditto . . .	Millford.	1	Mayo . . .	Belmullet.
1	Kerry . . .	Clonsilla Barony.	1	Ditto . . .	Hollymoust.
1	Ditto . . .	Corkagully Barony.	1	Ditto . . .	Killea.
1	Ditto . . .	Kilgerlin.	1	Ditto . . .	Westport.
1	Ditto . . .	Saem.	1	Tipperary . .	Roscrea.

Similar Answer as to Applications for Depôts.

Return of the Number of Communications referred by T. N. Redington, Esq., &c.—continued.

PROPOSALS FOR STORAGE.			APPLICATIONS FOR FREE GRANTS, &c.		
Number of Applications.	County.	Locality.	Number of Applications.	County.	Locality.
1	Cork . . .	Skibbereen . . .	1	Cork . . .	Schull.
			1	Longford . .	Cashel Parish.
			1	Tipperary . .	Cashel.
			1	Donegal . . .	Donoughmore.

Noted and referred to the Commissary Officer of the district for his information.

Heads of Answers:—
 1st. That donations will not now be recommended on subscriptions raised during the period of relief before 1st September.
 2nd. That Government do not contemplate making any grant except upon subscriptions raised in the period of distress commenced 1st September, which will receive consideration provided the Committee be constituted in accordance with the Instructions.

APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS ON SUBSCRIPTIONS.					APPLICATIONS FOR BOOKS, &c.		
Number of Applications.	County.	Locality.	Subscriptions.	Grant.	Number of Applications.	County.	Locality.
1	Galway .	Ardrishan .	£. s. d. 205 2 0	£. s. d. 100 0 0	1	Clare . .	Tulla.
					1	Donegal .	Mervish.

Books, &c., to be supplied where the Committees are constituted in accordance with the Instructions.

Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
October 10, 1846.

III.—COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

Return of the Number of Communications referred by T. N. REDINGTON, Esq., Under-Secretary for Ireland, to Commissary-General Sir RANDOLPH J. ROUTE, from 5th to 10th October, 1846 (both days inclusive), showing the Number of Applications from each district; 1st. for the establishment of Depôts; 2nd. for Meal, Food, &c.; 3rd. for Free Grants, &c.; 4th. Objections to Rule 5 of Instructions, and 5th. Applications for Grants in Aid of Subscriptions; also the general Answer given to each class of Application.

ESTABLISHMENT OF DEPÔTS.			SUPPLIES OF MEAL, FOOD, &c.		
Number of Applications.	County.	Locality.	Number of Applications.	County.	Locality.
1	Cork . . .	Ardfield.	1	Clare . . .	Kilrush.
1	Cork . . .	Castletown Esd.	1	Clare . . .	Sixmile Bridge.
1	Donegal . .	Lettickenny.	1	Donegal . .	Killybegs.
1	Kildare . .	Robertstown and Clane.	1	Donegal . .	Mullacerng.
1	Leitrim . .	Casharragoe.	1	Leitrim . .	Drumkeerin.
1	Mayo . . .	Balla.	1	Mayo . . .	Clewmoren.
1	Monaghan .	Scotthouse.	1	Tipperary . .	Newport.
1	Sligo . . .	Thomagh.			
1	Wexford . .	Shelborne Barony.			

*Heads to Answer:—*That it was not the intention of Government to have Commissariat depôts, except in the western districts, and these only when not supplied by the traders. That where the depôts are established, they will only be opened where food is not provided by traders in sufficient quantity. That from the deficiency of foreign grain as yet in the markets, it is desirable that gentlemen of local influence should unite in exertions for having the home harvest produce brought extensively into use. That foreign supplies will not be available in sufficient quantities to lower the market prices before December.

Return of the Number of Communications referred by T. N. Redington, Esq., &c.—continued.

APPLICATION FOR FREE GRANTS, &c.			OBJECTIONS RAISED TO RULE V. OF INSTRUCTIONS.		
Number of Applications.	County.	Locality.	Number of Applications.	County.	Locality.
1	Cork . . .	Timoleague.	1	Kilkenny . .	Kilkeany.
1	Kerry . . .	Listowel.	1	Limerick . .	Rathkeale.
1	King's . . .	Philpstown.	1	Down . . .	Achieague.
			1	Tipperary . .	Fethard.

Holds its Answers:—

1st. That donations will not now be recommended on Subscriptions raised during the period of relief before 1st September.

2nd. That Government do not contemplate making any grant except upon Subscriptions raised in the period of distress commenced 1st September, which will receive consideration provided the Committee be constituted in accordance with the Instructions.

Answered by sending a Supplement to Instructions for the formation and guidance of Relief Committees, by which the Lieutenant of the County is empowered, should the *ex-officio* members be insufficient, to exercise a discretion in the appointment of the respectable members of the Committees of the past season, &c. &c.

APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS ON SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	Number of Applications.	County.	Locality.	Subscription.	Grant.
1	1	Cork . . .	Donoughmore . .	£ s. d. 41 11 0	*

* Under consideration.

Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
October 10, 1846.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, October 10, 1846.

I SEND copies of two letters to the Committees of Youghall and Westport, and the letter to which the first is an answer.

I send you four letters from county Donegal, addressed to Mr. Dobree.

You speak of the 100 tons for Westport; but you must remember that there are two depôts of Clifden (which represents all Connemara) and Belmullet (which represents the baronies of Erris and Tyrrawley), and both the poorest parts of all Ireland, quite as much so as Donegal, and a great deal more populous. There should be a *thousand* tons at least for such vast and wretched tracts. Sir Richard O'Donnell, of Newport, is trying to hold up against this calamity. He is one of the generous and humane landlords, submitting to any sacrifice, and only parsimonious in regard to himself.

I note your shipments on the way to Dublin, which will be all right; and as regards the 8000 quarters of American corn for spring delivery, we must decide for one-half for Galway and one-half for Sligo and Ballina (if possible), leaving the choice to Mr. Dobree. They are only 24 miles apart; but we have mills at each. It is a pity you cannot make your contracts for 8000 quarters for each of the four ports of Sligo, Westport, Galway, and Limerick, for I think so well of the steeping the corn in warm water over night, changing the water to cold in the morning, and so boiling it for three hours, that if we do not succeed in procuring the hand-mills for breaking it, I shall act on this system, and recommend it generally. I think that now is the time to make such contracts for delivery in April and May; and I wish I could prevail on you to see it as I do, for there will be no home produce then, and we shall have nothing but the foreign supplies. The surest way would be to send shipping for it, if there was anything to load for the American ports: but in any way, it would be a prudent step to have 25,000 to 40,000 quarters under contract for the spring upon which you can rely. It will save a world of anxiety, and put you

above the necessity of buying up everything that offers from hand to mouth at high prices, and it is a step that would not affect our markets here. This, of course, looks to the future, for it is undeniable that your exertions have been very great, for you have 55,000 quarters now engaged on their way to the United Kingdom, and your interviews with Mr. Erichsen give you better means of judging of future operations than I can possess here without that advantage.

With regard to addressing these vessels, I will send you on Monday a list for your information; and with respect to the 8000 quarters, if it should be more convenient to consign the whole quantity to one port, let it be Sligo or Ballina. We must soon begin to think of Limerick, and of storing some large supplies at Kilrush, the port of Clare county. The "Madagascar" is at her moorings at Tarbert. I had a message from Lord Ventry yesterday, stating his apprehensions for our depôt at Dingle; but I hear nothing from Mr. Hewetson on the subject. There cannot well be a military detachment either at Dingle, or Cahirciveen, or Valentia; and it would be an excellent substitute if a brig-of-war could be stationed there during the winter. The port is excellent. We shall, at all our depôts, reserve our supplies until the last possible moment. I do not like to begin to fill the Longford and Banagher depôts until I can complete them; and it is as well to delay it as long as we can, for it can be accomplished in a very short period when we have the necessary supplies at Dublin.

I have not yet been able to get a quern.
I send you copy of the last communication from Mr. Dobree, that you may see how he is advancing. You will be pleased at the success he has met with in diminishing the supernumerary constabulary depôts.

ENCLOSURE.

Mr. JOHN to Sir R. ROOTH.

Youghal Relief Committee, October 3, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of an extract from a letter by you to Rear Admiral Sir Hugh Pigot, and dated 29th September, in reply to a communication in which he transmitted "a copy of a requisition from the Authorities at Youghal for a supply of meal from the Government stores at Cork."

Therein you state that "the Authorities from Youghal can be supplied by the trade," and you "object to this issue as entirely opposed to the regulations on which you are now directed to act."

With reference to this information, I beg to state that there are no Authorities in Youghal who conceive that the duty devolves on them of supplying food for the inhabitants of a very extensive populous and impoverished district, nor do any funds whatever exist as a capital to be appropriated for such a purpose, or to defray the heavy loss which must necessarily arise from such an undertaking in the present lamentable and extraordinary state of the country.

The magistrates of this district, in conjunction with the Relief Committee, found it necessary to make the application referred to on the grounds stated therein; but I take leave to say, at their desire, that these bodies, being composed of individuals voluntarily associated for the benevolent purpose of endeavouring to mitigate the calamities with which our country has been visited, and while they have used their best exertions, and given their contributions according to their means for this purpose, it cannot be expected, nor will they consent to involve themselves in the enormous liabilities of such an undertaking.

The Relief Committee have applied their energies unceasingly, and through Divine blessing successfully, for the past season to the discharge of their functions.

Their funds are now exhausted. The emergency of the last fortnight has caused the expenditure of 400*l.*, which had remained in hands on closing their accounts.

The attempt to obtain future subscriptions would be fruitless in consequence of the large amount required, the combination against the payment of rent and the suspension of ordinary mercantile operations; their labours must therefore come to a close within a very short period.

The ordinary channels through which it might be expected that the demand would secure the supply are not available in the present case for the following reasons:—

Trade in this port is altogether paralysed, as well by the interruption to the supplies from the country through combination and intimidation among the working classes, as more particularly by the conflicting statements made from different organs of the Government. The Prime Minister declared in Parliament that the Government would not interfere with the ordinary course of trade; but, on the other hand, his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant is reported to have stated, in communication with a deputation from Cork, that the Government would take care that the price of food did not exceed a point which would render it available for the labouring population of the country.

This point it is palpable has been already reached, if not exceeded, notwithstanding that a considerable advance has taken place in the rate of labour; and therefore private individuals are naturally unwilling to engage in the importation of food, a speculation which they conceive under the circumstances could only issue in ruinous loss. Besides this, the repeated demonstrations of physical force, and threats of violence, and perpetration of plunder in this locality are producing the effect of inducing such merchants as have made purchases of grain to export the same beyond the reach of such hazard, and others (and these are among the most extensive in the trade) have suspended all operations at present.

2nd. This locality is unfavourably circumstanced for converting home produce into food in consequence of very great deficiency of mill power within an available distance, and also from the staple being chiefly black oats, an unsuitable and unprofitable article for feeding purposes.

3rd. The merchants of this port, by memorial to his Excellency the Lord-Lieutenant, offered to operate for the relief of the markets in this emergency, provided they were secured from the loss which they anticipated as in the highest degree probable; and they considered that such a guarantee from the Government would be only fair and legitimate for them to expect, inasmuch as it was the declared intention of interference by the Government at a certain point that in their view rendered the prospect of loss inevitable; but their memorial has been hitherto unsuccessful.

Under these circumstances, and with the prospect of the exhaustion of the supplies of food within a very few days (a state of things most awful in its consequences when we consider what a wide and wild extent of country is now for the first time dependent upon this, the only town therein, for its supply), the Magistrates and Relief Committee made the urgent requisition to Sir Hugh Pigot for the immediate transmission of meal from the Government dépôt at Cork, and the establishment of a dépôt at Youghal, to which you so decidedly object.

They had not then, nor have they now, any other alternative. They foresee nothing but plunder, anarchy and bloodshed as the inevitable result of the course which the Government or those in authority think proper to take, and they respectfully desire that you will have the kindness to communicate to the proper quarter this their decided protest against that course, and a renunciation on their part of all responsibility for the consequences which are likely to ensue.

I am desired by the Relief Committee again strongly to press the application on which this correspondence is founded, and to add a declaration of the aggravated character of the impending danger. The only mill within reach cannot possibly supply the demand, and food fit for immediate use must be forwarded to Youghal instantly by the Government if human life is not to be sacrificed under the most fearful circumstances, probably both by famine and the sword.

P.S. The length to which my communications have run precludes me from dwelling upon the impossibility of subsistence being afforded to the labouring population at the price of whole meal, which you quote 15. per cent., with the advanced rate of wages here, now 1s. per day. We have felt compelled to sell Indian meal at a halfpenny per stone, involving a loss of 50 per cent., but we can do so no more.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. JOHN.

Dublin Castle, October 6, 1846.

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant, in which you represent in strong language the condition of Youghal, and that for its relief there was, in your opinion, no alternative but the permission to draw supplies from the dépôt at Cork, now in course of transfer to Limerick.

Permit me to observe to you, that the emergency which has to be provided for this year is not a local deficiency, as that of the last season, which could be supplied from the abundance of other quarters, but a general scarcity, extending with a greater or less degree of intensity over the United Kingdom, and the whole of Western Europe; and I humbly conceive that neither you nor other gentlemen of influence can direct yourselves of the responsibility of assisting to meet this general calamity.

With France and Belgium and Holland, as competitors with ourselves in the food-market, it is impossible not to have high prices, if we expect to obtain our share of what is offered for sale.

The Government dépôts, limited now to the Western Coast, are not even there intended to form the primary or principal means of subsistence to the people, but merely to furnish a last resource, when all other means of subsistence (whether from the harvest just got in, or from importation) are exhausted, and the dépôts are therefore in no case to be drawn upon whilst food can be obtained by purchases from private parties.

It cannot be denied that this subsistence can be obtained by purchase at Youghal and at Cork, and at the same rates as those of the Government dépôts, which are the trade prices.

Permit me also to bring to your recollection the pledge given by Her Majesty's Government, that no interference will be exercised with the provision trade in the Eastern Division of Ireland, to which your town belongs.

I feel persuaded that all these are considerations which should induce you to meet together, and to combine for the general good, either by subscription, to which a liberal donation will be advanced, or by loan fund amongst yourselves, to apply a part of the home produce to the subsistence of the people, or by such other measure as you yourselves will be best able to suggest; but I cannot believe, as a body of gentlemen voluntarily associated for benevolent purposes, that you will consent to abandon this duty to the alternative of plunder and disorder.

Sir R. ROUTH to R. W. M'ISRAEL.

Dublin Castle, October 9, 1846.

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st instant, which only came to hand yesterday.

I am not aware that I ever fixed any definite period of five months; but in replying to your letter, I shall endeavour to explain to you the position in which I think the country stands.

It was only in September that the complete failure of the potato crop was known; and it was only at that period that either the trade or the Government could make any arrangements for the supply of this deficiency. Indian corn can only be procured from the Mediterranean, the Black Sea, and America, and it is not usual that such importations should arrive in the midst of harvest. Before the orders could be sent out, the cargoes collected and shipped, and the voyage across the Atlantic performed, a period varying from two-and-a-half to three months must elapse. In the meanwhile there has been in the United Kingdom a fair average crop of wheat of good quality; barley has not been quite an average; and in some parts oats have been one sixth less than an average; but in general the oat crop in Ireland has been successful. The potatoes, though a complete and general failure, have left sufficient, though of bad quality, for the people for a period varying from one to four months.

The difficulty which has to be surmounted, is to supply the country from this date to the first of January. It is probable that supplies will arrive before that date to assist in meeting the demand, but the home produce must now be brought into consumption, and it is decidedly for the benefit of the holders of it to sell now when they have the market to themselves, rather than to wait for the arrival of the large importations which are now on their way to compete with them.

It is unfortunate that all the meetings should result in a resolution to apply to Government, in lieu of combining together and suggesting some plan to meet the pressure which is on the country, for it is by such efforts, rather than by petition, that the emergency is to be overcome.

I hope you will bear in mind that the Government cannot feed the whole population; that your own exertions and the trade must first put forth their resources; that the Government depôts are not primary or principal means of subsistence, but only as a resource when other means are exhausted; neither must you be alarmed at high prices. We have all Western Europe, France, Belgium, and Holland in competition with us in the food market, and if you expect to have your share, you must offer such a price as will induce the trade to bring it to your door. I enclose to you copy of a letter which has been received from an Irish magistrate and chairman of a committee, and I hope that the data which it affords may be found useful to you.

I shall be happy to give you all the assistance in my power, but only assistance, to supply your own failures or those of the trade.

The whole country is called upon for its efforts against the same calamity, and it is impossible to expect success unless every branch of the community contributes to promote it.

Mr. RUSSELL to Assistant Commissary-General STEVENS.

Ladbeg, Dungloe, October 1, 1846.

I am unwilling to trouble you, but the urgency of the case must plead my excuse. The inhabitants of this parish have from time to time been told that a supply of meal would be sent, and twice now the Warrior steamer has come into Rutland harbour, and, after remaining some hours, proceeded on to the Gweedagh, and discharged her cargo of meal there. Many of the inhabitants have money to purchase who have no corn or other produce. Relying on the promised supply has prevented individuals from importing. There is not a stone of meal to be got for money in all this parish, with a population of near 10,000; and as the local representatives of the greater part of the parish are looked to to make the condition of the people known; and unless the promised supply is sent without a day's delay, I tremble for the result.

Mr. OLIPHANT to Deputy Commissary-General DOBREE.

Ballycunnell House, Falarrow, Dunfrenagh, October 2, 1846.

I HAVE just received your letter, and feel particularly obliged by your allowing me to get even five tons of Indian meal by this post. I have written to the manager of the Belfast Bank at Letterking to send Mr. Stevens a letter of credit for the amount, £31. 6s. 8d. Oatmeal is selling here now for 2s. a hundred, and the distress is very great in consequence of the high price, therefore I hope, when a supply arrives in Sligo, you will allow me to get some more. I will always be accountable for the amount, and will forward the money without any delay. The population is so great here, I hope Government will see the necessity of forming a depôt at Falarrow; and we are such a distance (20 miles) from any market town, that carrying meal here costs 2s. a hundred. This adds very much to the expense. I would like to get some of the biscuits, as I think such cheap food would answer the people very well.

REV. JAMES O'NEAL to Deputy Commissary-General DOBREE.

Inniskeel House, Navarra, Ardara, October 3, 1846.

I THIS day received from the office of the Commissary-General, Dublin Castle, of the date of the 1st instant, from which the following is an extract:—

"I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th ultimo, (which has arrived here this day,) and to request that the Inniskeel Relief Committee will communicate to Deputy Commissary-General Dobree, at Sligo, their desire to have a depot at Portnoo."

This day brought under a full meeting of all the persons acting as the Relief Committee of the extensive parish of Inniskeel the letter I now refer to, when it was resolved,—That this meeting are of opinion that from the great extent of the parish of Inniskeel, being nearly 30 miles long and 9 broad, there will be required two depôts of supply, one at Portnoo for the lower part of the parish, having an extensive sea coast, and another at Glenties for that place, and the large mountain districts that surround it; and that from the convenience of the port of Portnoo, it should be the landing place for both depôts.

I have not words to describe the state of destitution of this quarter of the country from want of a supply of food for sale. We are 45 Irish miles from a sure market. The poor farmers are now compelled, at a ruinous expense of time and money, to go 45 Irish miles to Derry market, and then pay an exorbitant price for Indian meal.

There is only one mill, which is at Glenties, and, I regret to say, that the home supply would do little more than seed their grounds the ensuing spring; and as to an exchange of corn for meal, as far as concerns this country, it is impracticable. The distance from a regular port renders it impossible, and, even if within its reach, little trade in this way could be carried on, as the people of these parts principally cultivate the potato crop.

There is a coast guard station at Portnoo, and a good store; and at Glenties there is a constabulary station, where storage could also be procured.

The distribution of meal could, therefore, be carried on without any expense to Government, having their own officers to superintend the sale.

The Relief Committee most earnestly desire me to call your humane and immediate attention to the situation and utter destitution of the people of this extensive district, and also to point out Portnoo as a safe and convenient harbour for a steamer to land supplies, from which a depot at Glenties could be supplied.

I have to solicit your consideration to the deplorable state of the people of this country. Those who have means, as if they had none, far away from a regular market or trading, many of them compelled to use the most unwholesome food,—many in a state bordering on starvation.

We, therefore, request immediate supplies to be forwarded to Portnoo by the first steamer that can be made available for the purpose.

I am of opinion, from all I can hear and perceive, if there is any further delay, starvation to many will be the consequence.

MR. FORSTER to Deputy Commissary-General DOBREE.

Roskine Lodge, October 4, 1846.

I WAS delighted to hear that you are now stationed in Sligo, as there is no doubt a most active-minded man will be required in this district to manage the distribution of the provisions in the awful times that are before us, of which I am confident no one can form the least idea. I should have answered yours written me from Sligo long since, only I did not know where to direct; and feel very much obliged by your arranging with Mr. Stevens to send to Rutland 30 tons of oatmeal, and though I immediately wrote to him about it, did not get an answer, therefore I fear he did not get my letter, having been ordered some place else. As you are now on the spot, I am in great hopes you will send it to me, and if you can manage this you will oblige me more than I can find words to express, as I told the poor people it was to come, and they well know I never deceived them; and as I have their full confidence, I trust you will not allow me to fall in their good opinion in this instance, and particularly in these times, when it is so necessary to keep up a good feeling between the gentry and people. You can form no opinion of the want here, particularly in the Islands. Upwards of 200 people from the Island of Arramore came in a body to this house yesterday. I do believe they had not one meal to eat, and all they wanted at present was meal to purchase; but if they gave 1d. per lb. or 1s. per lb. for it, they could not get it, as there is not 100 lbs. for sale in all this country. At first they appeared to be inclined to do mischief; but when I reasoned with them they went away quietly, as I told them I was certain meal would be sent to Rutland in a few days. As I know every man in this country intimately and by name, I have a very great influence with them; and only I think it my duty to stand by the poor people, and also to assist the Government to carry out their measures, and keep the country quiet, I would leave this, and take my family to England till those times pass over, as it is most difficult to say what longer may do. I have been engaged for the last week (by the directions of Lord G. Hill) in taking down in writing the circumstances of every tenant on his Lordship's property. When I was so engaged on one of the townlands, word came to the people that the steamer was coming in with meal, and I never saw anything like the joy of men, women, and children; you would think they were frantic; running from house to house with the news, and numbers went off immediately

to purchase meal, but, unfortunately, the bar was so much up, the steam-boat would not venture in; and though within one mile of the starving people, she was obliged to go away with the meal, and home they returned to their children with empty bags, and sorrowful countenances, but they returned quietly, with a hope that something will be done for them. As I know you must have endless applications, I have to apologise for this long letter, and shall only add, that should business bring you here, Mrs. F. and I will be very glad to take the best care of you.

Deputy Commissary-General DONNELL to Sir R. ROUTE.

Sligo, October 8, 1846.

My letter, No. 151, of the 6th instant, will satisfactorily reply to yours of the same date, relative to the reduction of our constabulary depôts. I trust that I have fully realised all your intentions on this subject, and that you will approve of the cautious mode which I have adopted of gradually, but definitively, transferring these sales to the Relief Committees. I had at one time thought of effecting the reduction by the method resorted to at Longford, but experience has satisfied me that in these cases half measures will not succeed. The suppression of our out-stations has, I am persuaded, had the desirable effect of drawing home produce into consumption, and of calling into action the exertions of all classes in their vicinity to make up the deficiency from those resources pointed out by Government in the Treasury Letter of the 30th ult. I shall, whilst our markets are so totally destitute of foreign food, give some extra assistance to those Committees whose labours have been thus brought into greater activity. I enter hand and heart into the line of conduct prescribed for my guidance—satisfied of its imperative necessity; and I will attentively watch the operations of the trade, so as to extend, restrict, or entirely withhold our issues, according to the supplies of foreign meal or flour in our local markets. The influential people of the country all acknowledged the wisdom and policy of so doing, though they would be constantly enforcing its violation. With such a gigantic reformation as the one before us, the corner stones must be laid on a solid foundation, whatever the cost may be.

With reference to your letter, No. 170, enclosing a return of steam-vessels to be employed in the Relief Service on the coast of Ireland, I must entreat that you would apply for one capable of stowing 60 to 80 tons of meal being attached as soon as possible to this district.

The "Warrior" is still, I am persuaded, lying in her harbour of refuge in Mulroy Lough, and there is every probability of her consuming a whole month in carrying 15 tons of meal from hence to the coast of Donegal. There is no trade at all on the west coast of that country. There are no markets, and I am most anxious to keep our three coast-guard stations replenished until a depot is formed at Killibegs or Gweedore. I trust that as soon as you have a disposable officer, you will order him to Bunbeg, where it is so desirable to form a small reserve, in consequence of the difficulty of throwing in occasional small consignments at this season of the year.

You would most essentially facilitate our operations if you could have one or two of the cargoes of corn intended for this district sent direct to Ballina. Vessels drawing 12 feet can unload at the quay in the river Moy, a mile below the town; and the distress which prevails throughout the interior of the county of Mayo calls for more assistance than I have transport to afford them. The carriers of this place claim the exclusive privilege of conveying all our supplies for Ballina by land, which would be absurd with the heavy rain that falls 20 out of each 24 hours. They have intimidated the crews of the small vessels here to that degree that they dare not take our freights.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Commissary-General HEWETSON.

October 10, 1846.

I AM obliged to you for your explanation about the causes of the delay in the transmission of the stores from Cork to Limerick.

You speak of the remaining quantity of new naval biscuit at Cork being available for relief purposes if required, which makes it necessary that I should inform you that it has been determined to keep a reserve there both of biscuit and salt beef, which, although nominally held on account of the navy, is really intended for army purposes, and is not to be diverted from being in readiness for that object.

I hope to continue to hear from you freely how things are going on in your quarter. Your letters are regarded here with a high degree of interest, conveying, as they do, current intelligence of a very momentous state of affairs.

Commissary-General FILDER to Mr. TREVELYAN.

*Commissariat, Canada, Montreal,
September 12, 1846.*

IN pursuance of the orders of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, conveyed to me by your letter of the 18th ultimo, the following officers will be immediately relieved and directed to proceed to England by the first opportunities that may subsequently offer:—

Assistant Commissary-General Millikin,	
Deputy Assistant Commissary-General R. Routh,	
“	T. Gem,
“	J. R. McCulloch.

With the most anxious desire to meet their Lordships' instructions to the fullest extent, I find it wholly impracticable, by means of the establishment which will remain at my disposal after the removal of the officers above-mentioned, and of Assistant Commissary-General Rayner, ordered to Bermuda, to make any arrangement for carrying on the duties of the department at the more important posts in this command in a satisfactory manner, if Assistant Commissary-General Adams were likewise to be removed. I am under the unavoidable necessity, therefore, of retaining that officer until relieved by another of experience, and capable of superintending extensive duties. The presence of Mr. Adams in this country will, moreover, I apprehend, be requisite for some time to come, to protect the interests of the Crown in matters relating to the service on which he has for several years past, until recently, been employed under instructions from the Master-General and Board of Ordnance, and out of which there is reason to believe that litigation may arise. Mr. Adams is indeed now absent from his post for the purpose of giving evidence, at the request of the Ordnance officers, in a suit instituted against that department in connexion with these transactions.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

October 16, 1846.

Write to Commissary-General Filder that my Lords have had before them his letter of the 12th ultimo, No. 1538, and although their Lordships are ready to admit that he had strong grounds for taking on himself the responsibility of suspending the execution of their orders for the immediate return to this country of Assistant Commissary-General Adams, the circumstances of the service in Ireland are nevertheless such as to render it necessary that Mr. Adams should embark for this country by the first opportunity, notwithstanding the inconvenience his absence may occasion to the Commissariat and Ordnance service in Canada. And their Lordships therefore desire that Mr. Filder will submit the subject to the Commander of the Forces, and instruct Mr. Adams accordingly, making the best arrangements in his power to supply Mr. Adams's place.

Transmit copy of this Minute to Sir R. Routh for his information.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Commissary-General FILDER.

October 10, 1846.

WE are much obliged to you for your prompt execution of the important orders for sending home the officers for Ireland.

You undoubtedly had strong reasons for assuming the responsibility of retaining Mr. Adams; but there are still stronger reasons connected with the state of Ireland and Scotland for his coming home without delay; and the Chancellor of the Exchequer desires me to request that you will make the best arrangements in your power for supplying his place, and send him home by the next packet, if possible.

Mr. Adams is considered to have peculiar qualifications for this very peculiar service.

You must select the best man among the junior officers to supply his place at Montreal; and the vacancies thus created may be filled by persons who have acquired experience as temporary clerks, or by persons of any sort of respectable character and business-like habits; to say nothing of the resource which is always open to you of employing military officers with the consent of the Commander of the Forces.

SIR R. ROUTH TO MR. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, October 10, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you, for the consideration of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, copy of two letters from Commissary-General Hewetson, dated the 4th and 6th of October, in which he submits the appointment of Captain Mann, at the rate of 10s. per diem, to continue the duties that he performed under the orders of Sir Edward Coffin, in charge at Kilrush, and generally carrying on the issues and other duties in the Lower Shannon, as detailed in Mr. Hewetson's letter.

I beg leave to recommend the appointment of Captain Mann, as a most efficient officer in such duties; but I submit the question of his remuneration for their Lordships' decision.

Mr. Hewetson also applies for the increase of 1s. per diem in behalf of Mr. Hill, in charge of the Dingle dépôt—increasing his pay from 4s. to 5s. per diem; and, considering his increased responsibility and duty, I beg to recommend his case to their Lordships' favourable consideration.

ENCLOSURES.

COMMISSARY GENERAL HEWETSON TO SIR R. ROUTH.

Commissariat, Limerick, October 4, 1846.

I WOULD bring under your early consideration the expediency of putting the dépôt at Kilrush, which will be a most important one—looking to the demands that will be made from Clare, and that part of Kerry on the south or left bank of the Lower Shannon—on a permanent footing, in charge, under my orders, of an efficient officer. The duty of the dépôt has hitherto been most satisfactorily executed by Captain Mann, Inspecting-Commander of the Coast-guard in that district; and I would earnestly recommend his Commissariat appointment to that charge under the new arrangements—to comprehend the superintendence of the floating dépôt about to be moored at Tartort, and direction, under my orders, of the steam and other transport to be at our disposal in the Lower Shannon. The rate of pay allowed Captain Mann will, of course, be a point for reference and consideration at the Treasury. His establishment—as Clare Castle, in case of its being again made a sub-dépôt, will be within his district—should consist of a temporary clerk and his present storekeeper.

In order to the due security of the meal and other supplies at Kilrush, it will be requisite, without loss of time, to have a fit building for the dépôt. The boat-house belonging to the coast-guard, hitherto temporarily used, not being sufficiently dry or secure for winter service, a building of the description required, and well situated, can be obtained at a moderate rate. On your determining to carry this proposition into effect, the necessary steps shall be taken to remove the supplies, and place the establishment on a footing similar to the other reserve dépôts.

I have your directions to put the building at Cahinchreen in order for our dépôt, and would propose Mr. Thomas Nash, who served on my establishment at Cork as warehouseman, and who gave me every satisfaction, being appointed storekeeper in charge, with the daily pay of 5s., which is the lowest rate I could offer him. Moving from Cork to that remote place, it will also, for the due security of the service, be necessary a constabulary constable should be attached to the dépôt, and that the building be put under a watchful surveillance of the local police and coast-guard establishments. I propose to commence sending from Haulbowline the supplies to stock it on or about the middle of this month.

COMMISSARY GENERAL HEWETSON TO SIR R. ROUTH.

Commissariat, Limerick, October 6, 1846.

REFERRING to my letter, No. 171, I would observe it is essential Captain Mann's appointment should be similar to that of any other officer placed in charge of an important Commissariat Relief station, which Kilrush, with its dependencies, as noted therein, will necessarily be: his moral rank and knowledge—looking to the locality—render his appointment to Kilrush still more desirable. The accounts of the station will, of course, be prepared as pointed out in your instructions recently issued, and incorporated monthly with those of Limerick. As this officer is on full pay in the coast-guard service, I should think 10s. per diem in addition will be an adequate remuneration for the performance of the Commissariat duties, to commence from the date your approval shall arrive.

Mr. Hill, in charge of the Dingle dépôt, should, as requested by me, receive 5s. per diem, from the date of his appointment: it is the lowest rate which can be offered, considering the responsible duties he has to conduct, and that he has removed from Cork to so remote a district.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

October 13, 1846.

Write to Sir R. Routh, that their Lordships consider that Captain Mann might with advantage be employed under Commissary-General Hewetson's directions in the Commissariat operations in the Lower Shannon. But, previously to giving their sanction to his appointment, their Lordships wish to be more distinctly informed what is the nature and extent of the charge proposed to be intrusted to him, and whether his duties in connexion with the coast-guard will allow of his devoting his time and energies to the necessary degree to the relief service.

Also state, that their Lordships approve of the pay of Mr. Hill, who is in charge of the Dingle depôt, being increased from 4*s.* to 5*s.* a-day, from the date of his appointment to the charge of that depôt.

SIR R. ROUTH to MR. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, October 17, 1846.

ADVERTING to your letter, No. 330, dated 13th instant, conveying to me the commands of the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, to report further on the nature and extent of the charge proposed to be entrusted to Captain Mann, and whether his duties, in connection with the Coast Guard, will allow of his devoting his time and energies to the necessary degree to the relief service, I have now the honour to lay before you, the further report of Commissary-General Hewetson, which I trust will be found full and satisfactory; and it is to be observed, that the naval experience of Captain Mann in that particular district, offers a convenience to the service, which we could not derive from another quarter.

With regard to the duties which will be exercised by Captain Mann, as an accountant, I shall endeavour to limit them to the receipt of the payments made for the issues of the Kilrush depôt, which will be forwarded, at short periods, to Limerick, and the clerk in charge will keep the Store Accounts, to be incorporated, as heretofore, in the Store Accounts of Limerick.

I do not see any other course that could be so advantageously adopted, as that which Mr. Hewetson proposes, but the amount of remuneration is entirely open to their Lordships' decision.

ENCLOSURE.

Commissary-General HEWETSON to SIR R. ROUTH.

Commissariat, Limerick, October 16, 1846.

WITH reference to the observations contained in Treasury Letter, No. 330, of the 13th instant, to your address touching the nature of the duties to be intrusted to Captain Mann, and whether his duties in connection with the Coast Guard, will allow of his devoting his time and energies to the necessary degree to the relief service; I have the honour to state, referring to my letter, No. 171, that Kilrush, from its local situation, should be a considerable sub-depôt, not only for the supply of Clare, but that part of Kerry on the Lower Shannon, as far into the interior as Listowel. The facilities of transport by water, which Captain Mann, from his Coast Guard appointment, command, and the active readiness with which he has always so usefully applied it for relief services, together with his experience and knowledge of that part of the country, make it highly desirable his services should be retained as recommended; he will, of course, be an accountant for the Kilrush depôt, in the same manner as other accountants holding similar charges, and he will need the assistance of a temporary clerk, whenever his duties again become extensive. I do not propose putting the depôt in "*Middlegascar*" under his orders, (observing Tarbert is about ten miles from Kilrush), but I purport making use, when necessary, of his means to communicate with her, and his advice in the employment of the steamers and other vessels, which are to be at my disposal in the Shannon; for you are aware, that this is a wild inclement coast, and the mouth of the Shannon open to very heavy weather, and every precaution is necessary in sending forward our consignments during the approaching winter, under the eye of an experienced seaman. Captain Mann is perfectly ready to give his services for this object, and I do not apprehend that his Coast Guard duties will prevent him from doing it full justice; in naming a rate of pay for his services, I have had no sort of communication with him thereon, nor is he aware I have proposed it.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

October 20, 1846.

Write to Sir R. Routh that under the explanation which has now been furnished, their Lordships are pleased to appoint Captain Mann to the charge of the Kilrush depôt, with the understanding that he will give all the assistance in his power in forwarding with speed and safety, the shipments which will be made during the winter from the "Madagascar" store ship to different points on the coast.

Captain Mann's remuneration will be 10*s.* a-day without allowances.

Their Lordships desire that Sir R. Routh will report what arrangement has been made for the charge of the depôt on board the "Madagascar," and for securing the due realisation of the value of the issues, and the prompt and accurate rendering of the accounts.

Commissary-General HEWETSON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Limerick, October 11, 1846.

I SEND the "Limerick Chronicle" of yesterday; you will see the people are stopping the grain from coming into the city. The fact is the farmers are not only tempted by the high prices, but they are anxious to bring their grain to market, fearing it will be plundered in the country, as the people become more straitened for food; it is true that distress in many places is extreme, although food is in the country. To what a sad state a kingdom must be reduced when the Government of it is required to feed the people!

The Admiral Sir Hugh Pigot has placed at my present disposal for relief service in the Shannon and Fergus, the following small steamers; "Swallow," tender to the "Madagascar," "Tartarus," and the occasional services of the "Pluto." I have written him to say, for present purposes these may suffice, but I may require, at a later period, additional means; I believe I have before mentioned the ready aid I invariably get from Sir Hugh Pigot; his Secretary, Mr. Nicholls, is a most zealous and indefatigable man of business, and I owe much to his prompt attention and assistance in many points connected with this service, and it is due to him that I should bring this much under your notice.

You will see the quotations in the Limerick markets. I am told, at a later period large and direct foreign importation of Indian corn may be relied on, but committees still hang back in a great many localities; and here, although the formation of our reserve depôts are imperatively necessary, they have the effect of preventing committees in their vicinity from falling back upon their own exertions to provide food. I issue nowhere, though sorely pressed, except some few tons of the old biscuit at Dingle and Skibbereen; *no meal any where*. I am desirous of your opinion upon the exclusive issue by us, at a later period, of *whole Indian corn*, that is, to expend first the meal in bond and that ordered. I am sure you will agree with me in the excellent food it affords simply by steeping and well boiling.

Captain MANN to Mr. CRAFER.

Kilrush, October 11, 1846.

THE work, during the late relief operations here, was very severe—much more so than can be supposed, and the future is looked to with great anxiety by all thinking persons. I have been requested to continue my services, and of course, at once replied in the affirmative. This part of the coast has very few residents that can assist the poor, and it is densely populated; at present, the better class of farmers have a few potatoes remaining, but the common cottiers and labourers are, in most cases, without any: they are now selling at 6*d.* per stone. Indian corn meal, 1*s.* 9*d.* to 1*s.* 10*d.* per stone, and all other food in proportion. At similar seasons of other years the poor had their own little gardens of potatoes, and employment in digging those of the farmers—as they called it the home harvest; this year all that is gone, or nearly, and their potato food just three times the price, and bad in quality. As you may suppose, this creates great distress among that class; they are very patient in my immediate neighbourhood,

I may say all my district for relief purposes, as yet, and I hope will continue so. The poor creatures appear attached to me, and they have created a strong interest in my best exertions and thoughts. Sir Edward Coffin entrusted the district to me, and his quiet, gentlemanlike, and business habits, has quite won on us all, and makes me feel the loss of him as an associate in this interesting work, for such it is; and I have great hopes that it will do good in all ways. A little kindness and consideration will show them that the Saxon is not their worst friend; and I am positive that a grateful feeling exists, and that it will ultimately benefit both countries; then, also, it will raise the standard of the former wretched and capricious food, which a blight or ungenial season would turn into all but famine. They appear astonished that, as an Englishman, I care so much for their wants, and their expressions of gratitude are frequently overpowering and painful—because it appears to arise from being treated kindly, and my *promise faithfully kept*. It is impossible to describe the state of this country in almost any kind of letter, but that they suffer patiently. I'll give you an instance:—In March last, the *distress was very great*—no employment scarcely set out by the Board of Works; a spirit began to show itself of discontent, and there were whispers that the country would rise, unless work was granted. We had a meeting, and having a *private hint* that the engineer of the Board of Works would arrive that day, I went to the chapel to bring the priest with me to him. The road lay toward the quay, and we were literally stopped by carts laden with grain, butter, bacon, &c., being taken to the vessels loading from the quay. It was a strange anomaly, and well might be said, could not be *meted* but in this country. The next morning work was given, and all remained quiet; and can we say other than that these poor creatures suffered patiently, and with temptation; and this makes me feel interested in their welfare.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, October 12, 1846.

I SEND you a letter to-day to Lord Bernard. We have still heavy and incessant demands for depôts, and we are compelled to increase our nominal price (I say nominal, as we avoid all issues that we can) to 15*l.* Indian-corn meal, and 19*l.* oatmeal. I think we are beginning to make our doctrine understood.

I thank you very much for Mr. Andoe, who is a clever, shrewd, active man, calculated to work hard and get through a great deal of business. I think he is the best man we could have had, and I am really much obliged to you for the interest you have taken in it.

ENCLOSURE.

VICOUNT BERNARD to W. STANLEY, Esq.

Castle Bernard, October 8, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your letter, which I have laid before the guardians of the Bandon Union, of which I am chairman. I beg to enclose a resolution passed by the Board yesterday, in which I fully concur; and by that you will direct the attention of Sir R. Routh most earnestly to the subject. There can be no possible ground for making a distinction between the county eastward of Skibbereen, in the West Riding, and the remainder of the same division of the county of Cork. There are no persons engaged in the parish or the union with capital to purchase corn to meet the present emergency, and unless the Government take more active measures than they have done to secure a supply of food for the people, the worst consequences may be apprehended. I hope that I may, as chairman of a very extensive Union, and as the only Member of Parliament resident in the district, be permitted firmly but respectfully to protest against the course which has been pursued by Her Majesty's Government.

Every assistance which can possibly be afforded by those resident, to the Executive Government, will cheerfully be given, but is impossible unaided to meet the present difficulty.

Bandon Union.

EXTRACT from Minutes of Board of Guardians' proceedings on Wednesday, the 7th October, 1846.

The Guardians having had under consideration the letter from Sir R. Routh, in reference to the establishing a depôt for Indian meal in the town of Bandon, which was called for by a resolution of the Board adopted on the 30th ultimo, are of opinion that the necessity for such depôt

still exists, Indian corn, oat, and wheat meal being at this moment at famine prices, at least such prices as it is impossible the labouring class can provide a sufficient quantity for their support. In accordance with Sir R. Routh's own recorded opinion, the guardians consider it the duty of the Government to hold supremacy over the markets, and throw in opportune supplies, to control them, and bring food at a reasonable rate within the means of the poor, without any violent interference with the fair trade. With respect to a depot at Skibbereen, this Board deem it of equal importance in the present emergency that depôts should be established at Bandon, and Dummaway, as it appears to the Guardians that if supplies were wanting along the coast, they could be much more easily afforded than to the interior. It must be obvious to the Commissary-General that it is impossible for Relief Committees, with their very limited means, to keep up a supply of food sufficient for the population of an extensive district without large pecuniary aid from Government.

Sir R. ROUTH to Viscount BERNARD.

Dublin Castle, October 10, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's letter of the 8th instant, and I regret to perceive that your Lordship dissents from the measures which Her Majesty's Government have sanctioned.

The interference of Government, in the supply of food to the people, is at all times a very delicate question. It is much better to encourage, and even assist private enterprise, than to interfere itself in such arrangements; for no means that a Government can employ can ever equal even a small part of the operations of trade.

The Treasury Minute explains the grounds which have induced the Government to leave the northern, eastern, and southern ports, and those parts of the interior which are ordinarily supplied from them, to the foresight and enterprise of private merchants.

The duty on Indian corn, and the uncertainty which attends the introduction of a new description of food, are circumstances which prevented the adoption of this principle during the past season; but as these difficulties are now removed, it is desirable to avoid every possible interference with the ordinary course of trade and industry.

Your Lordship is aware that this is no local deficiency, but a general scarcity, extending over the United Kingdom, and the whole of Western Europe. France, Holland, and Belgium are in competition with us in the food market; and if we refuse to offer the value of the article imported from foreign countries, we certainly shall fail to secure our proportion of it in the market; and if, as the resolutions seem to intimate, I should attempt to control these high prices, by selling at a rate below their value, I should invite all descriptions of pressure on the depôt where such a system is pursued, and exclude all mercantile assistance and speculation from it.

I have reason to believe that Her Majesty's Government continue to be decidedly of opinion that the public safety, as well as the public faith, indispensably requires that the pledge given, that no interference will be exercised with the provision trade in the eastern division of Ireland, should be strictly observed.

I trust that your Lordship, on consideration, will be disposed to give this opinion a fair trial, and that, with the countenance of your Lordship's authority, either by private subscription or by loan funds, or by such other individual exertion as may encourage trade, you may commence a system of operation which may not only be beneficial to those who have forwarded to you these resolutions, but be also an example to others.

I beg to suggest to your Lordship that the country is nowhere destitute of supplies, that whole wheaten meal may be obtained on reasonable terms, that barley meal may also be profitably imported, and that the home produce may be brought into consumption very advantageously to the holders before the large importations now on their way to this country shall come into competition with them.

The difficulty this year is to provide sustenance from this period until the 1st January; and it is not to be denied, that the main support must be the abundance of the late harvest now in the country.

Towards the end of November these supplies will begin to arrive, and as the winter advances, the importations will increase.

I am persuaded that your Lordship's authority and example will be found a most valuable inducement to the exertions it behoves us all to adopt.

Deputy Commissary-General DOBREE to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Sligo, October 12, 1846.

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant, and of a communication to you from Mr. Robertson, explaining the relative proportions of the Indian corn in the ear and when shelled; this information will be very useful to us should any cargoes be consigned with the grain in the cob. We have not received any in that state, and none have yet arrived in this district on merchants' account.

Barley is selling here at 35s. per quarter, which is considerably lower than

the price of buckwheat afloat at Rotterdam; this latter grain is as yet unknown in this part of the country, and I am not sufficiently acquainted with its properties to state how far it is of a perishable nature.

I am leaving nothing undone to restrict the issues from our depôts as much as possible, and to draw the home produce into consumption, for, as yet, the trade has imported nothing except a few barrels of American flour; their operations, as you well know, have been hitherto exclusively confined to *exportation*, having been merely purchasers of the surplus produce, not sources of food to any portion of the population, and they are quite unprepared at present to reverse their business with the rapidity which the emergency demands.

On my arrival here three weeks ago, I found seven constabulary depôts, and seven coast-guard stations for small issues, all of which, with the exception of the coast-guard stations of Killibeg, Ardara, and Rutland, I have gradually suppressed, and have compelled the Relief Committees at those places to succeed us in these duties. So long as our shops were open, all others remained closed; and the great object I have in view is, by every means in my power to compel the people to look to themselves for subsistence. It must, however, not be forgotten that there are thousands whose potatoes are quite gone, who have grown no oats, who have no work, and that for this description of persons I must occasionally issue relief through their committees, who are unable to provide it from any other source.

MR. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

October 12, 1846.

I HAVE written to your son Jules to inform him that he must proceed immediately to Dublin, to place himself under your orders.

I have already prepared him, by a perusal of the Blue Book and the Commissariat Instructions, especially of those parts of them which relate to stores.

The *general design* of your Abstracts of Correspondence seems good, and the only thing wanting to complete it is, that copies *in extenso* of the most remarkable letters and answers should be appended, with a view to which you might mark them "to be copied for the Treasury," at the time they are originally disposed of.

The arrangement of the details seems too crowded, and it would be better that the letters on one subject should be entirely disposed of before another is begun, or in other words, that you should begin a subject (applications for depôts for instance) at the top of a sheet of foolscap paper, and carry the details completely across the sheet, and so go on till you have exhausted that subject before you begin another; thus:

Application for Depôts.		Answer.
County.	Locality.	

Application for Meal, &c.

and so on.

You appear to have established one set of abstracts for your general correspondence, and another for your correspondence with the Castle, which seems a convenient arrangement.

This service is so critical, and the responsibility which rests upon us so heavy, that if any person who has been selected for any duty should turn out not to possess the particular qualifications which are required, we must, however disagreeable it may be to us, inform him that we must try another person in his place.

MR. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

October 13, 1846.

I HAVE instructed Mr. Erichsen to buy another cargo of meal at Liverpool, and to ship it off without delay to Westport.

I have engaged with the proprietor of a large mill in Essex to grind 1000 tons of barley for me, which, in addition to the King's Mill at Rotherhithe, and the three Admiralty mills, to say nothing of the Channel Islands, where I am making arrangements for securing mill power, will soon enable us to recommence our supplies of meal for Ireland from this quarter, without interfering with the provision which is necessary to make for Scotland.

You suggest the advantage of making other large contracts for spring delivery from America. If we could make more such contracts, *on which we could depend*, we would willingly make them, and Mr. Erichsen has instructions to invite offers of the sort; but the *respectable* American houses, with whom alone it would be safe to treat, appear to be in a state of trepidation at their prospects, and they consider the quantity for exportation from the United States, and the prices which will prevail, to be so uncertain, that they will not bind themselves to any price, and an unlimited order to buy up corn in the American market would be both contrary to our pledge, and would be open to objection on other grounds.

In the mean time, we are making almost daily additions to our stock of corn by purchases for future arrival from the Mediterranean, which has proved our most available resource.

I regret to learn that the stock of corn at Malta is very low, and that only 3000 quarters are left of the Egyptian wheat, of which I had supposed there was a considerable supply. The French are believed to be making large purchases in the Mediterranean.

I think it right to repeat, that while we are doing our best for Ireland, we make it a rule always to follow, and never to lead, the prices, so that the increase of price which has taken place from time to time can in no one case be attributed to the operations of the Government. This is not only due to the empire at large, but is best for Ireland itself; for if the public in this country once became possessed of the notion that the rise in every article of provisions, which is now beginning to be seriously felt, was owing to the operations of the Government broker, we should find it difficult to hold on our course.

I have given directions for the 8000 quarters from America being delivered in equal proportions at Galway and Sligo. Ballina is not one of the ports at which, according to the terms of the contract, the delivery could have been made.

The next cargo of whole corn which arrives from abroad will be sent to Galway.

In cases where it would not be advisable or necessary to post military detachments to guard our depôts, would it not be advisable to arrange with Colonel Macgregor to increase the constabulary force at the places where the depôts are situated, and to give special instructions for their safety, and for providing the means of resisting any attack that may be made upon them?

We doubt whether a brig-of-war would be so suitable or cheap a means of defence as an increase of the constabulary force; but we will communicate with the Admiralty if you adhere to the opinion; and in the mean time I send you a note from Lord Auckland about the Knight of Kerry, to which I have no doubt you will be able to give a satisfactory answer.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Castle, Dublin, October 18, 1846.

I OBSERVE in my book in which I keep a list of all your advised purchases by Mr. Erichsen, that the following arrivals may be expected in November:—

	Quarters.
"Satronizza," from Venice	1800
"Meridiano," from Venice	1400
"Pigeon," from Corfu	750
Ship not named, from Marseilles	1500 to 2000
Ditto, from Marseilles or Genoa	1000 to 1200

I should propose the following destinations:—

The 1st, "Satronizza," to	Sligo,
2nd, "Meridiano"	Ballina,
3rd	Westport,
4th	Galway,
5th	Limerick.

I mention this, that in case of earlier arrival you may be prepared; but I usually apprise Mr. Erichsen also when the time is near at hand.

The demand for depôts seems rather to increase; for independently of the written applications, there are a great many made personally. I see no shadow or glimmering of any exertion amongst the people of influence, nor have I witnessed or heard of any other expression of opinion than a determination to expect all from the Government.

The other day the Galway Committee applied for a donation on a sum of £500, taken from the city funds, which are voted for the usual city expenses of paving, &c., and I should like to have your opinion, first, as to the legality of this application, and if not legal, as to the propriety of authorising it, as it were, by recommending a public donation in aid of it, as if it were a private subscription. Galway is not a corporation which might have such power, but they are town commissioners, who preside under two Acts of Parliament, 6 and 7 Wm. IV., c. 117, and 3 and 4 Vic., c. 108. Will you have the goodness to let me know if you are of opinion that this sum may be considered as a subscription, and entitled to a donation in aid. From what the Lord Lieutenant said, I inferred that he was desirous of meeting the application favourably.

I think it is too soon yet to visit the Committees; they are hardly formed, and we must see them first in the exercise of their functions.

I have a strong application from the Marquis of Sligo for a depôt at Loughborough, a town on an estate belonging to him, and he has been presiding at a meeting, which terminated in a petition to open the depôt at Westport, but not a word was uttered of any assistance or sacrifice from themselves. I have another from Sir Richard Musgrave for a depôt at Ardmore, close to Youghall, to which of course the answer is very clear, but it is the Government that must do all.

MR. TREVELYAN to Deputy Commissary-General IBBETSON.

October 14, 1846.

I FEAR from what I hear, that you will find a difficulty in obtaining supplies of grain, to be ground at the Admiralty Mills, for Ireland; but you must supply what you can, be it little or much, in order that it may be ground, and sent off as fast as possible.

Get Indian corn if you can, but if you cannot, then barley or oats, and lastly, inferior wheat; and failing every thing else, you might try buckwheat, if it is to be had, and might even buy peas and beans, if they are to be procured at moderate prices, compared with the English rates.

The peas and beans you would, of course, send home unground.

If there is any other article procurable in your part of the world, which you think would answer the purpose of wholesome food, in the present emergency, I shall be obliged to you to write me full details about it; but you will not purchase any larger quantity of such article than may be sufficient for a specimen, without express authority from me.

Pray explain to Sir Lucius Curtis, that we do not want the meal ground fine, like that used in making Navy biscuit, but that once ground coarse meal suited for making stirabout or porridge, is not only sufficient for the purpose, but is more acceptable to the people than fine meal. The Irish did not like the fine oatmeal which was at first ground at the Admiralty Mills at Deptford; they said it did not suit their purpose.

You and the Admiral will act upon your own discretion in regard to the degree in which the bran, &c., is to be separated, which you will well be able to do, as you are now fully in possession of our object. In grinding Indian corn, the waste is very small indeed, only about four per cent. In barley, and especially in oats, it must of necessity be much greater; but in regard to wheat, you may, I think send it all home together, without any separation of the bran; this plan is being pursued in Ireland to a great extent, and when the wheat is not of superior quality, it is found that the meal obtained from it, including the bran, is not much dearer than Indian corn meal. I send you three copies of a printed paper on the subject.

I am told, that the Egyptian wheat is mixed with the mud of the Nile, and if such be the case, it will, of course, be washed before it is ground.

Pray mention to the Admiral, that we shall be obliged to him to send all the cargoes of meal to Limerick, until further orders, consigned to Commissary-General Hewetson, who is in charge at that place.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. T. ROUTH.

October 14, 1846.

THE natural adjustments which take place under a system of perfectly free trade, are always more than sufficient to counteract any apparent inconveniences arising from such a system, and I have just had an interesting instance of it.

A gentleman largely engaged in the corn and grinding business, informs me that the flour exported from Ireland to England is mostly of the first quality, the seconds and thirds, as they are called—that is, the coarser portion of the flour, after the fine or first quality has been separated—being retained for use there: while, on the other hand, seconds and thirds are being exported from England to Ireland in considerable quantities.

You have, no doubt, seen statements of the great diminution of the export of provisions, and especially of corn from Ireland to England, and the great increase in the exportation from England to Ireland.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

Treasury, October 15, 1846.

OUR impression on this subject is, that even if yams would bear being transported, they are not procurable in sufficient quantities to make them a resource worth having, being, as I believe, only grown by the negroes for the supply of the local markets, and a small additional demand for them would run up the price beyond our limits.

ENCLOSURE.

Captain HAMILTON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Admiralty, October 13, 1846.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send herewith, for the information of the Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury, a copy of a Letter from Mr. Lyon, Surgeon, R. N., suggesting the propriety of importing yams as a substitute for potatoes.

SIR,

*Stoke Gabriel, near Totness Dean,
October 12, 1846.*

AT the present serious juncture I humbly suggest to their Lordships the propriety of sending to the West Indies and elsewhere for cargoes of yams as an excellent substitute for potatoes, which may be preserved by whitewashing them previous to leaving the country.

I have &c.,

The Secretary of the Admiralty.

PRIMEOSE LYON, Surgeon, R. N.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, October 17, 1846.

WITH regard to yams, they are much too expensive to think of importing. They are very good, and, in my opinion, preferable to the potato, and make a most luxurious breakfast; but quite out of the question to import as food. In some of the islands and in Demerara they cost a bit (10 to a dollar) a pound. They are cheaper in Barbadoes; I forget the price, but dear. The white yams are the best. The negroes more usually eat the plantain beaten up with salt fish.

TREASURY MINUTE ON the above.

October 20, 1846.

Transmit to the Secretary to the Admiralty, for the information of the Lords Commissioners, copies of Mr. Trevelyan's letter to Sir R. Routh, dated the 15th instant, and of Sir R. Routh's reply, dated 17th instant, and state, that for the reasons explained therein, their Lordships are of opinion that yarns are not an available resource in the present scarcity.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Castle, Dublin, October 15, 1846.

I RECEIVED your letter of the 13th instant. The consignment of the "Meridiano" to Galway is all right. I had put down Ballina, but another cargo can go there. I send you to day the letter to Lord Sligo.

I observe your remarks on the spring contracts, and I much regret the difficulty that now exists, but it may disappear as the season advances, for it is certain that there is a very large crop, which must come to market, though I anticipate a great want of shipping.

We are always acting in concert with Colonel McGregor, but he cannot always increase the constabulary force, and it is subject to be occasionally weakened by detachment of escorts.

The brig-of-war was suggested to be stationed at Dingle, to keep in check any outrage there, or at Cahirciveen, and occasionally to visit Kenmare. It seems that it is very inconvenient to send a military detachment to either of these posts, and that gave rise to the mention of a brig-of-war, supposing that the steamers would be too much occupied. It was suggested rather in the difficulty of choosing another means of defence, than because it deserved in itself to be recommended. Mr. Hewetson went himself down to make a selection for a dépôt, and he strongly preferred Cahirciveen, where he has a store gratis; and if a fourth dépôt should be hereafter necessary, he recommends Kenmare.

Mr. Osborne came this morning, and he goes to-morrow night to Sligo, and will relieve Mr. Stevens, whom I shall direct to return to the Audit Office, as soon as he can settle his accounts.

There has been some violence at Killybegs, in a distribution of biscuit at that post by the officer of the coast-guard, and six sacks of biscuit said to be pillaged. Mr. Dobree has sent over to inquire into the facts of the case, and I shall not report it officially until I hear further from him. I am more than ever convinced that we cannot make issues through the coastguard from their stations, and I have requested Mr. Dobree to transact this business through the committees, until we have our own people at their posts.

I have seen Sir James Donabrain this morning, and I think I have come to some arrangement with him. The "Racer" requires to be repaired, and he is to send the "Chance" to Sligo, and he proposes, as there are two steamers in the Shannon, to transfer the "Hamilton" to Westport, on which I have written to Mr. Hewetson before I conclude. I am expecting a communication from the Admiral daily, and I shall then send you our arrangements with him. We have a good military force at Sligo, and arrangements are making to station two companies at Belmullet, and a detachment at Newport. Sir Edward Blakeney will be prepared to station some troops in Co. Donegal, when our dépôts are sufficiently advanced to require it. But I sometimes fear we shall consume as fast as we replenish, and that time will not be afforded to us to mature our intended dépôt at Killybegs. To form dépôts, you require a large quantity at once, and the uncertainty of the market leaves the possibility of such a measure doubtful. Something may turn up to assist us.

Mr. Labouchere has just shown me your letter about grain. I am afraid the people have not their land prepared, in which case the seed, if sown, would be wasted, and they would attribute it to the land being unfit for grain. It is almost late for rye, and I should not recommend much now, but I will send round to the committees to-morrow and make inquiries. The barley and bere would be more sure perhaps, as it is sown in the spring, and we have time before us. The Lord Lieutenant wants salt to be sent for the fisheries, but I

have not seen him on the subject, and Mr. Labouchere could not give me the particulars. Of course this must be bought at Liverpool and sent round to the points required, but I should have thought it was too late in the season for such operations.

ENCLOSURE.

The Marquis of Sligo to Sir R. ROUTE.

Westport, Oct. 8, 1845.

As Chairman of the Westport Relief Committee, I have the honour to enclose you a copy of resolutions passed at our meeting this day.

I was also requested to endeavour to draw your attention to the fact of the want of food at this moment in all this neighbourhood. It is stated by many members of the Committee, who have more knowledge on the subject than myself, that the grain at this moment in the country is only enough to supply seed necessary for the sowing of the double crops necessary next spring to compensate for the loss of the potato, and that if in consequence of want of other food the people are driven to the consumption of oats, a famine will be established here for years, and the Government next year forced to supply the whole country with food and seed, or to see the greater part of the inhabitants actually die of starvation. The facts are so strong, and as far as I can see so uncontradicted, that I consider no comments necessary, nor excuses for addressing you on the subject of supplying this poorest part of Ireland with food at once.

At a meeting of the Relief Committee of Westport, the 8th day of October, 1845, the Most Noble the Marquis of Sligo in the chair,

Resolved, that we have read with much pleasure the letter of the Chief Secretary to the Commissioners of Public Works, conveying the instructions of his Excellency the Lord-Lieutenant, that remunerative employment on land be substituted for the making of the roads under the 9th and 10th Vict., and we beg to tender the expression of our gratitude to his Excellency for this very judicious change.

Resolved, that though we conceive the very best effects will result from this new arrangement, we cannot, in justice to this country, refrain from again requesting the attention of the executive to the fact, that if the small occupiers of land in this district (and the inhabitants are principally of this class), be deprived of the seed corn now in their hands, by being forced to convert it into food, owing to a want of a sufficient supply of imported corn being in the market, the consequences will be most appalling, as it will be utterly impossible to supply 800 square miles of country with seed from England, as it could only be imported (if at all), at a ruinous price to the farmer, and even then in such small quantities as would be perfectly inadequate to supply the demand.

Resolved, that though large sums were presented at the extraordinary sessions for making of roads under the 9th and 10th of Victoria, we perceive with regret that no steps have yet been taken to commence the works, though we are aware the most awful distress exists in this district, owing to the want of employment.

Resolved, that as food is now only supplied by the trade to the distressed people in small quantities of a stone weight, and frequently in lesser portions, though many of these persons come from 10 to 15 miles to this town to obtain a supply, we call upon the Commissariat Department to issue from the depot here the Indian corn now in store, in such small quantities as would tend to relieve the present frightful pressure on the market, without at all lessening the demands on the merchants,—demands they are now unable to supply.

Resolved, that our Chairman be requested to forward a copy of these resolutions to his Excellency the Lord-Lieutenant, to the Commissary-General, and the Chairman of the Board of Works.

The Marquis of Sligo to Sir R. ROUTE.

Westport, October 12, 1845.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter addressed to the Relief Committee of Westport. The new Committee, formed under the new regulations, met this day, for the first time, and though most seriously impressed with the necessity of continuing our endeavours to obtain some Government assistance in the importation of food, the Committee refrained from any further resolutions, but requested me, as chairman, to write, to represent again how completely inadequate the resources of this country are to meet the pressure already existing for food.

It has, I believe, been universally admitted, that the distress here is far greater than else-

where. The landlords have not the power to interfere with the importation of food, as all their resources are exhausted, from their not receiving their rents. The merchants have but little capital, and have already been obliged to raise their prices to exorbitant rates; the poor themselves acknowledge that no private endeavours can in any degree alleviate their sufferings, and all their prayers are for public assistance.

It is, I believe, the universal opinion, that if some Government measures are not adopted in this country for providing food immediately, that the whole supply of seed will be exhausted, and that even that will not, in all probability, prevent an outbreak among the peasantry.

There is considerable excitement felt here at the refusal of the Government Commissariat Officer to afford any relief, by the sale of his supplies of Indian corn; and we believe, that the withdrawal of this order would be productive of much good in the market.

I deeply regret the necessity I am under of troubling so often the Government, and the heads of the various departments, with such applications, which I must justify by the apprehensions of rebellion and death by starvation.

Sir R. ROSS to the Marquis of SLIGO.

Dublin Castle, October 14, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's letter of the 8th October, containing the resolutions of the Westport Committee, which reached me only yesterday, and I have this morning your letter of the 12th instant.

I pay due attention to your Lordship's application for Government assistance, and for the opening of the Government depot, and I solicit your Lordship's patience whilst I enter into some explanation on this subject.

We have a crisis of a peculiar nature to overcome, and a sudden transition from potato to grain food, for which the country is little prepared; we have two great deficiencies to supply—mills and inland corn-dealers, and both are a work of time.

Unfortunately a great, and, as I think, an ill considered opprobrium, has been thrown upon dealers in corn; and the farmer, with scarcely any knowledge of the principles of trade, is exercising the two professions, and with injury to both. If they were, as they ought to be—divided, the farmer would be relieved from a business that he does not understand, and would have his whole time given up to his own occupation, in which he would be materially assisted by loans or advances from the trader, who, as well as his landlord, would have an interest in his success.

The day cannot be distant when the gentlemen of the country will see the advantage of encouraging dealers of character and respectability, and deriving all the advantage of the union of commerce and agriculture.

With regard to the high prices which it is alleged the dealers exact, we must bear in mind that if an article is scarce, it must be dear; that a smaller quantity of food must be made to suffice for a longer period than is usual; and that the high price is the only criterion by which consumption can be economised. The interests of an intelligent dealer will always check the tendency to raise prices above their true level; or, at all events, the attempt will carry its cure with it, by disappointing him of his market.

The present is not a local scarcity, but includes all Western Germany, Holland, Belgium, and France, as well as the United Kingdom, and these powers are competing with us in the food market; and if we decline to pay the fair value, we shall lose our proportion of it. No merchant will bring his goods to our market, if he can obtain a better price elsewhere. I think we shall certainly mistake the object, if we sell below the cost price; for we give up all check upon the consumption, and shut out all mercantile assistance from us, and stand alone in our market, making ourselves responsible for the supply.

Your Lordship's information leads you to state, that the grain in the country is only enough to supply the seed necessary for the sowing of the double crop, to compensate for the loss of the potato.

I must not attempt to combat this impression, as relates to your Lordship's neighbourhood; but in the country generally it is acknowledged that the harvest has been abundant, and so great has been the exportation to England that the price has actually given way under it, and the markets are less advantageous there than in Ireland; wheat has even been re-shipped and brought back again. Here is a proof of the great loss experienced by the country, from the absence of respectable corn-dealers, whose business it would be to watch the course of trade, and keep their own markets supplied, making the abundance of one part of the country applicable to the demand of another.

Your Lordship is disposed to think that the opening of the depot at Westport, which contains about 150 tons of unground Indian corn, would afford to the people an effectual measure of relief.

The quantity which I have stated is almost an answer to this solicitation; but I am anxious to explain to your Lordship that neither the trade nor the Government could adopt any steps for increasing the supply of food in the country, until the failure of the potato crop was known in September.

On the most favourable view that can be taken of the time necessary to introduce foreign

importations, it cannot be accomplished with any effect in less than three to four months. Until this period, therefore, has elapsed—from 1st December to 1st January—neither the trade nor the Commissariat can be in a position to meet the exigency which your Lordship thinks is now impending.

The only, and the real remedy is the abundance of the late grain harvest; and your Lordship will not omit to observe the danger we incur in exporting the superfluity, or in failing to apply it to our local wants, and transferring our expectations to the importations of a foreign grain which has not had time to reach our coasts.

In consequence of the demand for Italian corn meal, the price has risen to 54s. per quarter, much beyond the price of whole wheat meal, the growth of Ireland, or of barley meal, whether grown here or imported.

I earnestly recommend to your Lordship's Committee the advantage which these items of supply offer.

I should also strongly recommend the sowing of rye instead of oats, at least in part, which is harvested usually six weeks or two months before wheat.

I trust that your Lordship will perceive the utility of opening our depôt and of commencing our issues before we are in a position to maintain them. It would be deceiving you, and depriving us of the means of affording a small temporary succour to some of the worst parts of Conamara and Achill Island.

In conclusion, I advert to your Lordship's application for a depôt at Loughbeg, for the difficulty of which my previous explanation will have prepared you. In fact, I am obliged to withdraw for the moment the constabulary depôts now dependent on Westport, trusting to the exertions of the Committee to supply their absence until we are able to renew them.

On this subject it may be made evident to your Lordship, that these constabulary depôts, if they become too numerous, affect the impartiality of the distribution: for all these localities which have not this advantage are obliged to defray from their own funds the expense of transport, of custody, and issue; and I am sure your Lordship will concur with me, that there should be no distinction. I have received applications for no less a number than for 183 of these depôts, with which it will be clear to your Lordship, that, seen in the aggregate, no one could anticipate that I should have the means of complying.

I beg to assure your Lordship that it will give me great pleasure in assisting your Committee as much as lies in my power; and I congratulate the district on your Lordship having concerted to act as their Chairman, at a moment when all the influence and example in the country are necessary to carry us through this great crisis.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

RETURN of the Number of COMMUNICATIONS referred by T. N. REDINGTON, Esq., Under-Secretary for Ireland, to Commissary-General Sir RANDELL J. ROBERTS, from 12th to 14th October, 1846 (both days inclusive), showing the Number of Applications from each District:—1st, for the Establishment of Depôts; 2nd, for Meal, Food, &c.; 3rd, Objections to Instructions; and, 4th, Applications for Grants in Aid of Subscriptions; also the general Answer given to each Class of Application.

1. ESTABLISHMENT OF DEPÔTS.

Number of Applications.	County.	Locality.	Number of Applications.	County.	Locality.
1	Carlow . .	Marketstown.	1	Down . .	Ratfadde.
1	Cavan . .	Cavan.	1	Down . .	Dundalk.
2	Dublin . .	Belturbet.	1	Down . .	Kilmaine.
1	Dublin . .	Coochill.	1	Down . .	Sirrah.
1	Dublin . .	Macroom.	1	Queen's Co.	Abbeyleix.
1	Kerry . .	Kemmare.	1	Roscommon	Kiltullagh.
1	King's County	Shirrone.	1	Tipperary .	Dundrum.
1	Limerick . .	Deemina or Dromed.	1	Wicklow .	Arklow.

Heads of Answer:—That it was not the intention of Government to have Commissariat Depôts, except in the Western Districts, and there only when not supplied by traders. That where the Depôts are established they will only be opened when food is not provided by traders in sufficient quantity. That from the deficiency of foreign grain as yet in the markets it is desirable that gentleness of local influence should unite in exertions for having the home harvest produce brought extensively into use. That foreign supplies will not be available in sufficient quantities to lower the market prices before December.

Return of the Number of Communications, &c.—continued.

2. APPLICATIONS FOR MEAL, FOOD, &c.					
Number of Applications.	County.	Locality.	Number of Applications.	County.	Locality.
1	Clare . .	Doonac Committee.	1	Kerry . .	Ballylongford.
1	Cork . .	Restaberry.	1	Ditto . .	Keshmore.
1	Ditto . .	West Carbery.	1	Ditto . .	Listowel.
1	Donegal .	Ardrum.	1	Ditto . .	Teske.
1	Ditto . .	Glencolumbkille.	1	Limerick .	Corcomohide.
1	Ditto . .	Movagh.	1	Mayo . .	Bellinrobe.
1	Ditto . .	Rosellen.	1	Sligo . .	Sligo.
1	Ditto . .	Templemore.	1	Ditto . .	Drumcliff.
1	Galway .	Galway.	1	Tipperary .	Enry.
1	Galway .	Mount Bellow Bridge.	1	Ditto . .	Colton and Sallaghed.

Similar Answer as to Applications for Depôts, No. 1.

3. OBJECTION TO INSTRUCTIONS.			4. APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS.		
Number of Communications.	County.	Locality.	Number of Applications.	County.	Locality.
1	Cork . .	Carbery West.	1	Clare . .	Clonsdagad Committee.
1	Kilkenny .	Glennmore.	1	Cork . .	Burton Committee.
1	Mayo . .	Swineford Poor Law Guardians.	1	Ditto . .	Randon Committee.
			1	Ditto . .	Kilbrannigan Committee.

Answered by sending a Supplement to Instructions for the formation and guidance of Relief Committees, by which the Lieutenant of the County is empowered, should the *ex-officio* members be insufficient, to exercise a discretion in the appointment of the respectable members of the Committees of the past season.

Heads of Answer:—

1. That donations will not now be recommended on subscriptions raised during the period of Relief before 1st September.

2. That Government do not contemplate asking any grant except upon subscriptions raised in the period of distress commenced 1st September, and which will receive consideration, provided the Committee be constituted in accordance with the Instructions.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

RETURN OF CORRESPONDENCE from 12th to 14th October, 1846, both days inclusive.

1. APPLICATIONS FOR DEPÔTS.			2. APPLICATIONS FOR MEAL, FOOD, &c.		
No.	County.	Locality.	No.	County.	Locality.
1	Clare . . .	Kilkee.	1	Galway . .	Killymore.
1	Cork . . .	Ardfield.	1	Ditto . . .	Roundstone.
1	Ditto . . .	Glenn.	1	Mayo . . .	Westport.
1	Mayo . . .	Ballyhannon.	This application is specially answered by Commissary-General Sir R. J. Routh.		
1	Ditto . . .	Killalla.			
1	Ditto . . .	Loughborough.	1	Reconmon .	French Park Committee.
			1	Sligo . . .	Skerten Committee.

*Heads of Answer:—*That it was not the intention of Government to have Commissariat Depôts, except in the western districts, and there only when not supplied by traders. That where the depôts are established they will only be opened when food is not provided by traders in sufficient quantity. That from the deficiency of foreign grain as yet in the markets, it is desirable that gentlemen of local influence should unite in exertions for having the home harvest produce brought extensively into use. That foreign supplies will not be available in sufficient quantities to lower the market prices before December.

Similar answer as to applications No. 1.

3. PROPOSALS FOR STORAGE AT

1	Cavan . .	Moynagh.
1	Donegal . .	Ballyhannon.

Noted and referred to the Commissariat office of the district for his information.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

4. APPLICATIONS FOR BOOKS, PAPERS, &c.

Number.	County.	Locality.
1	Cavan . . .	Tullyhanna.
1	Ditto . . .	Bally Jamesduff.
1	Clare . . .	Croston.
1	Ditto . . .	Kilmore Committee.
1	Cork . . .	Ardfield.
1	Ditto . . .	Baltimore Committee.
1	Ditto . . .	Bandon.
1	Ditto . . .	Clonsilla Committee.
1	Dublin . . .	East and West Belthorough.
1	Fermanagh . .	Lowtherstown Committee.
1	Ditto . . .	Magherahey.
1	Galway . . .	Athleague Committee.
1	Ditto . . .	Gort Committee.
1	Leitrim . . .	Drumshan.
1	Ditto . . .	Drumshanbo.
1	Louth . . .	Castletellingham.
1	Mayo . . .	Aglish Committee.
1	Ditto . . .	Carranmore.
2	Ditto . . .	Terlough Committee.
1	Ditto . . .	Cosmalina.
1	Meath . . .	Moynalis Committee.
1	Sligo . . .	Coolavin ditto.
1	Wexford . . .	Canolin.

Books, &c., to be supplied where the Committees are re-constituted in accordance with the Instructions.

5. OBJECTIONS RAISED TO THE INSTRUCTIONS BY COMMITTEES AT

Cavan . . .	Ballyhale.
Clare . . .	Ennis and Drumliff.
Cork . . .	Baltimore.
Ditto . . .	Bandon.
Ditto . . .	Cork.
Ditto . . .	Ferry.
Galway . . .	Dunkellin.
Londonderry . .	Londonderry.
Mayo . . .	Castles.
Ditto . . .	Kilvine.
Meath . . .	Crossedick.
Roscommon . . .	Roscommon.
Tipperary . . .	Shrovel.

Answered, by sending a Supplement to Instructions for the Formation and Guidance of Relief Committees, by which the Lieutenant of the county is empowered, should the *ex-officio* members be insufficient, to exercise a discretion in the appointment of the respectable members of the Committee of the past season.

6. COMMITTEES HAVE RE-ASSEMBLED AT

County.	Locality.
Cavan . . .	Loughree, Upper.
Ditto . . .	Ditto Lower.
Ditto . . .	Tullyhanna.
Ditto . . .	Tullyhaw.
Ditto . . .	Castlesham, and two sub-Committees in
Ditto . . .	Clonsilla and
Ditto . . .	Castlesham
Clare . . .	Inch and Kilmesly.
Ditto . . .	Kilmore, &c.
Dublin . . .	East and West Belthorough.
Fermanagh . .	Magherahey.
Kerry . . .	Glacrough.
Ditto . . .	Terlough.
Leitrim . . .	Corrigallan.
Ditto . . .	Bellinamore.
Roscommon . .	Athlone.
Ditto . . .	Ballinabber, North.
Ditto . . .	Ditto South.
Ditto . . .	Ballymore.
Ditto . . .	Frenchpark.
Ditto . . .	Castles.
Ditto . . .	Roscommon.
Tipperary . . .	Clogheen.
Ditto . . .	Kilmasilla.
Ditto . . .	Lacken.
Ditto . . .	Templeclilly.
Westmeath . .	County generally.
Wexford . . .	Glacough.
Ditto . . .	Decies within Drum.
Ditto . . .	Cashmore and Cashbride.

7. APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS.

Number.	County.	Locality.
1	Cork . . .	Castletyrea Committee.
1	Down . . .	Gweedore Committee.
1	Ditto . . .	Drumshan and Rosnagh.
1	Kerry . . .	Kilcomra and Nebaval.
1	Leitrim . . .	Corrigallan Committee.
1	Tipperary . .	Parish of Shrovel.

Heads of Answer:—

1. That donations will not now be recommended, on subscriptions raised during the period of relief before 1st September.

2. That Government do not contemplate making any grant, except upon subscriptions raised in the period of distress, commenced 1st September, which will receive consideration, provided the Committee be constituted in accordance with the Instructions.

8. DONATIONS RECOMMENDED IN AID OF RELIEF COMMITTEES.

County.	Locality.	Subscriptions.	Donations.
Cork . . .	Ovens District . . .	£. s. d. 50 0 0	£. s. d. 25 0 0
Galway . .	Ardraken . . .	205 0 0	100 0 0

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

F. MISCELLANEOUS.		
County.	Locality.	
Cavan . . .	Cavan Committee . .	Request that the parish of Castleterry may be formed into a distinct relief district from Cavan. Referred to the Lieutenant of County.
Clare . . .	Parish of Feakle . .	Request two Committees for the Parish. Referred to Lieutenant of County.
King's County	Kinsey and several other localities.	Urge the necessity of works being proceeded with. Referred to the Board of Works.
Roscommon .	Roscommon Committee, and others.	Inquire about contingent Expenses, Clerks' Salaries, &c., &c. Informed that the Fund formed by local Subscriptions, or by local Subscriptions and the donation of Government, is that from which contingent Expenses, &c. are to be disbursed.

Total Number of Miscellaneous Correspondence . . 18

Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
October 15, 1846.

Deputy Commissary-General MAJOR to MR. TREVELYAN.

Commissariat, Malta, October 15, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 11, dated the 6th instant, and in compliance with the instructions therein contained, beg leave to report, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, that I have communicated with Sir Lucius Curtis, who will immediately make the necessary arrangements agreeably to directions received from the Lords of the Admiralty, and be prepared to receive grain for grinding in a short time; the mills worked by mules being all required for the service of the fleet, those of the new bakery only are available for other services, and they are in want of some trifling arrangements to complete them, which will take about a fortnight to render them fit to work.

The present supply of grain in this market, is very limited, but I can venture to say no more on that head before next mail, as the broker I have employed has not had sufficient notice to furnish me with a statement of prices, and quantity in port.

Deputy Commissary-General MAJOR to MR. TREVELYAN.

Malta, October 17, 1846.

THE late arrival of the mails from Alexandria, enables me to inform you in answer to your letter of the 6th instant, enclosing the memorandum from the Comptroller of Victualling, that I have purchased this morning 500 salms of Indian corn, but I am sorry to say, at high prices, 1*l*. 12*s*. 6*d*. per salm, owing to the great demand for grain, of every description, the orders from England being unlimited as to quantity and price.

Under all circumstances, I consider it advisable to secure the only lot in the market, at any price, to keep the mills at work, which I fully expect Sir Lucius Curtis will report ready for working in about ten days; I have also secured the expected arrival of 800 salms more, at about 1*l*. 11*s*., this will keep the 12 mills worked by steam employed about two months, all the other mills belonging to the Navy Yard are required by them to keep up a supply of biscuit for the fleet.

As the new mills have never yet been at work, it is not exactly known what quantity may be ground, but allowing them to yield double the quantity, the mule mills do, it will be from 18 to 20 salms a-day, I therefore expect sufficient for the first shipment will be ready by the end of November. By that time, I shall be able to obtain from two to 3000 salms from Naples; 1500 were offered me this day at L. 12s., delivered in one month.

As yet, my operations are not known in the market, but by to-morrow the purchases I have made through a broker will be published in the papers, as every merchant is bound to give notice of the sales effected, when a rise in the prices may be expected.

I expect Mr. Ibbetson will relieve me on the 1st of November, and would leave the further purchase to him, but seeing the demands from home increasing every packet, I think it best to secure the quantity offered to be furnished at the prices stated, rather than delay, as it is clear there will not be a change for better terms in the market. I hope, therefore, by next packet to be able to inform you, I have secured the quantity you require agreeably to the instructions, and trust it may meet with your approbation.

In the event of more mills being required, our establishment will admit of our working four more than at present, by taking four mules and two more from the train, and doing the transport work by the contractor's carts; these four mills will grind about three salms a-day, or more if the whole 14 were worked one hour a-day later than at present.

TRASURY MINUTE on the above.

October 27, 1846.

Transmit copies of these papers to Sir R. Routh for his information.

MR. BARING TO MR. TREVELYAN.

*Charles-street, Saturday Evening,
October 16, 1846.*

You will hear that there were sellers to-day of Indian corn from the Danube, on the opening of the waters, at 38s. per quarter, including cost, freight, and insurance to the United Kingdom, which would show the opinion of the trade that the present high prices cannot be maintained.

It is impossible, by the last advices from the United States, to form an estimate of what the supply from that quarter may be before the end of this year. The quantities in the shipping ports were small, but the impression seems to be, that there is a large stock of the corn of 1845 in the Western States, which the present high prices will bring to the sea board before the canals in the north are closed in December, and the rivers are now high enough for carrying purposes to New Orleans. The estimate of the crops of 1846 continues to be large. I enclose a slip from a New York paper, which will give you some statistics on this subject. The shipments to Great Britain from New York in the week ending 25th September, were of—

Indian corn	.	.	18,364 bushels.
Wheat	.	.	38,460 „
Flour	.	.	14,800 barrels.

When I last saw you, you mentioned Mr. Erichsen's remuneration. For purchases of Indian corn there is a regular charge of factorage, but if he is employed for other purposes, I suppose, additional compensation would be required, but, of course, I have not spoken to Mr. Erichsen on the subject.

ENCLOSURE.

Flour and Grain.—The receipts of flour, wheat, barley, and corn, at tide-water during the second week of September, in the years 1845 and 1846, have been as follows :—

	Flour.	Wheat.
1846 . . .	69,009 barrels.	137,118 bushels.
1845 . . .	75,819 „	34,823 „
	<u>Decrease 6,810</u>	<u>Increase 102,295</u>
	Barley.	Corn.
1846 . . .	38,567 bushels.	22,128 bushels.
1845 . . .	17,635 „	4,849 „
	<u>Increase 20,932</u>	<u>Increase 17,279</u>

The aggregate receipts of the same articles at tide-water, from the commencement of navigation in 1846, to and including the second week in September, have been as follows :—

	Flour.	Wheat.
1846 . . .	1,659,301 barrels.	1,062,401 bushels.
1845 . . .	1,184,504 „	325,863 „
	<u>Increase 474,797</u>	<u>Increase 736,538</u>
	Barley.	Corn.
1846 . . .	235,202* bushels.	1,065,290 bushels.
1845 . . .	74,224 „	24,560 „
	<u>Increase 160,980</u>	<u>Increase 1,040,730</u>

EXTRACT from a Letter from Mr. SAUNDERS, of Liverpool, written after the arrival of the last American Steamer.

October 20, 1846.

“ THE accounts from the States must tend to raise prices. No stocks! “ the French Government buying very largely, that is, as largely as they can. “ Vessels are loading for Algiers. The Prussian Government buying up all the “ rye, and there are orders for ten times as much as can be had.

“ None but inferior Indian corn left of the crop of 1845, and the new will not “ be fit to ship before the latter end of December.

“ One who knows, thinks the export of 1846, may reach 500,000 quarters, and “ not more flour than last year.”

Mr. LABOUCHERE to Mr. PARKER.

Dublin Castle, October 10, 1846.

I AM commanded by the Lord Lieutenant to acquaint you, for the information of the Lords of the Treasury, that his Excellency is of opinion a large supply, as soon as possible, of the seed of rye and here would be most useful for sale at a moderate rate in the present circumstances of Ireland, and Dublin would be the most convenient port to which it could be sent.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Mr. LABOUCHERE.

October 13, 1846.

I HAVE already given orders for the purchase of all the new English seed rye that is to be had in the market, and you may depend upon it that I will not get any of an inferior sort while a better is to be had.

With regard to bere or bigg, there is more difficulty. This article is not procurable in the London market, nor, as far as I am aware, anywhere except

* Of this quantity, about 160,000 bushels were received prior to the new crop coming into market. The increase in flour and wheat is equal to 650,184 barrels of flour.—Argus.

in Scotland, and I feel great reluctance to draw upon the already insufficient resources of Scotland while there is any other resource.

Here is said to be merely inferior barley, which has been acclimated and rendered hardy by being grown in exposed and damp situations, and the first question which occurs is, whether good English barley of the ordinary sort would not answer the purpose equally well or better? If it would, I can send you any quantity you require, but if not, I must send to Scotland for here, and make it up to them in other ways.

It can hardly be necessary to add, that the prices both of rye and barley have risen in proportion to those of every other grain.

It is desirable that you should send me an estimate, however, rough, of the quantity of each kind of seed grain you will require, and a statement of the manner and terms on which you propose that it should be disposed of.

I do not make these inquiries with a view to save expense, for I am sensible that it would be well worth our while to make everybody a present of the seed corn, and to give a bounty besides, if it would lead to the breadth of land hitherto planted with potatoes being laid down to corn, but such great abuses are connected with everything that is wholly or partly gratuitous, and it is so difficult to test the sincerity of the parties, and the strict application of the article to the purpose intended otherwise than by charging them its real value that great caution is necessary previously to commencing any new operation.

I should hope that the Irish gentlemen would take the seed corn from us at cost price, and distribute it to their tenants according to their wants.

MR. LABOUCHERE to MR. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, October 16, 1846.

I HAVE been talking with Sir Randolph about the question of sending seed to Dublin. He suggests that at first you should only send us 5000 quarters of rye, which is likely to be wanted immediately. He will communicate with the local committees about here. I quite agree with you in thinking that it ought not to be given away.

We are considering also whether it would not be right to provide salt in the same manner on the coast for the fisheries. It is certain that immense supplies of food have been recently lost for the want of it. I hope in a few days to be able to write to you more fully on this, and on the subject of seed; but as the question of rye presses, I thought it as well not to delay writing you to send us these 5000 quarters at once.

MR. TREVELYAN to MR. LABOUCHERE.

Treasury, October 20, 1846.

I HAVE procured 140 quarters of rye seed, and have ordered them to be immediately shipped off to Sir R. Routh, and our broker hopes to be able to procure 200 more.

It is impossible to fulfil your order for 5000 quarters from the stock of seed grown in England, for the plain reason that the entire stock, if it were got together, would not amount to nearly that quantity.

As far as I can learn, Northumberland is the only English county in which rye is grown for food, and even there, I am informed, it is no longer used alone, and is only grown mixed with wheat.

It is grown to a certain extent in England as green forage, but as, when used in this way, it is not allowed to ripen, only a certain portion is kept for seed, and we have no stock of grain for general purposes to fall back on.

This will account for our broker's moderate estimate of the capabilities of the English market in this article.

The bags of seed purchased by him are marked with "running numbers," each series of which denotes a particular quality of soil upon which the seed was grown.

The only resource open to us is to employ confidential agents in Germany and other foreign countries to purchase seed for us, and send it here; but before doing this we must have an assurance from you that this will answer your purpose.

And if you resolve upon the measure, I shall be obliged to you to inform me

what instructions you would wish to be given to the agents whom we shall employ abroad.

The only precautions necessary to be taken, which I know of, are, that the seed should be newly threshed, and that the quality of the soil upon which it is grown should be marked.

I presume that you will refer to the Agricultural Society, or some other competent authority, on the subject.

You are already aware that I have sent an order to Scotland for a supply of bigg seed, and I am ready to get as much of that as we can draw from Scotland with safety.

I requested Sir R. Routh to show you a printed copy of a Memorandum explanatory of the measures in progress for procuring and curing additional supplies of fish in Ireland, and setting the example of a better mode of curing; and I enclose herewith an amended copy of the same Memorandum.

I shall be able to tell you on Thursday, at latest, whether the Reproductive Loan Society agree to the plan, and if they do not, we can adopt it ourselves from our own funds, if the Lord Lieutenant approves.

The plan includes a supply of salt, to be sold to private curers at prime cost, who will carry on their business with the advantage of the example and instruction of the Government curers.

It is indispensably necessary, in order to prevent our interfering with the private establishments, that our fish should be sold at the current market price, to be ascertained, as usual, by free competition.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Mr. LABOUCHERE.

October 23, 1846

You will see overleaf what progress we are making in procuring rye and bigg seed, and that we have already taken measures for securing an additional quantity of rye-seed from the continent.

We shall also buy up all that is to be had in Northumberland and Cumberland.

Mr. ERICHSEN to Mr. TREVELYAN.

London, October 22, 1846.

We have the honour to report on the subject of *new rye for seed*, to be sent forthwith to Dublin, that we do not succeed in obtaining any quantity here, having hitherto only been able to procure about 120 quarters. We have ordered from Thetford, and from Lynn, in Norfolk, two hundred quarters, and from various other markets, three hundred quarters, but it is very doubtful what quantity we may be able to collect of this grain, of the new crop *fit for seed*. The fact is, that very little rye is now grown in this country; and in the months of August and September, a great proportion of our very small product was bought up and exported to the continent.

Under these circumstances, it will be necessary to order shipments of new rye from abroad, and we have already written to Hamburg on this subject; and in order to be sure of obtaining some quantity, we send to night instructions to our friends, Messrs. Labouchere and Co., of Rotterdam, to pick up in the Dutch markets any small quantities that may be offered, and forward them by steamer to London.

As regards *bigg* or *bere* for seed, we are promised from two to three hundred quarters as soon as they can be collected.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Mr. ERICHSEN.

October 23, 1846.

I SHALL be obliged to you to write by to-day's post to persons on whom you can depend at Newcastle-upon-Tyne and Carlisle, and perhaps also at Hexham and one or two other places in that quarter, to buy up all the good rye-seed they can obtain.

I have reason to think that rye is more extensively used in Northumberland and Cumberland than we at first supposed.

MR. ERICHSEN TO MR. TREVELYAN.

October 22, 1846.

I HAVE bought 3,500 to 4,000 quarters of new Egyptian wheat for shipment during the winter, from Alexandria, at 45*s.*, cost, freight, and insurance, to any port in the United Kingdom. I am offered another cargo, which I am in treaty for, and may thus increase the quantity of Egyptian wheat to 6,000 quarters. It is the cheapest article for grinding.

An offer was made to me of a contract for 8,000 to 10,000 quarters United States Indian corn, to be shipped from America before the 1st April, most likely earlier, at 47*s.*, same condition as the contract for 8,000 quarters, closed on the 29th September. It is cheaper than what was in the market last week, and I submit to you, if it should be taken, provided we could fix the period for shipping not later than 15th March.

MR. TREVELYAN TO MR. ERICHSEN.

October 23, 1846.

WE quite approve of your purchase of six thousand quarters of Egyptian wheat.

You are authorised to accept the offer of ten thousand quarters of United States Indian corn, to be shipped from America before the 1st of April, at 47*s.*, on the same conditions as the contract for eight thousand quarters closed on the 29th September.

SIR R. ROUTH TO MR. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, October 17, 1846.

I AM in close correspondence with the Admiral, but I shall not trouble you about it until we bring it to a conclusion.

I have not yet received the hand-mills, though I have received the bread and the biscuit, which is admirable.

I was interrupted on Thursday in the midst of my letter, and had not time to thank you for your consideration in regard to Randolph; and if I should unhappily fail in any part of my duties, which I trust will not occur, I must exonerate the authorities under whom I am serving—for certainly nothing can exceed the kind and considerate attention I am constantly receiving at your hands; and this day I have another proof of it, in the Treasury Minute in relation to Mr. Adams.

The siege for depôts still continues, and, where there are depôts, a demand for opening them. Our only hope is in resisting them, which I do; and I am certain that I owe to it all the exertions that are beginning to be made in the country.

Jules arrived yesterday, and is installed in his duties. Our canal contractor sends word to-day, that he is unable to continue to forward our supplies, in consequence of the great demand upon him for private merchandize—in other words, a prelude for demanding higher freight. I shall see him on Monday.

Mr. Andoe is here, and seriously takes over his duties on Monday, and relieves Mr. Bishop, whom I shall prepare for his Committee business, and I must draw up some instructions, which I shall send to you. I have so many calls upon me that it is not always I can execute what I intend at the proposed moment, but this must be looked to.

SIR R. ROUTH TO MR. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, October 17, 1846.

I SEND you a letter from Mr. Hewetson, who is still an invalid, who answers the Knight of Kerry's letter, and I enclose also a memorandum from Maurice O'Connell about the depôt at Cahirciveen, but we are keeping back purposely, not to begin before our time.

I shall employ Mr. Bishop about the committees. I had formed the same opinion of him, and I reserve the young men for county Donegal, and Mr. Millikin for Galway to relieve Mr. Wood. Mr. Osborn relieves Mr. Stevens, and when he has settled his accounts he will come down to Dublin on his way to the Audit Board.

Banagher remains closed until I am strong enough at Dublin to fill it, as well as Longford.

ENCLOSURE.

Commissary-General HEWETSON to Sir R. ROUTH.

Limerick, October 16, 1846.

THE memorial from Deonass has not come to hand. The note from Lord Auckland to Mr. Trevelyan has come to hand. The Knight of Kerry is, like many other great proprietors, anxious to have a depôt on his own estate. You know Valencia nearly all belongs to him. When at Cahirciveen, I stated in reply to a similar application, that a depôt could not be placed at Valencia Island, but that they could readily obtain any extra aid from the depôt to be placed at Cahirciveen, or even at Dingle. You can understand such applications. I should hope their extensive slate and flag quarries will again be put into operation; they ought. There is no question the firmness you have shown in holding back is doing much towards compelling the proprietors and men of influence to come forth, and reuse the energies of their localities into practical action; also giving an impulse to the trade. The high prices cannot be helped, but they certainly cannot hold much beyond Christmas. I find three of your Canadian officers have arrived, but not Mr. Inglis; he was to embark in the steamer of the 18th, at Halifax. Where is Randolph?

I write about Captain Mann, any point but where he is; the mouth of the Shannon, with so much experience, I could manage; but certainly, looking to the proper performance of the service, he should be there in charge. At Killybegs they are establishing public kitchens, to cook and give out whole Indian corn, in the way I have recommended, and have circulated a thousand copies of the recipe for so preparing it.

I have not sent any instructions or books to Mr. Purcell, indeed I have some of the latter left. I, however, wrote to acquaint him the price of the meal, and took that occasion to inquire whether he had received any communication from you about his charge. He replied "None." Pray acquaint me what are your intentions. The situation of Banagher, as you formerly observed, would make it, for many seasons, expedient it should be a dependency on Dublin.

I am very weak, but of course at work; it is fortunate I have no particular call which would require me to travel, for I could not bear the exposure.

P.S.—Admiral writes, letter just put into my hand, "Tartarus" so defective, to render her return to Woolwich necessary for new boilers.

Mr. MAURICE O'CONNELL to Commissary-General HEWETSON.

Derrynane Abbey, October 9, 1846.

ON receipt of yours, I set Foley to work at once, and being in Cahirciveen yesterday, I inspected his operations; by the time this reaches you, the store will be ready, so far as his work is concerned, and you had, therefore, better send a person at once to take charge, which I will be prepared to give him. It strikes me, that you will require to have thin plomber sheeting placed between the sacks and the walls of the rooms, as the house is not very long built, and the walls, so near the sea, generally built with sea-sand, are apt, as it is termed so sweet, and this moisture ought not to be allowed to come in contact with the sacks, at least so I am informed.

I am anxious that you should take possession, and commence getting your provisions as soon as possible, as it will be a great encouragement to the people, to see that the Government are active in providing for any necessity; and, moreover, the presence of the Government stock of meal will make the merchants and dealers more moderate in their prices. Indian meal was from 15s. to 18s. the ton in Cahir yesterday, and was looking up even at that figure. This, you will allow, is too high a rate at so early a period.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, October 19, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the Weekly Return of the Commissariat Depôts in Ireland, and also a statement of the Amount of Donations, and of the sums subscribed up to the 17th instant.

ENCLOSURE.

WEEKLY STATE OF PROVISIONS, &c., in the several DEPOTS in IRELAND, on the Evening of Saturday, the 17th of October, 1846.

DEPOTS.	Indian Corn, in Quarters of 5 Bushels each.			Indian Corn Meal.		Oatsmeal.	Rice.
	In Port.	In Store.	With Masters.	In Port.	In Store.		
				Sacks, 280 lbs.	Sacks, 280 lbs.	Sacks, 280 lbs.	Sacks, 112 lbs.
Limerick	7,122	20	..
Banagher	776	..	..
Kilrush	542	..	..
"Madagscar," at Tahert	1,388	384	1,654
Haulbowline	500	..	1,340*
Schibbereen	964	..	710
Dingle	1,404	..	40
Galway	8,525	9	29
Westport	770	..	..	..	24	145
Cliffen	37	..	165
Sligo	52	730	..	809	..	140
Loughford	157	195	1,695
Roscommon
Castleroa	16	..	5
Drumana
Strokestown	4	34
Dublin	1,356	875	..
Totals	822	739	..	18,704	1,512	5,348

* The bluest ready for shipment to Corkistown and Dingle when required.

The Castle, Dublin, October 19, 1846.

R. J. ROUTH, C. G.

DONATIONS issued by command of His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant to Relief Committees, in aid of Subscriptions.

Date.	Name of Committee.	Amount of Donation.	Amount of Subscription.
1846		£. s. d.	£. s. d.
October 12	Brought forward	266 0 0	554 18 1
.. 12	Ardrachen and Kilthomas, Co. Galway .	100 0 0	205 2 0
.. 15	Scrudane District, Co. Cavan	25 0 0	50 0 0
.. 15	Carrigallen ,, Co. Leitrim	60 0 0	120 0 0
.. 15	Gweedore ,, Co. Donegal	50 0 0	105 0 0
		501 0 0	1,035 0 1

Dublin Castle, October 19, 1846.

R. J. ROUTH, C. G.

MR. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

October 22, 1846.

I SHALL be obliged to you to give us the totals of the different columns in your weekly report in some common quantity, which I think had better be bushels, as well as in the quantity in which the detailed items are expressed; and also to state the same total of all in at least two of the denominations of pounds, bushels, quarters, or tons.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

RETURN of the number of COMMUNICATIONS referred by T. N. RUDINGTON, Esq., Under Secretary for Ireland, to Commissary-General Sir RANDOLPH J. ROUTH, from 15th to 17th October, 1846 (both days inclusive), also the general Answer given to each Class of Application.

I.—ESTABLISHMENT OF DEPOTS.			IV.—APPLICATIONS FOR FREE GRANTS.		
No.	County.	Locality.	No.	County.	Locality.
1	Clare . . .	Ennis.	1	Leitrim . .	Carrigallen Committee pay for 200l. out of the 50,000l. given by Act of Parliament.
1	Cork . . .	Bandon.			
1	Ditto . . .	Clonsilla.			
1	Ditto . . .	Dunmoreway.			
1	Donegal . .	Barony of Banagh.			
1	Leitrim . .	Carrigallen.			
1	Longford . .	Thombarry.			
1	Mayo . . .	Ballyham.			
1	Kilkenny . .	Ballynamty.			
1	Ditto . . .	Callan.			
1	Queen's County	Mountmellick.			
1	Tipperary . .	Cashel District.			

Heads of Answer.—That it was not the intention of Government to have Commissariat depôts except in the western districts, and there only when not supplied by traders. That where the depôts are established, they will only be opened when food is not provided by traders in sufficient quantity. That from the deficiency of foreign grain as yet in the markets, it is desirable that gentlemen of local influence should unite in exertions for having the home harvest produce brought extensively into use. That foreign supplies will not be available in sufficient quantities to lower the market prices before December.

II.—APPLICATIONS FOR MEAL, FOOD, &c.

No.	County.	Locality.
1	Donegal . .	Parish of Glen.
1	Ditto . . .	Parish of Leek.
1	Fermanagh .	Village of Garraun.
1	Galway . . .	Children Committee.
1	Ditto . . .	Children Guardians of Poor Law Union.

Similar answer as to applications for depôts.

III.—APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS ON SUBSCRIPTIONS BY COMMITTEES.

No.	County.	Locality.
1	Donegal . .	Parish of Drumbohlen.
1	Ditto . . .	Gweedore.
1	Galway . . .	Kilbooney.
1	Kerry . . .	Listowel.
1	Limerick . .	Shanagolden.
1	Sligo . . .	Drumard.
1	Tipperary . .	Cloonal.

Heads of Answer.—I. That donations will not now be recommended on subscriptions raised during the period of relief before September 1, 1846.

II. That Government do not contemplate making any grant except upon subscriptions raised in the period of distress, commenced September 1, which will receive consideration, provided the Committee be constituted in accordance with the Instructions.

V.—OBJECTIONS TO INSTRUCTIONS BY RELIEF COMMITTEES.

No.	County.	Locality.
1	Limerick . .	Patrick's Well.
1	Ditto . . .	Outrath.

Answered, by sending a Supplement to Instructions for the formation and guidance of Relief Committees, by which the Lieutenant of the county is empowered, should the co-office members be insufficient to exercise a discretion in the appointment of the respectable members of the Committee of the past season.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Leitrim—Parish of Penagh.

The Board of Works forward a letter of the Rev. Mr. Borsford, praying that a Relief Committee may be formed for that parish (Penagh).

Referred to Lieutenant of county.

Mayo—Ballina District.

Board of Works state that all just charges for labour in this district, has long since been paid.

Ditto—Barony of Galles and Costello.

Board of Works state, that delay of works in this locality is attributable to the officers of the Board not being furnished with a list of persons requiring employment.

Roscommon—Suggestions for the extension of the Commissariat arrangements in Roscommon.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

RETURN of CORRESPONDENCE from 15th to 17th October, 1846, both days inclusive.

I.—APPLICATIONS FOR DEPOTS.			V.—COMMITTEES HAVE BEEN FORMED AT		
No.	County.	Locality.	No.	County.	Locality.
1	Clare . . .	Kilkee. Answer annexed.	1	Armagh . . .	Throughout the county.
1	Galway . . .	Killymore. Answer annexed.	1	Cavan . . .	Castlebar.
1	Ditto . . .	Gort. Answer annexed.	1	Galway . . .	Lauriestown.
1	Kildare . . .	Name.	1	Ditto . . .	Gort.
1	Louth . . .	Carlingford.	1	King's County	Throughout the county.
1	Tipperary . . .	Tippinny.	1	Leitrim . . .	Barony of Deemalshere.
1	Waterford . . .	Waterford. Answer annexed.	1	Limerick . . .	Hospital.
			1	Louth . . .	Baronies of Ardee, Fer- rand, and Louth.
			1	Meath . . .	Barony of Ardaraheen.
			1	Ditto . . .	Dinner.
			1	Ditto . . .	Killicked.
			1	Ditto . . .	Oldcastle.
			1	Ditto . . .	Narun.
			1	Wexford . . .	Ballycarrow.
			1	Ditto . . .	Carolin.
			1	Ditto . . .	Fethard.
			1	Wicklow . . .	Coalgreny.

Heads of Answer.—That it was not the intention of Government to have Commissariat depôts except in the western districts, and there only when not supplied by traders; that where the depôts are established, they will only be opened when food is not provided by traders in sufficient quantity; that from the deficiency of foreign grain as yet in the markets, it is desirable that gentlemen of local influence should unite in exertions for having the home harvest produce brought extensively into use; that foreign supplies will not be available in sufficient quantities to lower the market prices before December.

II.—APPLICATIONS FOR MEAL, FOOD, &c.

No.	County.	Locality.
1	Cork . . .	Kilmacduan and Kil- michael Committee.
1	Galway . . .	Children Poor Law Guar- dians.
1	Ditto . . .	Ardshean and Kil- thomas. Answer annexed.

Similar answer as to Applications for Depôts, No. 1.

III.—APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS ON SUBSCRIPTIONS.

No.	County.	Locality.
1	Donegal . . .	Inver Committee.

IV.—APPLICATIONS FOR FREE GRANTS.

No.	County.	Locality.
1	Clare . . .	O'Connell Committee.

Heads of Answer.—I. That Donations will not now be recommended on subscriptions raised during the period of relief before 1st September, 1846.

II. That Government do not contemplate making any grant except upon subscriptions raised in the period of distress, commenced 1st September, which will receive consideration, provided the Committee be constituted in accordance with the instructions.

VI.—APPLICATIONS FOR BOOKS, PAPERS, &c.

No.	County.	Locality.
1	Carlow . . .	Coolemore committee.
1	Cavan . . .	Castlebar.
1	Ditto . . .	Ballylad.
1	Clare . . .	Killicked.
1	Cork . . .	Charleville.
1	Ditto . . .	Kilmacduan and Kil- michael committee.
1	Ditto . . .	Lisloe ditto.
1	Ditto . . .	Matchelstown ditto.
2	Down . . .	Loughbrickland.
1	Fermagh . . .	Lisnaskea committee.
1	Galway . . .	Ahascragh ditto.
1	Ditto . . .	Ballinasloe ditto.
1	Ditto . . .	Eyrewood ditto.
1	Ditto . . .	Galway ditto.
1	Ditto . . .	Gort ditto.
1	Ditto . . .	Lauriestown ditto.
1	Kilkenny . . .	Ballyloher, &c. ditto.
1	Ditto . . .	Irish committee for four sub-districts.
1	Leitrim . . .	Cootehill committee.
1	Ditto . . .	Fenny ditto.
1	Limerick . . .	Croisne ditto.
1	Louth . . .	Dundalk, Upper, ditto.
1	Mayo . . .	Ballina ditto.
1	Ditto . . .	Ballyglass ditto.
1	Ditto . . .	Islandshead and Augha- ganer ditto.
1	Monaghan . . .	Rockcree.
1	Rosemount . . .	Aughran committee.
1	Ditto . . .	Kilmacrae, &c. ditto.
1	Ditto . . .	Kilbreen, &c. ditto.
1	Ditto . . .	Taghmacconnell ditto.
1	Tipperary . . .	Carrick-on-Suir ditto.
1	Ditto . . .	Castlebar ditto.
1	Westmeath . . .	Lochar and Doonra de. Arthone.
1	Ditto . . .	Kilroon and St. John's committee, and St. Peter's and Drum ditto.
1	Wexford . . .	Fethard ditto.

Books, &c. to be supplied where the Committees are re-constituted in accordance with the instructions.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

VII.—OBJECTIONS TO INSTRUCTIONS.			VIII.—DONATIONS RECOMMENDED IN AID OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.			
No.	County.	Locality.	County.	Locality.	Subscriptions.	Donations.
1	Galway . .	Kinsara Committee.			£.	£.
1	Mayo . . .	Castlebar.	Cavan .	Stradone .	50	25
		Suggesting modification of section 5, Instructions.	Donegal .	Gweedore .	105	50
		(See Answer annexed.)	Leitrim .	Carrigallen .	120	60

Answered, by sending a supplement to Instructions for the formation and guidance of Relief Committees, by which the Lieutenant of the county is empowered, should the ex-officio members be insufficient, to exercise a discretion in the appointment of the respectable members of the Committees of the past season.

IX.—MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	County.	Locality.	No.	County.	Locality.
1	Cavan . . .	Cavan Committee. Inquire as to the distribution of labour tickets. Referred to Board of Works.		Down—cont.	Correspondent is requested to apply to the Board of Works for the information.
1	Ditto . . .	Ballinbar. Pointing out the necessity of having two Committees for the Barony.	1	Galway . .	Athleague Committee. Urge the necessity of putting on works immediately.
		Requested to communicate with the acting Vice Lieutenant of the County.			Referred to Board of Works, and correspondent informed that the Commissary General has not cognizance of the arrangements for carrying on the Public Works.
1	Clare . . .	Newquay Committee. Request labour tickets. Forwarded to the Board of Works, and the Committee informed that work tickets are to be issued by the local officers of the Public Works.	1	Ditto . . .	Ballinacree. 50 acres of oats offered for sale to Government.
1	Donegal . .	Stating that Committees have not yet been formed for the County; the Lieutenant and Vice Lieutenant being absent.			Correspondent is informed that it is not proposed to take any corn out of the home market for supply of the Commissariat depots.
		A list of Committees for this County in correspondence with the Commissariat Relief Office, with the names of Chairmen, &c., is forwarded for the information of the Commissioners of Public Works.	1	Louth . . .	Dundalk. Application for appointment as atom-keeper for the depot intended to be opened in this locality.
1	Down . . .	Loughbrickland Committee. Ask the respective proportions of landlord and tenant, in reference to any sums borrowed for relief from Government.			Informed that there will not be a depot in Dundalk or in any part of the Eastern Division of Ireland.
			1	Mayo . . .	Westport. They state that Government should make large importations of provisions.
					Specially answered by Commissary-General Sir R. J. South.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

IX.—MISCELLANEOUS—continued.

No.	County.	Locality.	No.	County.	Locality.
1	Meath . .	Trim. Requests the re-assembling of the late Committee. Referred to Lieutenant of County.	1	Westmeath .	Tyrrelleppan Committee. Ask to be supplied with Ordnance Survey Maps, Mr. Griffith's Valuation, and the late Census Return.
1	Sligo . . .	Corran Committee. Urges the necessity of immediate Public Works. Referred to Board of Works, and Committee informed of the course adopted.			Inform that they are not supplied to the Commissariat Relief Office for distribution; that the maps will be in possession of officers of the Board of Works, who are laying out roads, &c.; but that Mr. Griffith's valuation is not proposed to be used in making assessments under the Relief Works Acts; and that the last Census Tables have been long since distributed.
1	Ditto . . .	Terrill Barony. The necessity of immediate works. Referred to Board of Works, and Committee informed of the course adopted.			
1	Ditto . . .	Corran Committee. A Clerk; his salary, &c. (See Answer annexed.)			
1	Westmeath .	Barony of Demish. Delay of Works. (See Answer annexed.)			
1	Ditto . . .	Chairman of Tyrrelleppan Committee. Suggesting the appointment of another gentleman as chairman, to relieve him from duty. Letter written that the application will be referred to the Vice-Lieutenant of the County. Communication made to the Vice-Lieutenant, stating that the appointment of chairman rests with him.	1	Wexford . .	Ross. The necessity of immediate works. Forwarded to the Board of Works, and correspondent informed that the Commissary-General has not signification of the arrangements for Relief Works.

Commissariat Relief Office,
Dublin Castle, October 16, 1846.

ENCLOSURE.

MR. STANLEY TO MR. POLLARD.

Dublin Castle, October 16, 1846.

Commissary-General Sir Randolph J. Routh begs to acquaint you that he has not cognizance of the arrangements for the laying out, &c. of Public Works of Relief; he has been unable to do more than forward to the Board of Works, for consideration, your letter, recommending additional assistants to be appointed for the purpose of accelerating the commencement of employment in your barony.

MR. STANLEY TO THE REV. JAMES MARTIN.

Dublin Castle, October 16, 1846.

Commissary-General Sir Randolph J. Routh begs to inform you that the establishment of a depot for the sale of food in Killybeg, which you recommend, would not effect the object you have mainly in view, the reduction of prices below the market rates, as, wherever a depot is opened, the latter must rule the sales; this course being indispensable for securing the intervention of trade, without which, the public wants cannot be supplied, as it is not practicable for the Government to provide food for the whole population; and it cannot be expected

that trade competition could intervene if prices were to be adopted at the depôts which would not enable traders selling at the same rates to realize their reasonable profits.

It is not at present possible to supply numerous depôts, sufficient time not having been yet allowed for obtaining the imports necessary for maturing the Commissariat arrangements commenced on the 1st ultimo; but Relief Committees can now do much good, by providing supplies of food for sale in their districts, either with local subscriptions and grants in aid, or with loans, placing the food for sale with individuals of character, who should be allowed 5*l.* per cent. commission, and be required to sell at prices fixed for them sufficient to repay the first cost with the commission, and all charges.

It may be useful to add that the Killarney Relief Committee this week purchased 100 tons of Indian meal from merchants in Limerick at 14*l.* per ton; and that whole wheaten meal is now on sale there at 2*s.* per stone.

MR. STANLEY to the Rev. Mr. GREEN.

Dublin Castle, October 16, 1846.

Commissary-General Sir Randolph J. Routh begs to state in reply to your application, that the Commissariat depôt at Banagher is not yet open, but that you would have no advantage in purchasing supplies there, in preference to sending to Limerick, as the Commissariat sales must now be made at the trade prices; and he begs to add, for your guidance, that the Killarney Relief Committee purchased this week from merchants in Limerick 100 tons of Indian meal, at 14*l.* per ton, and that whole wheaten meal is now on sale there at 2*s.* per stone.

He desires to draw your attention to the enclosed suggestions for providing cheap food from home corn.

MR. STANLEY to Sir B. M. WALL.

Dublin Castle, October 16, 1846.

Commissary-General Sir Randolph J. Routh begs to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th instant, and to state for your information, and that of the Waterford Relief Committee, that it is not in contemplation to establish in any part of Ireland depôts of food, to be sold under current trade prices; and he desires to draw your attention to the enclosed copy of the Treasury Minute of the 31st of August, (already supplied to the Waterford Relief Committee,) which precludes the establishment of any depôt in your city, or in any part of the eastern division of Ireland.

MR. STANLEY to the Rev. R. GIBBONS.

Dublin Castle, October 16, 1846.

Commissary-General Sir Randolph J. Routh, in reference to your letter recommending a modification of the 5th section of the Instructions, begs to forward to you a supplement, in which the section is modified, under authority given on the 8th instant. As, however, the organization of committees has been devolved by Government on the Lieutenants of counties, he must request that you will signify your wishes respecting your counties to the Earl of Lucan or the Vice-Lieutenant, who may be acting for his Lordship in forming committees.

MR. STANLEY to the Rev. J. GARRETT.

Dublin Castle, October 17, 1846.

Commissary-General Sir Randolph J. Routh begs to state, in reply to your letter of the 15th instant, that it is left to the discretion of Relief Committees to pay for the service of clerks where requisite; but that there is not any fixed rate of allowance, as the recompense must vary according to the extent of districts and duties. There is, however, no fund for the purpose, except such as may be formed in each district by local subscriptions and the donations of Government in aid.

SIR R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, October 20, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you, for the information of the Right Hon. my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, copy of a letter from Rear-Admiral Sir Hugh Pigot, showing the disposition of his force of steam-vessels, which, as far as I am now able to judge, appears to me to be very satisfactory.

ENCLOSURE.

Rear-Admiral H. PIGOT to Sir R. ROUTH.

"Myrmidon," at Cork, 16th October, 1846

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th instant, and to acquaint you that I have been waiting for the arrival of the steam-vessels named in the margin, so as to make a disposition of the force, or I should have replied to your communication of the 8th earlier.

The "Lucifer," notwithstanding, will be useful in removing the supplies of biscuit from the Army Depôts at Drogheda, Dundalk, Newry, and Carrickfergus, to Dublin, after which, should her services not be necessary at Kingstown, I will order her elsewhere. I am sorry to say the "Tartarus" requires to be sent to England for new boilers.

I expect the "Dasher's" arrival this evening, when she shall be ordered to Sligo, the "Comet" to Westport, "Achæron" to Galway, and "Blazer" to the Shannon, in the place of the "Tartarus."

"Rhodemanthus," "Dee," and "Alban," being vessels capable of carrying large supplies, will be in reserve at Cork, in performing the duties of the station, until fit employment is found for their services.

"Steenbolk" left on Wednesday for Devonport, with the gear from the "Madagascar," for equipping the "Andromeda," and will no doubt return with that ship to Cork.

"Dee," on return from Westport, hourly expected, will take round the remaining quantity of biscuit to complete the depôt at Dingle, and fill up with 50 tons of meal for conveyance to the Relief Committee at that port and neighbourhood.

"Phœbe" and "Swallow" proceed from the Shannon with Indian meal from Limerick to Tralee, for the Relief Committee at Killarney.

"Rhodemanthus" I am daily expecting with the provisions received from the Army Depôts at Sligo, Lough Foyle, and Waterford, for returning into store at Haulbowline.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

Transmit a copy of this letter and of its enclosure to the Secretary, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.

Sir ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, October 21, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to enclose to you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, copy of a letter I have received from Rear-Admiral Sir Hugh Pigot, dated the 19th instant, in further detail of his disposition of the naval steamers to be attached to the depôts on the Western Coast of Ireland.

ENCLOSURE.

Rear-Admiral PIGOT to Sir R. ROUTH.

"Myrmidon," at Cork, October 19, 1846.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th instant, which I think will, in some manner, have been answered by mine of the 10th, not at the time received.

You may be assured that the efficiency of Her Majesty's steam-vessels under my command will ever have my best attention, and I should wish to keep one or two in reserve to be available in the event of accidents.

As Commissary-General Hewetson is so well acquainted with the capability of the "Alban," and as she has been so much employed in the Shannon, I think it would be as well to place her at Limerick instead of the "Blazer," the latter vessel will then be available for Dingle and Valentia. The "Tartarus," I should think, would be equipped with new boilers about the end of next month, and, with the "Lucifer," may be reckoned upon as relief.

As the winter advances I should wish, as a precautionary measure, to station the "Rhodemanthus" at Kingstown, to be at command to move either a regiment or supplies, as may be necessary to any point required, keeping the "Dee" in reserve at Cork for the same purpose.

"Steenbolk" will, on the West Coast, be ready to be similarly employed, or to assist in the conveyance of supplies, wherever her presence may be required.

The "Myrmidon," the smallest of all the Lieutenants commands, will retain my flag, as she is not capable of taking on board with safety 100 barrels of meal.

With respect to the dock-yard lighters for service in the Shannon, if you think it desirable I shall be most happy to forward your or Commissary-General Hewetson's application for the consideration of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, October 20, 1846.

I FORGOT to tell you that I never could understand Mr. Robertson's letter to you; I could not understand or reconcile the contradiction you had remarked.

Mr. Andoe is here, and commencing his duties. By-the-by, I never sent to the Treasury our little memorandum of our accounts, so as to move our little column all in the same line. I availed myself of Mr. Bromley's assistance as I went through the accounts; but it appears to me that everything we do here savours a little of hurry; and certain it is that we have not too much time for consideration. I enclose it with this note, but I will hereafter transmit it officially.

I am much obliged to you for your note in regard to the Galway affair, which makes my way quite clear.

The admiral's arrangements are very good, provided the "Dasher" and the "Comet" are of sufficient burthen; but I shall soon be able to judge of this, though I think the "Alban" would have suited the Sligo duty better.

The "Acheron" is to be at Galway; and I believe she is the largest of the three, and will afford protection as well as means of conveyance.

I saw the O'Connor Don this morning, and I shall put him upon a plan of supply to his neighbourhood, which I think will be advantageous. His meal is arrived, and will be forwarded at once.

We must now think of stocking Dublin, to prepare from thence the stores of Longford and Banagher. You will perceive that the freight is rising on the canals. We shall be very well pleased to receive barley meal for these depôts.

I think the bread and the biscuit from Deptford are very good. The Lord-Lieutenant and Mr. Labouchere were very much pleased with it; and I should be very glad to get such bread every day, in preference to white.

ENCLOSURE.

INSTRUCTIONS to be observed in making up the Provision, Store, and Cash Accounts, connected with the Special Service, upon which the Commissariat Officers are employed in Ireland.

ALTHOUGH the code of regulations and instructions for conducting the duties of the Commissariat Department, with which every Accountant officer will be furnished, directs the principle upon which Commissariat accounts are to be kept and rendered, yet, as the Service in Ireland is peculiar in its details, and as many of the officers employed on it have never hitherto been called upon to act in the receipt and issue of provisions *by sale*, in the manner required, it is thought proper to issue the following instructions, so as to establish uniformity and despatch:—

PROVISION STORE ACCOUNTS.

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| <p>In account with the Commissary-General.
Magazine Book to be kept.</p> <p>Packages.</p> <p>Store Implements.</p> <p>Rate, authority, &c., for sale.</p> <p>Vouchers to be numbered.</p> <p>Vouchers required for each entry or issue.</p> | <p>1. Every officer in charge of a depot shall be in account current with the Commissary-General for his entries and issues of provisions and stores.</p> <p>2. A magazine book will be supplied to every accountant, in which he is to enter daily his receipts in the first part of the book, and issues in the second part, as they take place; and by carrying forward the total of each page as completed, this book should be capable of exhibiting at any moment the actual quantity of provisions, stores, and packages on hand.</p> <p>3. As the packages containing the provisions, &c., are, in many instances, sold therewith, they are, as received and issued, whether full or empty, to be entered in the magazine book.</p> <p>4. It scarcely seems necessary to render an implement account; and it will be sufficient to render a return of the store implements in use on the 31st March, and at the end of the service.</p> <p>5. The magazine book will contain columns in addition to those for quantity and number, one showing the rate at which the entry or issue has been credited or charged, another the date of the authority for such rate, and a third, a money column, in which the amount actually paid or received is to be inserted.</p> <p>6. The entries and issues are to be numbered consecutively, and the vouchers in support of them must correspond.</p> <p>7. All entries must be supported by vouchers, either an invoice, way-bill, bill of lading, or report of survey, showing the quantity, number, &c.; and if no way-bill accompanies the</p> |
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supply, the accountant is to report the same to head-quarters, that an explanation may be immediately required.

8. Should any packages, &c., be returned to the dépôt, a certificate of delivery, signed by the party returning the same, must be produced. Packages returned.

9. The surveys to be held upon provisions, &c., to be received, must be in accordance with the practice of the Commissariat Service, although the members may be civilians. Surveys.

10. When an entry at a dépôt differs in quantity, &c., from a way-bill, or bill of lading, the accountant is to charge himself with the whole quantity stated in the way-bill, taking credit for the deficiency, according to 378 and 379 articles of Commissariat Instructions. Differences in way bill.

11. No purchases are to be made without first submitting the same for approval, which must accompany the voucher for the purchase, and be noted in the proper column of the book of entries. Purchases to be approved.

12. The vouchers for store issues, it is intended, shall answer the purpose also of receipt cash vouchers; the quantity in pounds must be inserted in the voucher to correspond with the entry in the issue book, together with the packages, the rate at, and the amount, for which the sale was made, agreeably with the prescribed form. Form of issue voucher.

13. Should any alteration be made in the rate of issue, a copy of the authority is to be annexed to the first voucher of issue under the altered rate. Alteration of rate.

14. If any free grant of provisions should be authorised to be issued, a copy of the authority under which it was made is to be annexed to the voucher. Free grant.

15. Whenever an issue is made to a sub-accountant or constable in charge of a sub-dépôt, a receipt is to be obtained in support of the charge; but as it will not be a voucher admissible, as an issue finally accounted for, the officer in charge of the dépôt will be held responsible for the quantity so issued, on impact; he is therefore required to obtain immediately, upon the expiration of each month, an account in detail from such sub-accountant or constable of his entries and issues, the total of which must be added to the monthly total of entries and issues in the dépôt magazine book, whereby the balance at the sub-dépôt will form part of the aggregate monthly dépôt balance of remains. Officer in charge of a dépôt responsible for accounts of sub-dépôts.

16. It is not required that vouchers should be taken for sales in small quantities to poor families; but at the end of each day a certificate of the total quantity so sold and amount received for the same, as recorded in the detail or constabulary book (in which the names are to be inserted as hitherto), should be signed by the storekeeper or party who issued it, and countersigned, where there is one, by the officer in charge of the dépôt. The total quantity only so issued is to be inserted in the magazine book and monthly abstract, and the certificate, which must state the rate at which issued, forwarded as the voucher. Receipts not required for issues to poor families.

17. When stores are sent from one dépôt to another, a way-bill is invariably to be sent with them, and another through the post. The officer to whom they are consigned should return the way-bill, acknowledging their receipt. Way bill to be sent.

18. At the end of each month it must be ascertained, with as much accuracy as possible, that the remains in store correspond with the balance appearing by the magazine book. Should any difference be found to exist, whether surplus or deficiency, the quantity is to be given credit for or charged, as the case may be, and be supported by a certificate of the cause, signed by the person in charge at the store, and countersigned by the officer in charge of the dépôt. Remains in store.

19. Whenever a deficiency appears at a sub-dépôt, the officer in charge of the general dépôt is specially required to investigate and report upon the certificate his opinion of the cause thereof. Deficiency to be investigated.

20. Every officer, or other in charge, should make a weekly inspection of the quality of his stores. Inspection of stores.

21. All vouchers for the issue of stores are to be taken in duplicate, and when a person is unable to write, his mark is to be witnessed. Vouchers in duplicate.

22. All store vouchers are to be endorsed. Endorsed.

23. Fractional parts of a pound in weight are to be omitted in the abstracts. Fractions.

24. Within one week after the expiration of each month, a copy of the magazine book of entries and issues must be made out in the prescribed form of abstract, and the remains stated and the account declared to. These abstracts are to be forwarded with the vouchers to head-quarters, in Dublin, for examination and transmission to the Audit Board. Abstracts to be forwarded monthly.

25. The duplicate abstracts and vouchers are to be lodged in the Commissary-General's Office at Dublin, within 14 days after the expiration of the month, and in no instance are they to be sent by the same conveyance as the originals. No difficulty, it is apprehended, can arise in fulfilling this instruction, provided the abstracts are kept up day by day, simultaneously with the daily magazine book, and the vouchers also arranged daily. Duplicate accounts.

26. The weekly state of the dépôts is to be forwarded so as to reach Dublin on every Monday morning, and on the 15th and last day of each month a return of the totals of the provisions sold and the total receipts paid for the same, without other detail, and the actual balance of cash on those days remaining on hand. State of dépôts and account of sales.

CASH ACCOUNTS.

27. A cash-book will be supplied to each accountant, who will be in account current with the Commissary-General for his receipts and payments. This book must be written up daily, as each transaction occurs, in order that it may exhibit, at any moment, the actual cash balance in hand. Daily Cash Book to be kept.

- Cash accounts.** 28. The monthly abstracts of receipts and payments are to be copies of the daily entries in the cash-book, which are to be made out and forwarded to the Commissary-General's office at Dublin, as well as the duplicates, upon the same principle as has been prescribed for the store abstracts.
- Cash vouchers.** 29. The cash vouchers for the sale of provisions will be the store-issue vouchers as before stated; and although they are numbered consecutively to correspond with the store abstract, yet a number in red ink must also be inserted against each in the abstract of cash receipts, as well as upon the vouchers.
- Imprests.** 30. When a sum is remitted for the payment of a donation, or as an imprest for current services, the accountant is to give credit for the amount as a receipt, placing the letter, advising the remittance, as the voucher.
- Condemned stores, &c., sold.** 31. Should any condemned stores or packages be authorized to be sold by auction or private agreement, the amount realized is to be given credit for, and the account of sale must form the cash receipt voucher.
- Cash vouchers in duplicate, witnessed.** 32. Receipts are to be taken in duplicate for every cash payment made, and the signature witnessed. Should the party be unable to write, his mark will require two witnesses.
- Endorsed.** 33. All vouchers for cash are to be endorsed.
- Fractions.** 34. Fractional parts of a penny are to be omitted in the abstracts.
- Stamped receipts.** 35. For payment of 5*l.* and upwards stamped receipts are to be taken, but for the original only; the duplicate receipts being taken on the usual printed form.
- Officer to certify claims.** 36. When payment is made either at a general dépôt, or at a sub-dépôt, for freight, cartage, labour, &c., the claim is to be certified by the officer in charge of the general dépôt, that the service or work has been actually and satisfactorily performed.
- Travelling expenses.** 37. Travelling expenses to be submitted for the approval of the Treasury, are to be forwarded in duplicate.
- Lodging allowance.** 38. Lodging allowance will be paid "two monthly" by the Ordnance Department on the certificate of the Commissary-General, but a list, in original, of the officers claiming it, is to be forwarded every two months to head quarters.
- Pay.** 39. Estimates of pay in original (separately for Treasury and local appointments) are to be forwarded on the last day of each month on which the general return is to be compiled and forwarded to the Treasury.
- Vouchers to be made complete.** 40. Care is to be taken that all quantities and rates are properly set forth in the vouchers, together with the authorities for the rates, and that each voucher of receipt and payment is made complete in itself.
- Explanation of differences.** 41. If any discrepancy appears in the rate of wages in the number of labourers employed, or in any way likely to create a doubt, explanation must be given by the accountant, either upon the voucher, or annexed thereto.
- Abstracts to be made complete daily.** 42. The abstracts and vouchers must be made complete daily, as well as the cash-book, as the only principle upon which accuracy and dispatch can be established.
- Questions of account.** 43. Should any question arise, the accountant will immediately communicate with head quarters, so as to secure a uniformity of account.
- Each issue of meal &c., to be paid for, or explanation given.** 44. As this service differs in an essential degree from the generality of commissariat duties, inasmuch as that payment is required for each issue of meal, every accountant will be expected to satisfy himself, before he transmits his accounts, that every issue has been paid for and brought to account, whether made by himself or through any other channel subordinate to him, or should any exception arise, that full particulars of the cause thereof be furnished with his accounts.
- Issues in small quantities to be avoided.** 45. Whenever there is a committee, the officer in charge is not to make any issue in detail, but he is to issue in given quantities to those committees at the fixed prices, who should be charged with the details, as being more conversant with the destitution and real state of the poor.
- General remark on sales in detail.** 46. It is, of course, most inconvenient, and in most cases impossible, to undertake these issues in detail to poor families from main dépôts. Neither is it proper to multiply, indirectly, constabulary dépôts, which are principally useful in situations where public works are carrying on, and large bodies of labourers collected, and might generally be removed with the occasion that called for such assistance. Our system is rather to encourage committees to supply these small demands from their own resources, either imported or in the country, with occasional sales from the main dépôt: and when committees are assembled in the same locality with these dépôts, they have the advantage of the same central situation always accessible by water, to increase their means by their own exertions. The most approved plan in practice has been for the committees to select some individual of character to retail, furnishing him with the corn or meal at their own cost, and allowing him 5*l.* per cent. on his sales, the retail price being fixed by the committee.
- This is intended only as a general observation, to which exceptions may arise, but its object is, that our supplies should be more impartially distributed, without favour or selection, and be less exposed to interfere with private enterprise.

Commissary-General HEWETSON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Limerick, October 20, 1846.

My chief duty, of late, is endeavouring to arrive at facts, and to induce committees to exert their energies, and obtain subscriptions with which to purchase food in their own localities, or wherever procurable, to retail at cost prices to their people, and in endeavouring to prove that the opening of our depôts, so long as food is to be had in the home market, would be most injudicious, and productive of serious evil; this encouragement of private enterprise, in every possible way, being of the first importance, and which is now, in many places, doing so much for them. Employment, unfortunately, drags on very slowly, but to prevent extensive abuse this cannot be otherwise. The people in some parts of Clare are using the "quern" with advantage, chiefly in preparing barley-meal; if its use spreads, and it ought, we need not care for mill power; but you know my views on this subject.

Messrs. Russell, the great corn-factors and millers of Limerick, are doing a great deal, they grind and manufacture, of different grain, upwards of 500 tons per week, supplying the country round for many miles; they tell me their orders for foreign importation will keep them going at that rate until next March. Indian meal, 14*l.* per ton; oatmeal, 18*l.*; whole wheaten meal, 17*l.* 10*s.*; there are other houses who are also doing a good deal, but the Russells are our great support. Their agent for the American market, "Baring Brothers."

Mr. BLAMIRE to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Tithe Office, October 21, 1846.

I MERELY trouble you to say, that a clever and extensive baker in Carlisle, is now, and has been for some time past, selling 4 lbs. of bread for three pence. This bread is said to be much liked. It is made of rye, maize, and coarse and inferior wheat.

I named it to Mr. Maclean, but he did not think his people would use flour made into bread. If you have any curiosity about this bread, I shall be most happy to procure you a loaf; as also a statement of the mode of its manufacture.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Mr. BLAMIRE.

Treasury, October 21, 1846.

I GLADLY avail myself of your offer to procure me a specimen of the Carlisle rye and maize bread, with a statement of the mode in which it is made.

Is it *still* sold at the rate of 4 lbs. for three pence?

Perhaps you could also ascertain for me, to what extent, and at what price, rye is now procurable in the neighbourhood of Carlisle.

Mr. BLAMIRE to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Tithe Office, October 23, 1846.

I HAVE great pleasure in forwarding the enclosed letter from my friend Dr. Henry Lonsdale, a physician in Carlisle, to whom I applied for specimens of Mr. Carr's bread and biscuits, and for information as to his mode of manufacturing them.

ENCLOSURE.

Dr. LONSDALE to Mr. BLAMERE.

Carlisle, October 22, Thursday, 6 P.M.

I REPLY, by the first post, to your letter received an hour ago. Mr. Carr has been most obliging, and offers to give every information which may be desired on matters relative to bread and corn.

Some time ago, when Indian corn was cheap, he issued the enclosed circular. In August, he purchased Indian corn at 25s. 6d. per quarter of 480lbs., free, on board, at Liverpool. The same grain is now 38s. This elevation of prices has completely overthrown his views of cheapness, as expressed in the circular; and he now makes bread of rye and coarse English flour, which is the cheapest in his establishment.

Knowing that you wanted the cheapest, I send a loaf of this kind, consisting of rye and coarse flour in equal proportions, or rather a preponderance of the coarse. The loaf weighed, when packed up a few minutes ago, 3lbs. 2oz., its price is 4d. It could be made for 3½d. in large quantities.

Let me say here that rye sells at Newcastle, this week, at 42s. per quarter of 58lbs imperial; and coarse flour at 33s. per sack of 20 stons. Remember, however, that the slightest rise in any article of food just now raises the prices considerably; and Mr. Carr has experienced this fact to a great extent of late.

So much for the cheapest bread that Mr. Carr, with his wonderful machinery and good management, can make.

I send a loaf, one half fine flour, and one half Indian (yellow) flour. It is a specimen for tasting, and not cheap. The yellow Indian is the best grain, though the white, owing to its colour, is more sought after—so says Mr. Carr. The Indian corn is boiled—it can be used without boiling—but the bread is not so moist.

The biscuits which I send took my fancy as good and cheap. Each biscuit is sold at ½d. retail price over the counter; but, in the lump, at the rate of 16s. or 17s. per cwt., made of average description of low-priced grain. They can be kept good for months in a tolerably dry locality.

I can assure you a single biscuit takes a great deal of chewing, and contains a large portion of nutriment. After the paste has been prepared, Mr. Carr can cut out and prick the holes; or, in other words, make the biscuits ready for the oven, at the rate of 70 pounds per minute! The biscuits could be made of rye, coarse flour, barley, or any other grain. Now, if the Government could turn them off at the rate that Mr. Carr does, I think they might carry out your suggestions with great advantage—namely, sell cheap bread or biscuits, rather than fine flour, which may not—and frequently will not—be frugally used.

Mr. Carr will show his machinery, or do anything to aid you, provided the biscuits are to be used for prison establishments. He is a strong anti-war and anti-whisky person; and I promised to send you the following calculations, in the hope that you would direct the attention of the Government to the astonishing fact, that in the midst of scarcity, we are throwing away or wasting enormous quantities of good barley.

Taking the Government Returns for the year ending April 5, 1841, we find 42,093,966 imperial bushels of barley converted into malt, which quantity would make 6,600,000 bags of flour, capable of feeding 3,300,000 people for one year, allowing each person 1½lb. of bread per day. Mr. Carr properly asks, "Is not this worth looking after in times of scarcity?"

The foregoing is all that I can gather for you. There is no man in this country better able to give information on the manufacture of bread than Mr. Carr. His establishment is the first of its kind in Europe.

The loaves can be made by any one. They are quite simple in their manufacture.

INDIAN CORN AND INDIAN CORN BREAD,

As used in the United States.

Sold by J. D. CARR, Carlisle.

"Men of the greatest learning bestow the utmost of their skill, learnedly, to pervert the natural use of all the elements for the destruction of their own species by the bloody art of war; and some waste their whole lives in studying how to arm death with new engines of horror, and creating an infinite variety of slaughter, but think it beneath men of learning to employ their learned labours in the invention of new, or even in improving the old means for the increasing of bread."—*Till's Husbandry.*

Undue prejudice having been raised in this country against the use of INDIAN CORN as an article of food—notwithstanding its high appreciation for that purpose in America, and other countries where it is grown—and many persons having, in consequence, been deterred from its use, J. D. CARR, fully satisfied of the unsoundness of the prejudice, and of its nutritious and wholesome qualities, and that its cheapness and usefulness require only to be known to ensure its extensive use, has taken measures for securing to the public an ample supply.

To those who are at present compelled to subsist almost entirely upon potatoes, the INDIAN CORN will be found at once a most healthful and economical change—and a preventive of those dangers which are to be apprehended from a re-appearance of the disease in the potato, which caused so much alarm last year, and raised the price so unreasonably high.

In making additions to his works in Coddergate, J. D. CARR has made arrangements for the manufacture of INDIAN CORN into BREAD, at a rate of charge which will render it the cheapest kind of food that has yet been introduced into this country; and as the cost of producing a large quantity of bread is so much cheaper than the production of a small quantity, he trusts he will receive the support of the public in the experiment he is about to make.

INDIAN CORN is also admirably adapted as food for HORSES and CATTLE—possessing higher feeding properties for them than oats or wheat. The present price of potato oats being 10s.* per bushel, or about 2s. per stone when ground into meal—Indian Corn is about half the Price.

It is believed that these facts require only to be known to bring the Indian Corn into general use, and inquiry and experiment are respectfully urged upon all.

Castle-street, Carlisle, July 30, 1846.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, October 21, 1846.

ASSISTANT Commissary-General Bishop is engaged in examining the accounts of the committees, and in selecting the best, so that we may reduce the plan into system, and this is the first step to drawing up a concise code of instructions.

I have received this morning, the hand-mills, which have been brought to the Castle instead of the Custom House, where our stores are. We shall put them in motion to-morrow, and I shall advise you of the result. The people here are so very ignorant of the use of rye, that I am drawing up a short printed paper, an extract from a larger work, to show the kind of land which is proper for it, and the manner of sowing it, and its use as a grain. I have sent it to the printer and will send it to you to-morrow.

Lord Montagu as Chairman of the Presentment Session of Shanganagh, has sent up some resolutions, and amongst others, but in which he does not join, a strongly expressed opinion that the Government depôts should be opened immediately. I have answered it, and I will send my reply to you to-morrow. The letter was sent to the Lord Lieutenant, and referred to me by the Under Secretary.

I have nothing very particular to add to-day, except to say, that our system of throwing the committees on the home supplies, is answering very well. I saw Mr. Dillon Brown, the member of Mayo, this morning, and he told me that it was working well. We committed an error last year in having too many sub-depôts, which we are now remedying.

I take a leaf out of Joseph's plan, who established central depôts, and enjoined the people to come with their money in their sacks for their supplies. He did not send it to them. It is the only sure plan. Our coast-guard and constabulary depôts of last year embarrassed the accounts considerably. There is a naval clerk on board the "Madagascar," who receives and issues in large quantities, but makes no small issues, and has nothing to do with money. He belongs to the ship, and was sent by the Admiralty. The stores on board form part of Mr. Hewetson's accounts.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, October 22, 1846.

I AM much obliged to you for Mr. Baring's report, which I like, and I do not give the same credit to that of Mr. Saunders, of Liverpool, which is in contradiction of all my experience. We shall see.

* 10s. per Carlsberg or 2s. 4d. per Winchester bushel.

I have received the two mills, and I like them very much; I have had a little Indian corn ground, but I shall have a more regular experiment to-morrow. I have remitted the money to the maker. I shall now see how we can best employ them.

A very erroneous idea has been formed of the quantity of rye you could procure. If we had it, the demand here would be immense. We must only give it so as to procure seed for another year. I am afraid it would arrive too late from Germany. It ought to be sowed in September, and only one precaution is necessary, that it should be new, lately threshed, for old seed almost universally fails. I used to grow it in Canada, and know something about it. It will be a great boon in this country, and sometimes it is sown in the spring, but not usually in Europe, though always so in Canada, where the spring and summer are so hot.

I enclose a copy of the extract about the rye.

Mr. Millikin is just arrived, having been out during the heavy storm last night.

The Lord-Lieutenant has taken home the Memorandum of the fishery, to return to-morrow with his answer; and to-morrow, Mr. Labouchere is to give his answer about the rye seed from Germany.

I shall keep you advised. I hope Mr. Erichsen is thinking of our dépôt at Dublin. Longford and Banagher, particularly the former, are very pressing, and also Westport, where we must send the hand-mills, and may thus receive whole corn.

ENCLOSURE.

INFORMATION ON THE CULTIVATION AND USE OF RYE.

RYE is not much cultivated in Ireland, although it produces good crops on indifferent soils, on which wheat would be an uncertain crop. Rye does well on thin soils, and on reclaimed bogs or moors; and its cultivation would therefore seem to be desirable, under the circumstances existing in this country. It is, however, necessary that the soil should be well worked, and kept in good till, and free from weeds.

Rye is sometimes sown in autumn, and sometimes in spring. It is particularly useful for sowing with winter vetches, the rye acting as a support to the vetch, and the mixture affords excellent spring feeding. A bushel to the acre is the usual quantity sown in this way. It is sometimes sown on stubble, after one ploughing and harrowing, for green feeding for lambs and ewes in February or March; and this practice, on light gravelly or sandy soils, will serve to improve them greatly.

Rye is much used for bread in all parts of the continent of Europe, and in Wales, and some parts of England and Scotland; and it is also mixed with wheat flour for that purpose. It is likewise much used by distillers, and is roasted and used as a substitute for coffee, in considerable quantities, by the poorer classes.

MR. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROOTH.

October 22, 1846.

I WAS glad to hear from Mr. Erichsen this morning, that the price of grain in the interior of Ireland, and especially in the neighbourhood of Longford had "given way" to the extent of 2s. a-quarter, or that in other words, the farmers had begun to bring their supplies into the market.

I hope to have this confirmed by you. If it is the case, it is owing to your determination not to open your dépôts as long as there were sufficient supplies in the farmers' yards, for certainly these supplies would never have been forthcoming in any quantity in Ireland in the face of artificial low prices caused by the action of our dépôts.

I am thankful to be able to say, that the accounts I have received this morning from various quarters as to the prospects of the grain market, are more cheering.

We have five mills at work day and night, and two of them are very large ones, grinding barley for Scotland, and as soon as we have loaded the two frigates destined for this service, all the mills will be kept at work in the

same manner for Ireland, the first supplies being sent to Dublin, until the dépôt at that place, and its dependencies on the Shannon, is full.

Mr. Alfred Bishop will proceed to Dublin on Monday, by which time he will have made himself master of all that has passed since the last Blue Book.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

October 22, 1846.

ALTHOUGH the course indicated by Lord John Russell in the accompanying extract from a note which I have just received from him, is already followed by you, I think it better to send you a copy of it, in order that you may be fully aware of the importance which is attached here to getting correct information on all that is passing in Ireland.

Extract.

"I wish both Sir R. Routh and Colonel Jones would send you copies of the 'most interesting of their officers' correspondence. When there are distorted accounts in the newspapers, it is satisfactory to have the truth from dispassionate men."

Commissary-General HEWETSON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Limerick, October 23, 1846.

WE have had most tempestuous weather, but it has now moderated. I had despatched the "Pluto" with the "Swallow" under her care to Tralee, with supplies purchased in this city for the Killarney Poor Relief Committee. I wrote to the Admiral ten days ago, to say, I did not think the "Swallow" fit at this season to go outside "Kerry Head;" however, he thought the experiment should be made, and ordered the "Pluto" to accompany her to Tralee. Last night brought me a report from the magistrate at Ballysteen, that she was on shore, bilged at the mouth of the Askeaton River, but, with great exertions, he had got the meal safely landed with little or no damage; you will see on the map, this point is half-way between Limerick and Tarbert. I have no further particulars.

The gale has been very heavy, and I fear we shall hear of much loss at sea. Nothing new here.

I was in hopes Indian meal had reached its maximum price 14*l*, but yesterday, Messrs. Russell raised it to 15*l* per ton. The corn dealers and millers are everywhere making large profits, but I trust, Christmas will see prices much lower.

The system of intimidation going on at many of the Baronial Sessions for public works is most disgraceful, but I firmly believe the majority of the voters have no intention whatever to repay the Government advances, that is, if they can help it.

A great stand is making by the labourers against task work, but if not insisted on, there will be no end to abuses, and the more that is conceded, the more you may, as they are beginning to fancy, that by showing themselves in masses, they may dictate their own terms. If this system is pushed much further, it will have to be severely checked, a lamentable alternative, but there is a spirit of turbulence abroad, which must be put down, or it will lead to mischief. It is not the really destitute and suffering who are the instigators of the disgraceful scenes that have recently occurred, but designing persons ready to profit by any movement they can bring about.

COMPTROLLER OF VICTUALLING to the SECRETARIES of the TREASURY.

Admiralty, October 23, 1846.

I beg to acquaint you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, that it appears by reports made by the officers of the Victualling Yards, at Deptford and Plymouth, that it is found unnecessary at either yard to pass the Indian corn meal through the dressing wires Nos. 12 and 14, as directed at page 118 of the Report of the Correspondence relating to the relief of the Distress in Ireland.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

October 27, 1846.

Transmit copy of this letter to Sir R. Routh, and desire that he will communicate it to Commissary-General Hewetson for any remarks which he may have to make thereon.

SIR R. ROUTH to MR. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, October 31, 1846.

ADVERTING to your letter, No. 349 of 26th October, in regard to the dressing of Indian corn, I have the honour to transmit you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the reply of Commissary-General Hewetson on that subject.

ENCLOSURE.

Commissary-General HEWETSON to SIR R. ROUTH.

Commissariat, Limerick, October 30, 1846.

WITH reference to your letter No. 282, and enclosure, dated Treasury Chambers, 26th instant, I have the honour to report.

If the stones are good French burrs, kept sharp, furrows clear, the corn kiln dried as directed, and ground low, dressing may, I should think, safely be dispensed with, and the whole of the bran left in the meal.

In the Lee Mills the meal was always dressed through Nos. 12 and 14 wires, and the cuttings or sharps reground and redressed, leaving under 1 per cent. bran, which was afterwards sold; the meal so manufactured was much liked by the people; I, however, see no good reason, if the practical millers in the naval yards consider dressing unnecessary, why it should not be discontinued. Many of the private mill establishments in this country do not, when pressed with work, dress the meal. Of course, when not dressed, unless carefully manufactured as above, it will be coarser than that prepared at the Lee Mills, but, nevertheless, of excellent quality.

The United States manufactured Indian meal is finer than ours, no doubt caused by the dressing being through a higher numbered wire, and the process of kiln drying different.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

November 3, 1846.

Transmit copy of Commissary-General Hewetson's Report to the Secretary for the information of the Lords of the Admiralty, with reference to a letter on the subject from Mr. Meek of the 23rd ult.

SIR R. ROUTH to MR. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, October 24, 1846.

I SEND you copy of my letter to Lord Montague, not for his information, but as a reply to his Committee. The letters to Lord Bernard and Lord Sligo have found their way into the papers, and have been very well received, par-

ticularly the latter, of which the "Evening Mail" made an extraordinary eulogium. We are, as you observe, reaping the good effects of our doctrine, and the home produce is finding its way slowly into the market. You may not understand the force of one of the paragraphs in Lord Montague's letter relative to the millers.

There are two ways of buying up corn in Ireland, either by the direct sale of their grain by the farmer to the millers, or through the medium of jobbers, who go round the country to buy it up on account chiefly of the millers.

When sold by the farmer direct, which I believe is the more usual, it is hoisted up some three stories high into a corn loft, where it is weighed, but not in the presence of the farmer, who is not allowed to enter the premises, and unless he has weighed it before hand, which they have not often the means of doing, he must abide by the weighing of the miller. If he does not choose to accept the price offered, there is usually an understanding amongst the millers of each locality, who are advised of the proceeding, and will not advance a farthing beyond the price offered, and the farmer has no alternative but to accept it or carry back his corn. This is the system which I say must give way to more liberal principles of trade.

I shall on Monday give you a statement of our departmental arrangements, which I reserve for a particular letter.

Our Committees are not forming so quick as I could wish, but the Lord Lieutenant is giving it now his serious attention, and assisting us with the Lieutenants of counties.

In November we shall, on an early day, have our inspections of Committees arranged, and the Reports will all be forwarded to you.

I make due note of the extract from Lord John Russell's letter, and shall give it my best attention.

Your paragraph about the grain market is very gratifying, and though you do not enter into particulars, I am sure you have good grounds for your opinion.

I fear there will be a great difficulty in shipping.

ENCLOSURE.

Sir R. ROUTE to Lord MONTAGUE.

The Castle, Dublin, October 21, 1845.

YOUR Lordship's letter of the 7th of October, as Chairman of the Special Procurement Sessions, held at Shangolden, having been referred by the Under-Secretary to me, I reply to that part of it in which your Lordship states, that there was a general expression of opinion, that the Government depot at Limerick should be opened to the public for the sale of Indian meal, on the same plan advantageously adopted before the last harvest.

The fact of the complete failure of the potato crop only became generally known in the early part of September, and it was a disaster that announced itself in the most sudden and unexpected manner. It became known in the midst of the harvest, at a time when foreign supplies to meet such a deficiency could not be expected to arrive in our ports. There could be no anticipation made to provide against such an event. A certain lapse of time was therefore indispensable to procure supplies from abroad, and these cannot be expected to reach our coasts until the 1st December to the 1st January.

I do not enter into further details with your Lordship, as you are so fully master of the subject, and I need not explain to you, that if we commence our issues we must be prepared to maintain them; that if we sell we must buy, and if in order to effect this in the present dearth of importation, the Government should go largely into the market, the mere circumstance of such interposition from such a source would enhance the price of every thing, and create an artificial scarcity which would be infinitely more prejudicial to the public, than any transitory advantage (to be expected from a premature opening of our depôts) could be useful.

It is the intention of Her Majesty's Government, that these depôts should be considered as a reserve supply, and a last resource when other means are beginning to fail; but we should entirely alter the character of this intention if we were to commence our sales at the present moment whilst so much of the late harvest, in most instances abundant, remains uncommenced.

Neither is it possible for us to resume the sales, which it is stated were so advantageously adapted before the last harvest.

We were then the only holders of Indian corn, which, from the circumstances of that day, could not be imported in the usual course of trade. It was introduced as a new article of food with the intention of supplying the loss of the potato, which was even then apprehended; and, in order to recommend it as a substitute, it was sold as near to its cost price as a proper regard to the trade would admit, and this price was moderate, in consequence of the purchase having been made before a demand had been created.

The circumstances are now changed, there are no exclusive reasons in favour of Indian corn, which is now established as a regular article of trade. There is a general scarcity

throughout all Western Europe, and we are almost wholly dependent upon commerce, for the means of relieving it. We must abstain from any attempt to tamper with prices. We must pay the true value for each article of food, and encourage its importation upon that principle. Any other line of conduct would expose us to the most fatal results.

It is difficult to foresee all that this crisis is destined to accomplish, but much probably that is not now foreseen, and it behoves us to act with the greatest caution.

Amongst other changes in course of operation for the development of these resources from the mere force of events, the introduction of inland corn dealers or corn markets, or both, must soon supersede the present system of sale to millers, which as it now works, does not hold out sufficient competition or encouragement to the farmer for the disposal of his produce.

But it is unnecessary to detain your Lordship upon a subject on which you are more able to expatiate than I am, and I have only written thus for an acknowledgment of your Lordship's letter, which has been referred to me, and which calls upon me for a reply.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

RETURN of the Number of COMMUNICATIONS referred by T. N. REMINGTON, Esq., Under-Secretary for Ireland, to Commissary-General Sir RANDOLPH BOWEN, from the 19th to 21st of October, 1846 (both days inclusive), shewing the number of Applications from each District, &c., &c.; also the general Answer given to each Class of Application.

I.—APPLICATIONS FOR DEPOTS.		II.—APPLICATIONS FOR MEAL, FOOD, &c.		
County.	Locality.	No.	County.	Locality.
Galway . . .	Chiflen Memorial from Barony of Ballymae—forwarded by Board of Works.	1	Galway . .	Oughterard. Many living on cabbage leaves.
Limerick . .	Rushinake. See answer annexed.	1	Mayo . . .	Adull Island.
Tipperary . .	Fethard.	1	Donegal . .	Tullaghbegly.
Ditto . . .	Bonlick.	Similar answers as to applications for depôts.		
Kerry . . .	Kilcoleman.	III.—APPLICATIONS FOR FREE GRANTS.		
Kilkenny . .	Barony of Gauran.	No.	County.	Locality.
Kildare . . .	Kildare.	1	Donegal . .	Parish of Clonfaluagh. No donation on the subscriptions of the past season in this district was granted. Informed that a grant cannot now be recommended in aid of any relief fund of the past season of distress, the accounts of which are finally closed; and as it appears that the subscriptions placed at the disposal of the Clonfaluagh Committee were wholly expended in affording gratuitous relief, contrary to the instructions of the Relief Commission, and grants in the past season were given, on the condition that the instructions were to be observed.
Louth . . .	Dundalk. Correspondent solicits its management.	1	Sligo . . .	Resolutions forwarded, praying for a grant of money to build a bridge.
Sligo . . .	Colasvin. A memorial.			
Queen's . . .	Abbeylara.			
Cork . . .	Bantry Poor-law Guardians.			
Ditto . . .	Castletown.			
Ditto . . .	Castletown. A war vessel suggested as a depot.			
Westmeath . .	Barony of Moyawbel.			
Wexford . . .	Barony of Shelbourne.			

HEADS OF ANSWERS:—

I. To Applications for Eastern Division of Ireland.

That Commissariat depôts cannot be established in any part of the eastern division of Ireland; attention is directed to the Treasury Minute of 31st August last, as containing an expression of the views of Her Majesty's Government with respect to depôts, and the arrangements under which auxiliary supplies are to be provided and distributed.

II. To Applications from Western Division of Ireland.

That Indian corn meal is at present in such small supply at Liverpool, that the price is higher there than barley, and even wheat meal can be provided in Ireland by purchasing the grain and having it ground, so that if Indian corn meal were to be sent for sale to the western districts at Liverpool price, the Government would be providing dearer food than the people can provide at home. Suggestions on the means of providing cheap food from home corn are forwarded for distribution.

Return of the Number of Communications referred to by T. N. Redington, Esq.,—continued.

IV.—APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS ON SUBSCRIPTIONS.			<i>Notes of Answers.</i> —I. That donations will not now be recommended on subscriptions raised during the period of relief before 1st September, 1916. II. That Government do not contemplate making any grant, except upon subscriptions raised in the period of distress commenced 1st September, which will receive consideration, provided the Committee be constituted in accordance with the Instructions.
No.	County.	Locality.	
I	Cork . . .	Timoleague Committee.	
I	Ditto . . .	Kilbolane, &c., ditto.	

V.—PUBLIC RELIEF WORKS.

No.	County.	Locality.	Subject, &c.
I	Kerry . . .	Kilsaran Committee.	Pray for immediate works.

Informed that their letter is referred to the Board of Works, the Commissary-General Sir R. J. South not having cognisance of the arrangements for carrying on the Relief Works.

VI.—LOCAL RELIEF COMMITTEES.

No.	County.	Locality.	Subject, &c.
I	Queen's County Ditto . . .	Maryborough . . . Portlington . . .	Committees are to be formed for these districts, and steps taken for their formation throughout the county by the Lieutenant of the county.

Copies of the sanctioned Instructions, with duplicates of the papers, on which the Chairman of Committees are to supply the particulars required, on receipt of which, at the Commissariat Relief Office, the Hooks, &c., for such Committee, will be transmitted according to the addresses supplied.

VII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

County.	Locality.	Subject, &c.
Limerick . . .	Limerick . . .	Suggesting that small mills, of either hand or horse power, for grinding food grain, be distributed, &c. Informed that model hand-mills have been already ordered, and that if they shall appear to be available for general use in preparing corn for food, a communication with respect to them will be made to the Relief Committee.
Kilkenny . . .	Piltown Committee .	Resolutions are forwarded to the effect, that subscriptions be raised for the purchase of flax, wool, hemp, &c., to give employment women and children.
Kerry . . .	Listowel, &c. Parishes	Request that this locality may be formed into one relief district, to be managed by the clergy. Attention is drawn to an inclosed copy of the supplement to the sanctioned Instructions, &c., and a communication with the Lieutenant of the county is recommended.
Roscommon . . .	Castlerea . . .	A. Tucker, Esq., M.D.—The remuneration allowed him by the Central Board of Health, as medical officer of Castlerea Union, is quite inadequate, and requests it may be augmented to £1. 1s. per day.
Wicklow . . .	Arklow . . .	Dr. Wright requests his allowance as medical officer may be also augmented.
Carlow . . .	Tallow . . .	How a part of the premium proposed to be given for rearing sound potatoes from seed can be obtained.
Clare . . .	Kilhamig . . .	Requests that this parish be made a relief district in itself.

Return of the Number of Communications referred to by T. N. Redington, Esq.,—continued.

VII.—MISCELLANEOUS.—continued

County.	Locality.	Subject, &c.
Donegal	Glencolumbkille . .	Urgent necessity for large supplies of food by importation, &c. Informed that arrangements for supplying districts in Donegal from the Commissariat depot in Sligo cannot be extended at present. Local exertions should be made for having Carrickglan provided with supplies of food from home corn, &c. Papers containing suggestions on the means of providing cheap food from wheat and barley are forwarded, and attention drawn to them.
Wexford	Shelbourne Berrry .	Resolutions of the magistrats to the effect, That the Relief Committee be empowered to employ the residue of their funds in relief of destitute housekeepers.
Longford	Lodwithstown . .	Assistant Commissary-General, praying for full pay.
Ferromagh	Gela Brookborough .	Sent back to the Chief Secretary. Correspondent inquires if aid will be given by Government to purchase flax, and employ women and children in distressed districts by spinning. Informed that in the past season of distress the Relief Committee applied a portion of their funds in giving employment, and the plan suggested appears well adapted for the present. He is referred to an enclosed copy of Instructions, and is requested to communicate his suggestions to the Relief Committee in his county, a list of which, with names of their chairmen are to be forwarded.

Commissariat Relief Office;
Dublin Castle, October 24, 1846.

ENCLOSURE.

Mr. STANLEY to Mr. BROWN.

Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
October 23, 1846.

THE memorial of the Rathkeale Relief Committee having been referred to Commissary-General Sir Randolph J. Routh, he begs to state, that if a depot for the sale of food could be now established in Rathkeale, as prayed for by the Committee, the price of Indian corn-meal issued from it should be the current trade price; and therefore, until this price shall be reduced by the importation of the supplies now in progress, the advantage of low prices sought from the establishment of a depot would be unattainable.

The attention of the Committee is requested to the accompanying papers, containing suggestions on the means of providing cheap supplies of food from wheat and barley; and if the committee shall collect further subscriptions, a donation will be added to them by the Lord Lieutenant, which is the only assistance that can be given.

As the Committee's fund has been exhausted by selling food under the current prices, it is necessary to draw attention to the Treasury Minute of the 31st August last, in which committees are enjoined to sell at the market rates. By adopting a different course a pressure has been invited which has exhausted a fund that, if duly bestowed, would have enabled the committee to keep up an auxiliary supply of food, and by underselling the trade, all motive for competition or enterprise has been precluded.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

RETURN OF CORRESPONDENCE from 19th to 21st October, 1846 (both days inclusive).

I.—APPLICATIONS FOR DEPOTS.			I.—APPLICATIONS FOR DEPOTS—continued.		
No.	County.	Locality.	No.	County.	Locality.
1	Cork . . .	Kilmoody and Castle-town Committee.	1	Kerry . .	Island of Valentia.
1	Donegal . .	Letterkenny.			Informed that this application will receive due consideration.
1	Kerry . . .	Kennart.	1	Leitrim . .	Castellaghan and Drumahaba.
		Informed that this application is under consideration.			

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

I.—APPLICATIONS FOR DEPOTS—continued.			III.—APPLICATIONS FOR BOOKS, &c.—continued.				
No.	County.	Locality.	No.	County.	Locality.		
1	Mayo . . .	Berones of Galen and Costello, Ballyhamis, and Killybeg.	1	Monaghan . .	Aghnamullen ditto.		
1	Restormann .	Reakey. Informed that this will receive due consideration when the Commissariat magazines shall be provided with supplies, &c.	1	Ditto . . .	Clontarf ditto.		
<p><i>Heads of Animals.</i>—That wherever depots shall be found to be indispensable in the western districts, and shall be established when the Commissariat magazines obtain the supplies now collecting for them, the feed sent there must be sold at such prices as may enable traders selling at the same rates to realize their reasonable profits, otherwise the trade supplies would be withdrawn, and the population would have no other resource than the depots, which are intended only as substitutes for the ordinary means of providing for the public wants, and not as the main source from whence they are to be supplied.</p>			1	Ditto . . .	Clonsilla ditto.		
			2	Tipperary . .	Cloughjordan Committee.		
<p>II.—APPLICATIONS FOR MEAL, FOOD, &c.</p>			1	Ditto . . .	Ballingarry ditto.		
			1	Ditto . . .	Banks ditto.		
No.	County.	Locality.	1	Ditto . . .	Monten ditto.		
1	Denegal . .	Lettermacward Committee. Informed that notifications of the want of supplies should be sent to Deputy-Commissary-General at Sligo.	1	Ditto . . .	Thurles, &c. ditto.		
1	Kerry . . .	Glenties Committee.	1	Ditto . . .	Tipperary ditto.		
1	Longford . .	Fergney Committee.	1	Westmeath . .	Maynabul ditto.		
<p>Similar answer as to applications for depots.</p>			1	Wexford . . .	Amharstown ditto.		
			1	Ditto . . .	Newtownbury ditto.		
<p>III.—APPLICATIONS FOR BOOKS, PAPERS, &c.</p>			1	Wicklow . . .	Newbliss ditto.		
			1	Ditto . . .	Baldinglass ditto.		
No.	County.	Locality.	1	Ditto . . .	Donoughmore ditto.		
1	Armagh . .	Forkhill Committee.	<p>Books, &c. to be supplied where the Committees are re-constituted in accordance with the instructions.</p>				
1	Cork . . .	For twenty-six districts of county.					
1	Ditto . . .	Kilmeedy and Castletown Committee.	<p>IV.—APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS.</p>				
1	Ditto . . .	Baltimore ditto.					
1	Denegal . .	Lettermacward ditto.	County.		Locality.		
1	Dow . . .	Loughbrickland ditto.	Cork	<p>Mallow Committee. Correspondent is informed that the Treasury Minute (inclosed) precludes the recommendation of grants amounting to more than one half of the sums subscribed.</p>			
1	Fermanagh .	Enniskillen.	Galway				
1	Ditto . . .	Lisbellan.					
1	Galway . .	Laurinstown Committee.	Kerry				
1	King's County	For the Committee of county.					
1	Limerick . .	Chapel Russell Committee.					
1	Ditto . . .	Rathkeale ditto.	Leitrim				
1	Londonderry .	Newtowncunningham ditto.					
1	Mayo . . .	Castlebar Poor Law Guardians.					
1	Ditto . . .	Hollymoot Committee.	Meath				
1	Ditto . . .	Newport ditto.					
			<p>Mograly Committee. A donation of 95L is recommended on the local subscriptions collected, amounting to 194L, as duly certified, and the parties are informed accordingly.</p>				

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

V.—PUBLIC RELIEF WORKS.

County.	Locality.	Subject, &c.
Cavan	Cavan Committee . .	The Committee obliged to provide tools, and advance wages for the labourers employed on the Public Works.
Clare	Doonagh ditto	Complain of delay in putting forward works.
Cork	Carberry, West Division	Necessity of providing silver for the local pay clerk.
Ditto	Kildare Committee	Necessity for immediate commencement of works.
Ditto	Myross ditto	The necessity of regular payments to labourers. Committee obliged to advance wages in some cases, and give credit for food in others.
Donegal	Letterkenny ditto . .	Request an engineer officer may be sent to district to lay out works, &c. Forms of lists for applicants for employment, &c.
Roscommon	Athlone and Drum ditto	Labour lists requested.
Ditto	Roscommon ditto . .	Ditto.
Tipperrary	Elphin ditto	Peace of district in danger if more extensive employment be not immediately provided.
Waterford	Carriekbeg	Only sixty men employed; these not paid their wages regularly; an objectionable pay clerk is about being appointed.
Westmeath	Brawney Committee . .	Labour lists, tickets, &c., requested.
Ditto	Kilbeggan ditto . . .	Ditto.
Ditto	Maycashel ditto . . .	Ditto.
Wexford	Killegney	Immediate commencement of works.

Head of Answer:—

I. That the Commissary-General Sir R. J. Roach has not cognisance of the arrangements for carrying on the Relief Works, and that the communications are accordingly forwarded to the Board of Works.

II. That forms for labour lists are to be supplied by local officers of Board of Works, who are to issue these tickets; their communications are therefore forwarded to that Board.

VI.—RETURN OF RELIEF COMMITTEES FORMED AT

County.	Locality.	County.	Locality.
Cavan	Throughout the county.	Leath	Barony of Upper and Lower Dundalk.
Clare	Ditto.	Meath	Throughout the county.
Cork	Twenty-six districts.	Monaghan	Aghamullen Committee, and six other districts.
Dublin	For Barony of Northcross.		
Fermanagh	For Barony of Long.	Tipperrary	Cloughjordan.
Ditto	Bennakillen and Tyrisnoody	Waterford	Baronies of Gualter and Middlethird.
Galway	Several districts.	Ditto	Sub-districts for the Barony of Uppenthird.
Kerry	Throughout the county, except the Barony of Imphiglion.		
Kilkenny	Freshford.	Wexford	Monastellin.
Lancaster	Barony of Lathrim.		

VII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

County.	Locality.	Subject, Answer, &c.
Wexford	Fethard Committee . .	Can meat be purchased with their funds, and sold at 6d. per stone? Informed that they cannot apply the relief fund of district contrary to the regulations contained in the Treasury Minute of 31st August last, and the sanctioned instructions issued through the Commissariat Office. It is recommended that the food provided by them should be placed for sale with individuals of character, allowing them 6d. per cent. commission, &c., and fixing a price sufficient to repay first cost, and all charges including the Commission, &c.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

VII.—MISCELLANEOUS.—continued.

County.	Locality.	Subject, Answer, &c.
Galway	Clifden	Secretary of Clifden Committee will not act as such unless he is remunerated, &c. Informed that there is not any fund for payment of the expenses of Relief Committees, except the subscriptions and donations in aid placed at their disposal. Modification of the original instructions are enclosed, by which it will be observed, that although the Committee may lose his services as Secretary, they may have still the advantage of his co-operation as a member.
Clare	Clonke and Killynna Committee.	Forward the required return of the land which can be planted with here, barley, &c. &c. Request a large supply of each, and suggesting the best means of bringing them into use. Thanks of the Commissary-General, Sir R. J. Routh, are conveyed for his suggestions.
Rosecommon	Rosecommon Committee.	Similar Return as above, and ask price, terms of payment, &c. Informed that not a moment will be lost in distributing the seed rye, &c., after its arrival in Dublin, until which time the price cannot be stated.
Ditto	Ballinasther North ditto	Ask cost price of rye, &c. Informed that it is not yet known, as the supply and invoices have not arrived.
Clare	Cralee	Correspondent suggests the issue of plain directions on the culture, &c. of rye, &c. &c. Papers are forwarded containing information on the cultivation of rye, collected and published for the guidance of Irish farmers, by one of the Poor Law Commissioners.
Cork	Doonas Committee .	Inquire whether meal at 1s. 10d. per stone in Limerick, the nearest market of district, is at a reasonable price. Informed that the terms "reasonable price," used in Treasury Minute of 31st August, refer to retail prices, which bear a due relation to the rates of the wholesale markets.
Ditto	Kilderrary District, Mitchelstown.	Vouchers are forwarded for the £50l. for relief in this district. A balance of 2l. 6s. 1½d. the person who disbursed that grant claims for his services. A letter is written to the Board of Works, requesting them to decide on the claim of their Pay Clerk at Mitchelstown to be allowed to retain this balance.
Ditto	Casherry, Western Division.	Urge the necessity of providing more than one in a family with employment. Informed that instructions to Committees do not limit employment to one member of a family, &c.
Galway	Iniscailte	Answers to "Queries" furnished from this district are a misrepresentation. An inspecting officer is requested to be sent to this locality.
Leitrim	Drumkeerin Committee	£600 worth of food has been purchased, though £300 only subscribed as a loan by the Committee, relying on a loan or grant in aid from Government. Informed that there is not any fund placed at the disposal of His Excellency for assisting operations of Relief Committees, except that to be appropriated in donations on local subscriptions made as gifts.
Ditto	Drumna Jamestown.	The propriety of putting the Jamestown mills in operation.
Ditto	Manor Hamilton Committee.	Inquire how they are to obtain the £150 recommended as His Excellency's donation in aid of their local subscriptions of £300? Informed that application may be made to Deputy Commissary-General at Sligo, for this donation.
Limerick	Rathkeale	Is Kilsconnell Relief District separate from Rathkeale? Informed that Vice-Lieutenant of the County Limerick has reconstituted the Relief Committees of the past season, for the same Relief Districts as were then formed.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

VII.—MISCELLANEOUS.—continued.

County.	Locality.	Subject, Answer, &c.
Sligo	Island of Inismurray	The Board of Works forward an extract from letter of Rev. Mr. Jeffcott, of Lisadill, praying for Government measures of relief for the island. Request their district may be attached to Glenties now in connection with the Relief Committee of Keshmure.
Kerry	Templemore Committee.	They have not ceased operations; are they properly constituted? If baronial households are to be observed great confusion will arise.
Cork	Ballyclaugh Committee.	Correspondent will import food, if protection is afforded by police, &c.
King's County	Banagher	Communication made to the Constabulary Department, and referred to county inspector for report.
Cork	Battervat,	Board of Works forward a letter praying for a grant of money to carry on the manufacture of Indian corn.
Ditto	Kilderrery	By whom are the accounts of the Committee to be kept? Correspondent informed that as they are required to be kept in the same book with the Minutes, they must necessarily remain in charge of the secretary; best recommended as treasurer to keep a check memorandum-book of the receipts and payments.
Kilkenny	Menacoin Committee .	Accounts showing balance of 3 <i>l.</i> 1 <i>s.</i> , and desiring an investigation into these accounts. Acknowledged, informing that the investigation desired will be made shortly.
Galway	Loughrea Committee .	Ask the price of rye, here, &c. &c.
Mayo	Tagheen ditto	Ditto.
Roscommon	Ballintober ditto . . .	Ditto. Informed that at present the cost price of the seed proposed to be supplied by Government cannot be specified until the receipt of the invoice on arrival of the seed.
Donegal	Lettermacward Committee.	Complain that treasurer appropriated their funds without their approval, &c. Informed that the appointment of treasurer rests with the Committee, but they are recommended to place their supplies of food for sale with individuals of character, allowing 1 <i>s.</i> in the pound commission, fixing a price sufficient to cover the first cost and all charges.
Galway	Galway Committee .	State that the balance of the late Relief Fund (535 <i>l.</i> 16 <i>s.</i>), including a sum of 500 <i>l.</i> , which has been placed at their disposal by the Board of Town Commissioners, upon which they solicit a grant. Inquiry is made if the 500 <i>l.</i> alluded to has been contributed out of a surplus fund remaining to the credit of the Commissioners, after defraying the expenses legally chargeable on their receipts; and, if so, a certificate of their treasurer to that effect is requested.
Westmeath	Mullingar Committee	It is proposed to allow the three Catholic curates of the parishes to act on their Committee. A letter is written to the Vice-lieutenant of the county stating, that as the parishes referred to are in charge of the curates alluded to, they are necessarily to be considered as the officiating clergymen, &c.
Cavan	Virginia	Are all clergymen excluded from Committees except principals? Supplement to the Instructions issued on the 8th instant, is forwarded for Correspondent's information, by which it will be observed that the 5th section has been modified.

Commissioner Relief Office,
Dublin Castle, October 24, 1846.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, October 24, 1846.

I SEND you as a convenient memorandum, our state of expectations of supplies, naming the months in which Mr. Erichsen calculates on their arrival; I keep it constantly before me, and I think you may also like to have it.

It is in our early arrivals that I feel most apprehension, as they are the most important, and the severe weather we have had is alarming.

It will not be an useless document, as it can be compared with yours, in case I am in error on any part of the subject.

The fall of price which you observed at Longford is not general, but only local where the farmers have been bringing in their supplies.

I am labouring hard to recommend the adoption of loan funds, and in that poor county Donegal, I have just received advice of a loan fund exceeding 1000*l.*, and a subscription of 470*l.* from the same locality.

There are many who will lend, who do not feel disposed to give, and all we want, is the employment of the money.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

October 27, 1846.

I HAVE handed to Mr. Erichsen your memorandum of our state of expectations of supplies, and have requested him to compare it with his own information.

I have desired him to order the grain ships as they arrive, in the proportion of two to Sligo and one to Galway; the Malta meal all to Limerick, and our Loudon and Portsmouth, and Plymouth supplies of meal to be sent in the first and largest quantities to Dublin, for the supply of the Shannon depôts, and a certain quantity direct from England to Westport.

The "Belvidera" frigate has been ordered round into the river, and we shall put on board by the middle of next week all the meal we have ready, and send her off, depending upon a contract I formed two months ago with a Danish house for her further supply; and after she has gone, the Admiralty mill at Deptford, and the two private mills on or near the Thames, will grind all the 24 hours for the Irish service; the other frigate, the "Æolus" will be loaded from the produce of the Portsmouth and Plymouth mills, after which, they also will work for you.

You must tell us before the 15th proximo, where you wish the deliveries under our last American contract, from six to eight thousand quarters, to be sent.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, October 24, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you, with reference to your communication, No. 339, dated 19th instant, copy of a letter from Commissary-General Hewetson, reporting on the system of accountability as relates to the "Madagascar."

I am sorry to perceive that the "Swallow," steam-tender to the "Madagascar," has been driven on shore at the mouth of the Askeaton river, in the Shannon, during the late storm.

You will observe that Mr. Thomas Nash has accepted the appointment of storekeeper to the Cahirciveen depôt, and Mr. Robyns will proceed on Monday to take charge of a small depôt at Burton Port, opposite Rutland Island, on the coast of Donegal.

ENCLOSURE.

Commissary-General HEWETSON to Sir R. ROUTH.

Commissariat, Limerick, October 22, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 274, of yesterday's date, covering copy of Treasury letter, No. 339, approving of Captain Mann's being appointed to the charge of the relief duties and depôt at Kilsesh. I would observe, with regard to their Lordships' remarks, touching the arrangements which have been made for the "Madagascar," that the supplies on board are in the custody, under my orders, of a clerk in charge, (acting as paymaster and purser, on Admiralty appointment, to the ship,) who has been directed by the Admiral, without any remuneration beyond the naval pay of that rank, to take upon himself

this duty. The receipt and issue of supplies by him is exclusively under my direction, and he is store-accountant to me accordingly; he will have no cash transactions whatever, and his issues will be confined to my requisition, direct, or through Captain Mann. The name of the clerk in charge is Mr. Alfred Whitehouse, he appears an intelligent, active young man, and, as far as I can now judge, a good accountant. The duties of the commanding-officer of the "Madagascar" are confined to the charge and discipline of his vessel, (I enclose a copy of the instructions to him from the Admiral,) at the same time affording me all the assistance at his disposal. At a later period I shall report upon the working of these arrangements, as well as upon the efficiency of the transport to be placed in the Shannon.

Mr. Thomas Nash, the store-keeper for the Cahirciveen depot, is here receiving his instructions, and leaves on Saturday for that place. I propose taking advantage of the present favourable change in the weather, to order the supplies rosed from Haulbowline. There are 23,465 empty meal-sacks at Haulbowline. I propose putting them into the "Madagascar," as a reserve stock. Lieutenant Wentworth's services, if you have no further use for them, may be discontinued on the 31st instant. I await your directions thereon.

P.S.—I regret to acquaint you that, during the tempestuous weather of yesterday, the "Swallow," steam-tender to the "Madagascar," was driven on shore at the mouth of the Askenan river, in the Shannon, and reported bilged; she was loaded with Indian meal (40 sacks) for the Killarney Relief Committee, on her way to Tralee, in company with the "Pato," when this accident happened, but the weather was unusually severe. The meal has been landed at Ballysteen, and, I learn, has sustained little or no damage.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

October 27, 1846.

Write to Sir R. Routh, that my Lords approve of this arrangement.

MR. ERICHSEN TO MR. TREVELYAN.

Monday Morning, October 26, 1846.

I closed late on Saturday the American contract, but only for 6000 quarters Indian corn, with a reservation on the part of the seller to increase it to 8000 quarters by giving notice to that effect on the 18th November. I could not do better.

The American advices this morning continue conflicting as to quantities of Indian corn likely to come forward before January. A great scarcity of vessels added much to the difficulty of early supply. After January we shall certainly have a large supply.

I shall wait upon you to-morrow morning early with all the information I can collect.

We go on very slowly with rye. I beg to enclose a copy of letter from Newcastle received this morning. I hope that something has been done abroad, which I shall know by the end of the week.

We have ready here 160 quarters of new rye, and I expect about 40 quarters from Norfolk and Essex in a few days. At the rate of two bushels per acre for seed, this quantity would suffice for 800 acres.

I still believe that Indian corn has attained its highest point as to price, and that we shall be able to buy cheaper in December.

ENCLOSURE.

Messrs. ——— to Messrs. ERICHSEN.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, October 24, 1846.

Your favour of yesterday came duly to hand, and we thank you for the order for 300 to 400 quarters new rye. This market is perfectly bare of this article. In fact, rye is very little grown here. The whole supply at this morning's market of new was half a quarter. If you will leave us the order in hand for a week or two we might procure you 50 to 60 quarters, which would be the utmost we could find in Heddon or Carlisle, to which places we write to night.

Our market was a little better than on Tuesday last, but little doing.

MR. TREVELYAN TO SIR R. ROUTH.

October 26, 1846.

EVENTS succeed each other so rapidly, and it is of such vital importance that you and Colonel Jones should act in the closest concert, and with the latest

possible information of all that is passing, as to make it very desirable that each should at once communicate to the other copies of any letters or other documents received or sent containing particulars which it is desirable that the other should know; and as a practical mode of giving effect to this, I would suggest that when any such document is before you, you should mark it to be copied for Colonel Jones, and that you should then put it under a cover to him without the formality of a separate letter, unless one should be required, and that you should also follow this course in sending copies of the same, or other documents, to the Treasury.

I have written to Colonel Jones precisely to the same effect.

Mr. WARD to Mr. PARKER.

Admiralty, October 26, 1846.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, to send you herewith, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, copies of two communications received from Rear Admiral Sir Hugh Pigot, the one relating to the disturbed state of Ireland, in the neighbourhood of the river Fergus, the other, relative to a vessel of war being sent for the protection of the towns of Berehaven and Bantry.

ENCLOSURE.

Mr. LOWE to Sir H. PIGOT.

H. M. S. V. "Pluto," Limerick, October 20, 1846.

DURING the last week of our stay in the Fergus, in different parts of the county Clare, large assemblages of the lower orders have met together for the purpose of compelling the gentry to obtain work for them.

In consequence of the boisterous state of the weather during that period, and from the unsatisfactory means I have in my power of obtaining information, I am unable to speak with certainty, but I believe that they separated quietly.

On leaving the Fergus on Sunday morning, I hailed a vessel from Limerick laden with meal and bound for Clare Castle, and told her I could not give her a guard, upon which she immediately bore up and returned; in fact, no vessel will pass up the river Fergus, laden with meal or grain, without an escort.

P.S. I have sent a copy of this to Dublin Castle.

Note by Sir H. Pigot.—The "Pluto" with "Swallow" I have temporarily despatched to Tralee with purchased meal from Limerick for the Poor Relief Committee.

Mr. REDINGTON to Sir H. PIGOT.

Dublin Castle, October 21, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th instant, and I am directed by the Lord Lieutenant, to state that urgent representations having been made to the Government, of the necessity for protection to the towns of Bantry and Berehaven, his Excellency requests that you will direct one of the steamers at your command to repair thither, if the necessities of the public service will admit of its being done without inconvenience.

Sir H. PIGOT to Mr. REDINGTON.

"Myrmidon," Cork, October 23, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st instant, and to acquaint you for the information of his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, that a steam-vessel shall be stationed for the winter in Bantry Bay, for the protection of the towns of Bantry and Berehaven, and the villages adjacent; and as I believe that Bantry and Berehaven are some distance from any military station, the steam-vessel shall have an officers' party of royal marines on board in addition to the crew, from the detachment now at Spike Island under my orders, should his Excellency think such a course desirable. I had intended to have placed a ship at Bantry in the disposition of the force under my command, but the late heavy weather having prevented the arrival of several of the steam-vessels, my arrangements were therefore not completed.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

October 27, 1846.

Write to the Secretary of the Admiralty, and request that he will convey to the Lords Commissioners their Lordships' thanks for this communication, and that he will state to them the opinion of this Board, that under the present circumstances of the Western parts of Ireland, the naval force of this country could not be employed with greater advantage to the public than in conveying or protecting the conveyance of supplies of grain in that quarter, and in preserving order in places on or near the coast.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, October 26, 1846.

I HARDLY know if I shall have time to do more than acknowledge your letters, as the Lord-Lieutenant has kept me all the morning at the Park, to be present at the presentation of the gold medal to Mr. O'Brien, a ceremony which His Excellency performed with much effect. The opportunity of a Memorial from the Cabinet-makers and Trade Operatives of Dublin, who waited on His Excellency, was happily chosen for the occasion, the honour being conferred on Mr. O'Brien in the presence of his own countrymen; and the manner of doing it was remarkably good.

I thank you very much for copy of the letter to the Duke of Leinster, which is admirable, and, I am not a little pleased to say, exactly as I view the subject.

I think it is evident the market is easier for grain; and I am delighted with your purchases of the Egyptian wheat, and the ten thousand quarters of United States white Indian corn.

I do not know what this Egyptian wheat is, but that shipped from Alexandria is usually very gritty, from the sand of the Nile; and when we imported it at Malta, we were always obliged to wash it and dry it on the terraces, previously to grinding. It may be worth an inquiry.

Whilst writing, I received a letter from a Mr. Davis, dated Clonsilla, Ennis-corthy, making an offer of a large quantity of wheat and rye, which I send you. I know nothing of the writer, nor ever heard of him; and judging from the address, I should not expect anything from such a source. I presume it is some one who wants to be employed as an agent. The demand for rye is likely to be very large, if it could be supplied; but I do not see any satisfactory proof that their land is prepared for it. There are likely to be some demands for barley for seed. I have been very much gratified by a very kind letter from the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

ENCLOSURE.

MEMORANDUM for Commissary-General Sir R. ROUTH.

Longford Market Prices, October 24, 1846.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wheat, per barrel, 20 stone, from . . .	1	14	0	1	18	0
Oats, per do., 14 do.	0	17	0	0	19	0
Oatmeal, per hundred, by wholesale . .	1	0	0	1	1	6
Do. per stone, by retail, in the market .	0	2	7	0	2	8
Do. " " at Mr. McCann's	0	2	4	—	—	—
Do. " " at Mr. Butler's	0	2	6	—	—	—
Do. " " at Mr. Delany's	0	2	6	—	—	—
Wheat-meal, per stone, at do.	0	2	0	0	2	2
Do. do. at Mr. McCann's	0	2	0	—	—	—
Indian meal, per stone	0	2	3	0	2	4
Wheat-meal, per stone, in the market .	0	2	0	0	2	3

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

Treasury, October 26, 1846.

YOU have very nearly accomplished our wishes in regard to the recapitulation of the weekly state of provisions, &c., in the several depôts.

Our object is to have the totals of each of the columns of different descriptions of

food re-stated under a common denomination at the foot, and this denomination had better be tons; but, in order that there may be no mistake, I return the last statement marked in a manner to show exactly what I mean, and after the corrections have been made, I shall be obliged to you to let me have it again.

As the Irish and Scotch querns have not arrived, I have procured from the Museum at the India House, a specimen of the Indian hand-mill, which, however, is much heavier and clumsier than I have been accustomed to see, and I am, therefore, employing two experienced stonemasons to make another, according to my instructions, and when it is completed, I will send it to you, and if you and the Lord-Lieutenant approve of it, I might be able to get some hundreds made by contract in a moderate space of time. It appears to me that the steel plantation-mills are too expensive to be brought into use, and would take too long in making to furnish a useful resource in the present emergency; but these stone-mills, if they will answer, combine cheapness and portability, and from the simplicity of their construction, they would be immediately available. I am not without hope that they may lead to the adoption in the United Kingdom of the American plan of grinding every day the quantity of Indian meal required for the daily consumption of the family, and I have an article on this subject from the "New York Albion," supported by an official opinion of our consul, which may be of use when the mills are ready.

I was already aware that the Egyptian wheat is usually mixed with the mud of the Nile, and had given orders for its being washed and dried previously to its being ground.

Mr. Davis's offer is, as you observe, to act as our agent for purchasing grain in foreign countries, for Irish consumption, on our account, which is a course of proceeding from which we are precluded, by the pledge given in Parliament, and in the Treasury Minute. I return his letter, to which you should reply by civilly declining his offer, without stating reasons.

You will see from the accompanying slip that Sir E. Coffin is impatient for a fresh supply of the Drainage Instructions of the Irish Agricultural Society.

Mr. N. COMBINS to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Cork, October 26, 1846.

I HAVE NOT thought it necessary for some days to address you, as no remarkably new feature in the condition of this part of the country has arisen since my respects of 9th instant. The prevailing feeling has been one of gloomy foreboding at the steady and rapid increase of distress.

Prices of all sorts of food have still further advanced as the remnants of the potato crop disappear. Indian meal has reached the extravagant rate of 17*l.* 10*s.* to 18*l.* per ton. Of Indian corn our market is now quite bare.

In some cases Relief Committees have wisely begun to purchase barley for meal; but if a sufficient quantity of Indian meal could be had, even at its present rate, it would be much preferred, as it is found to go further in food, when prepared as stimulant, than any other article which can be purchased at same cost.

Whole wheaten meal (or one way flour) sells at 16*l.* to 16*l.* 10*s.* per ton, and barley meal at 12*l.* 10*s.* per ton, but the latter is not in request. Oatmeal 19*l.* per ton.

Shipments of wheat and flour from this port continue small, while the receipts of produce from the country have, up to the present period, been larger than for many years. This fact, coupled with the extreme difficulty which is experienced in remote districts in the procuring of retail supplies, shows, what is every day becoming more manifest, the want of a class of small corn dealers; in fact the machinery necessary for the new state of things *does not exist*, and the unfortunate people have to travel very considerable distances from their homes to purchase food. This is a serious evil, and I have in vain endeavoured to force upon the corn merchants here the establishment of such a class. Their chief objection seems to be the apprehension of insecurity in the transmission and safe keeping of their stocks. The efforts of Relief Committees to meet this difficulty have as yet proved quite insufficient.

I send you a newspaper containing a report of a meeting, convened by circular, for the purpose of conferring with the county members, Messrs O'Connell and Roche, and held at Fermoy on Saturday.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, October 26, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the weekly return of the Commissariat Depôts in Ireland, and also a statement of the amount of donations, and of the sums subscribed up to the 24th instant.

ENCLOSURE.

WEEKLY STATE OF PROVISIONS, &c., in the several Depôts in Ireland, on the evening of Saturday the 24th of October, 1846.

DEPOTS.	Indian Corn in Quarters of 8 Bushels each.			Indian Corn Meal.		Oatsmeal.	Biscuit.
	In Port.	In Store.	With Milners.	Sacks 250 lbs.	Sacks 220 lbs.	Sacks 250 lbs.	Bags 112 lbs.
Limerick	7,122	39	..
Banagher	775	..	..
Kilrush	542	..	..
"Madagascar" at Tarbert	1,388	384	1,654
Harlowline	500	..	1,340
Subberon	954	..	670
Dingle	1,454	..	40
Galway	3,120	9	10
Westport	770	..	..	..	24	145
Chickin	1.	36	..	119
Sligo	892½	..	500	..	120
Ballina	240	..	..	..	..	..
Longford	157	196	1,015
Roscommon
Castlebar	16	..	..
Drumana
Strokestown
Dublin	1,293	876	..
Total	1,010	892½	..	17,908	1,509	5,113

RECAPITULATION OF BALANCE on October 24, 1846.

	Total.
1,812½ quarters of Indian corn are equal to	362½
17,908 sacks of Indian corn meal are equal to	2,399½
1,509 sacks of oatsmeal are equal to	186½
5,113 bags of biscuit are equal to	255½

Total number of tons 3,103½

The Castle, Dublin, October 26, 1846.

R. J. ROUTH, Commissary-General.

LIST OF DONATIONS ISSUED by Command of His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant to Relief Committees in aid of Subscriptions.

Date.	Name of Committee.	Donation.	Subscription.
		£. s. d.	£. s. d.
	Brought forward	501 0 0	1,035 0 1
October 17 .	Deermond district, county of Sligo	14 0 0	29 1 3
"	Inver district, county of Donegal	150 0 0	300 0 0
October 19 .	Manorhamilton district, county of Leitrim	150 0 0	300 0 0
October 23 .	Kilnorna district, county of Galway	45 0 0	91 0 0
"	Edglish district, King's county	14 0 0	29 5 0
"	Kilcumma and Nehaval districts, county of Kerry	200 0 0	517 17 0
"	Moyvalty district, county of Meath	95 0 0	194 0 0
	Total	1,219 0 0	2,496 3 4

The Castle, Dublin, October 26, 1846.

R. J. ROUTH, Commissary-General.

Commissary-General HEWITSON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Limerick, October 28, 1846.

THE subjoined is taken from a mercantile letter to a firm here from Trieste; a large portion of the shipments ought now to be arriving. Messrs. Russell, and other houses in Limerick, are anxiously looking for arrivals of expected consignments, as their stocks of Indian meal are getting low.

I have nothing new; the same outcry, calling upon the Government to supply the people, going on, and the same unwillingness, in many places, on the part of those who make the most noise, to do anything *practically* themselves. Next month and December will be very trying; prices here this day, 16*l.* per ton Indian meal; 18*l.* whole wheaten meal; 20*l.* oatmeal. Barley does not come freely to market; it is also purchased by the distillers, and a good deal held back by the small farmers for home use. The high prices, also the difficulty in many places to obtain supplies, are very distressing. This surely cannot last much longer, looking to the extensive orders which have gone forth for foreign grain.

ENCLOSURE.

EXPORTS OF INDIAN CORN FROM TRIESTE TO ENGLAND.

July 7	For Falmouth	English Schooner "Paroquet" . . .	Qrs.
" 28	Falmouth or Cork . . .	Austrian Brig "Aurore"	1,000
Aug. 6	Falmouth	Austrian Bark "Cato"	1,400
" 12	Falmouth or Cork . . .	Ditto "Samuel"	1,800
" 17	Ditto	Ditto "Samuel"	2,000
" 17	Ditto	Austrian Brig "Benno Gullano" . .	1,300
Sept. 3	Cork or Milford	English Schooner "Swift"	950
" 8	Cork or Falmouth . . .	Ditto "Mary Stuart"	1,200
" 5	Ditto	Austrian Brig "Riolo Oscar" . . .	1,400
" 5	Ditto	English Schooner "Osprey"	1,200
" 7	Ditto	English Brig "Thomas Battarby" . .	2,440
" 9	Ditto	Austrian Brig "Boader"	2,300
" 10	Ditto	Ditto "Abd El Kader"	1,000
" 12	Ditto	English Brig "Viola"	950
" 15	Liverpool	Austrian Brig "Skid"	1,800
" 16	Cork or Falmouth . . .	Ditto "Marcius"	1,300
" 16	Ditto	Ditto "Coast Stadim"	1,300
" 18	Ditto	Ditto "Metilde"	1,600
" 18	Ditto	Austrian Bark "Cyrus Milizia" . .	2,200
" 19	Ditto	Austrian Brig "Carolina"	1,400
" 19	Ditto	English Brig "Earl Stanhope" . . .	2,200
" 19	Ditto	Ditto "Jane Geary"	1,350
" 21	Ditto	English Schooner "Flat"	1,200
" 23	Liverpool	Austrian Brig "Mosa"	1,140
" 23	Cork or Falmouth . . .	Ditto "St. Andra Apostle" . . .	1,360
" 23	Liverpool	Ditto "Faro"	970
" 24	Ditto	Ditto "Gracia"	1,360
" 25	Cork or Falmouth . . .	Ditto "Demetrio"	950
" 28	Ditto	Austrian Bark "Cero"	1,500
" 29	Ditto	Ditto "Felicita"	2,000
			42,700

The whole quantity of Indian Corn shipped from 1st January to 30th September, is 87,300 quarters.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

RETURN of the COMMUNICATIONS referred by T. N. REDINGTON, Esq., Under-Secretary for Ireland to Commissary-General Sir RANDOLPH J. ROUTH, from 22nd to 24th October, 1846 (both days inclusive), also the Answers given to each Class of Application.

L.—APPLICATIONS FOR DEPOTS.

No.	County.	Locality.	Answer.
D 6927	Donegal . . .	Crescough . . . Doe Castle is offered at any rent as a depot.	Informed that this proposal shall receive due consideration, but that it is not at present the intention to establish a depot in this locality.
D 6897	Fermanagh . .	Blacklion, Ennistimmon. The people are living on nettles, &c.	Informed that, as yet, the Commissariat magazines have not obtained supplies sufficient to meet the demands of even the depôts hitherto existing; the arrangements have only commenced on the last ultimo. Also, that the requisite importations are not expected for some time longer; and papers are therefore forwarded containing suggestions of means by which Relief Committees and employers may provide cheap food from home corn.
D 6754	Kilkenny . .	Barony of Knocktopher. Resolution of Magistrates.	Copies of Treasury Minute of 31st August last are forwarded for distribution among the magistrates assembled, as showing the intentions of Government in reference to the establishment of Commissariat depôts, &c. Papers, containing suggestions on means of providing cheap food from home corn, &c., are likewise forwarded, &c.
Q 18505	Roscommon .	Boyle Suggests depôts at the four Police barracks in the neighbourhood, where public works are in progress on the Shannon, &c.	Informed that during the late dry season, a depot was opened at Dramana to supply the persons employed on the Shannon works in that quarter, but has been since closed, as the contractors represented that it was not necessary. Also that, at present, Indian meal could not be sold in any depot at a price as low as the cost of wheat meal, or barley meal provided in the way suggested in the papers enclosed.
D 6732	Roscommon .	Boyle. Barony of Frenchpark. To reduce the exorbitant prices of provisions.	Informed that even in the remote districts of the country, for which depôts are intended, it is not yet possible to establish them in the number that may be hereafter necessary, the supplies for meeting the demands not having been imported; and, as at present, the population must necessarily subsist on the produce of the home harvest, attention is requested to papers containing suggestions on the means of providing cheap food from home corn.
D 6863	Tipperry . .	Fahced The Committee request that a depot be established.	Informed that it is not intended to establish a Commissariat depot for the sale of food, except in remote western districts, where the ordinary operations of trade are not yet of sufficient extent to provide for the wants of the population; neither is it proposed at any place, to sell food under the current market price, which would draw away all business from traders on whom the population must mainly rely for assistance; that the present high prices naturally arose from the insufficiency of the supplies brought into the markets by the farmers and other holders of corn; but when the foreign supplies arrive prices will be lower; and attention is requested to enclosed papers containing suggestions for providing cheap food from home corn.
D 6791	Clare	Newmarket-on-Fergus Committee. Pray for the adoption of means to reduce the price of food.	Informed that until the foreign supplies arrive, the price of corn can only be lowered by having the home produce brought more extensively into the markets. Papers containing suggestions for providing cheap food from home corn, are forwarded for the attention of the Committee.

Return of Communications, &c.—continued.

I.—APPLICATIONS FOR DEPOTS—continued.

No.	County.	Locality.	Answer.
D 6851	Tipperrary . .	Anderson . . . Committee ask for supplies from Limerick or Rosaghar depôt at a reasonable price.	Informed that wherever Indian meal can be issued from the Commissariat depôt, it must be charged with the current trade price, which is now so high, owing to the small quantity of Indian meal as yet imported, that wheat and other home produce will be found to supply cheaper food. Papers are forwarded containing suggestions of means by which Relief Committees and employers may now provide cheap food from home corn.
D 6782	Roscommon . .	Roscommon. Correspondent directs attention to the re-constituting of Committees. Are necessitous men excluded?	Instructions are forwarded, and correspondent is informed that it rests with the Lieutenant of the county or Vice-Lieutenant to add to the ex-officio members of the new Committee, so many members of the late Committee as he may deem desirable.
D 6897	Tipperrary . .	Modbury. Committee request that steps may be taken to form a Committee for this Parish.	Returned to the Under-Secretary, with a request to have the communication referred to the Vice-Lieutenant of the county, with whom arrangements for the formation of Committees rest.

Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle.
October 28, 1846.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

RETURN of CORRESPONDENCE from 22nd to 24th October, 1846 (both days inclusive).

I.—APPLICATIONS FOR DEPOTS.			II.—APPLICATIONS FOR MEAL, FOOD, &c.		
No.	County.	Locality.	No.	County.	Locality.
6526	Donegal . .	Barony of Raphoe (Memorial).	6544	Roscommon . .	Frenchpark.
6552	Down . .	Newry.	6583	Tipperrary . .	Tipperrary.
6595	Fermanagh . .	Garrison district.	Committee ask supplies from Limerick depôt.		
The Under-Secretary forwards Report of a local constable, to the effect that the people are about to take cattle, &c., by force; to kill and eat them, if there is not something done to give them cheap provisions, and therefore recommending a depôt to be formed at Garrison.			Similar answers as to applications for depôts.		
Read and deposit, an answer having been sent on a similar application from Garrison.			III.—APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS ON SUBSCRIPTIONS.		
6550	Mayo . . .	Kirkelly Committee.	No.	County.	Locality.
<i>Head of Answer.</i> —That wherever depôts shall be found to be indispensable in the western districts, and shall be established when the Commissariat magazines obtain the supplies now collecting for them, the food sent there must be sold at such prices as may enable traders selling at the same rates, to realize their reasonable profits, otherwise the trade supplies would be withdrawn, and the population would have no other resource than the depôts, which are intended only as auxiliaries to the ordinary means of providing for the public wants, and not as the main sources from which they are to be supplied.			6512	King's County	English Committee. On subscriptions now on hand as a Relief Fund? A donation of 14 <i>l.</i> is recommended in aid of subscriptions to the amount of 29 <i>l.</i> 5 <i>s.</i>
6594	Cork . . .	Donoughmore.	Committee forward account of expenditure, and ask for a grant.		
6545	Mayo . . .	Ballinghadrin.	Informed that a list of subscriptions is necessary to be forwarded in the manner pointed out by the Instructions (enclosed).		

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

III.—APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS ON SUBSCRIPTIONS.—continued.			VI.—APPLICATION FOR BOOKS PAPERS, &c.—continued.		
No.	County.	Locality.	No.	County.	Locality.
6566	Cork . . .	Cashlyon's Committee.	6533	Donegal . .	Anglimullen and Garton Committee.
6594	"	Kilredan Committee.	6527	Galway . .	Galway Town ditto.
6567	"	Malloy.	6573	Kerry . . .	Tarbert Town ditto.
6587	Donegal . .	See Answer annexed. Drumbelm and Rasmagh Committee. A donation of £354. is recommended on 4704. 7s., the amount returned on a certified list of subscriptions to the Local Relief Fund, and the parties are informed.	6604	Kilkenny . .	Johastown.
			6530	King's County	Ballyroan Committee.
			6508	Limerick . .	Kilconell ditto.
			6609	Londonderry .	For Committees of the county.
			6541	Roscommon .	Taughtmore.
			6537	Sligo . . .	Drumchiff Committee.
			6543	Tyrone . . .	Barony of Tully, East Omagh.
			6517	Westmeath .	Kilbeggan Committee.
			6574	Wexford . .	Mulrannan ditto.
			6603	"	Monaghan ditto.
			6588	Wicklow . .	Tinahely.
IV.—PRAY FOR THE FORMATION OF COMMITTEES AT			Books, &c. to be forwarded where Committees are constituted in accordance with the Instructions.		
No.	County.	Locality.	VII.—PRICES, &c. OF RYE, BARLEY, BEER, &c.		
6530	Cavan . . .	Ballycornell Committee. Resolution, That sub-committees for the parishes of Drumreilly and Templefort be formed to set under them.	No.	County.	Locality, &c.
		Recommended to be forwarded to the Vice Lieutenant of the county for his sanction.	6532	Armagh . .	Armagh. Price, &c.?
6516	Cork . . .	Kilmeen. Referred to Lieutenant of county.	6519	Clare . . .	Ennis Committee. Price, &c.?
6589	Kerry . . .	Lisowal and Fingra. Correspondent prays that these two parishes may be formed into one Relief District.	6525	Galway . .	Baltimore Committee. Rye, &c. is on sale at 1s. 8d. per stone; if sold lower, greater quantities would be planted.
			6525	"	Athleague Committee. Send returns of quantities of rye, &c. required. Ask its price?
			6529	Kerry . . .	Killierney Committee. Price, &c.?
			6538	"	Cutlishand. Price, &c.?
V.—COMMITTEES HAVE BEEN FORMED AT			6589	Lettin . .	Monaghan Committee. Request 25L. worth of seed rye.
No.	County.	Locality.	6569	"	Baltimore Committee. When should the rye, &c. be paid for.
6564	Armagh . .	Tandragee and Poyntz-pap.	6521	Limerick . .	Shanagolder Committee. 70 barrels of bare and 30 barrels of rye required. Ask its price?
6563	Donegal . .	Parishes of Leek and Cornwall.	6520	Roscommon .	Craffinough Committee. Are anxious to have the rye, &c. supplied.
	"	Parishes of Anglimullen and Garton.	6554	"	Ballynarry Committee.
6577	Galway . .	Several districts of county.	6556	Waterford .	Lismore Committee. Ask if seed, rye, &c. will be supplied at cost price?
6008	Limerick . .	Sub-Committees for Rathkeale.			
6609	Londonderry .	Throughout the county.			
6610	Meath . . .	Duleek, Wilkinstown, and Boycetown.			
6576	Monaghan .	Clones, Newbliss, and Druminst, &c.			
6613	Roscommon .	Throughout the county.			
6534	Westmeath .	Barony of Fectollagh.			
6612	"	Kilkenny West.			
6611	Wicklow . .	Throughout the county.			
VIII.—APPLICATIONS FOR BOOKS, PAPERS, &c.			Basis of Answer:—		
No.	County.	Locality.	1st. Papers on the culture and use of Rye are forwarded for distribution, and informed that the cost price of the seed, rye, &c. will not be known until the invoices shall arrive with the importations.		
6565	Carlow . . .	For several Committees in county.	2nd. Copy of Circular containing the inquiries respecting seed, rye, &c. is forwarded, by which it will be observed that they are addressed only to Relief Committees in certain western counties, in consequence of the difficulty of procuring seed in England, and the necessity of sending to the continent for a supply which, at this advanced period of the year, cannot be had in large quantities.		
6608	Clare . . .	Broadford Committee.			
6536	Cork . . .	Carrigrohane ditto.			
6536	"	Movady ditto.			
6542	"	Kilbristan ditto.			
6547	"	Macroom ditto.			
6602	"	Ballydooley ditto.			
6514	Donegal . .	Inshel ditto.			
6515	"	Dunfinghy ditto.			
6533	"	Leek and Cornwall do.			

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

VIII.—PUBLIC RELIEF WORKS.

No.	County.	Locality.	Subject, &c.
6528	Galway . . .	Galway Committee .	Resolution to the effect, that employment is inadequate, all applications for employment should be employed. Forwarded to the Board of Works.
6528	Cork . . .	Moridy Committee .	Forms for registry of labourers.
6548	Ditto . . .	Middleton and Tullagh	Urges the necessity for immediate works.
6549	Ditto . . .	Donoughmore Committee.	Labour lists required.
6557	Galway . . .	Children Committee .	Object to piece work system; able-bodied men unwilling to work with boys and old men.
6584	Cavan . . .	Dromkeen . . .	Correspondent states that the Committee were obliged to pay the labourers on a certain day, no funds having been supplied by the Board of Works.
6588	Wicklow . . .	Timahely . . .	Request forms for registry of labourers.
6601	Limerick . . .	Cappamore . . .	Urges the necessity for immediate works.
6605	Clare . . .	Killaloe Committee .	Ask for printed labour lists.

Heads of Answer:—

1st. That the Commissary General Sir R. J. Routh, has not cognizance of the arrangements for carrying on the relief works, and that the communications are accordingly forwarded to the Board of Works.

2nd. That forms for labour lists are to be supplied by local officers of Board of Works, who are to issue the tickets; their communications are therefore forwarded to that Board.

IX.—MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	County.	Locality.	Subject, &c.
6513	Cavan . . .	Ballyconnell . . .	Is provision made to remunerate Secretaries of Committees? Informed that there are not any funds for the purpose, but such as may be formed by local subscriptions and the Lord Lieutenant's donations in aid; the amount of recompense rests with the Committee.
6514	Donegal . . .	Inishkeel, &c. Committee.	What is the allowance to be given to Clerk of Committees? Informed that salary of secretary and expenses of Committee are to be adjusted by the Committee according to circumstances; there are not funds for such purposes except local subscriptions and the Lord Lieutenant's donations in aid.
6527	Galway . . .	Galway Committee .	Great tamale arises by allowing provision to leave the town; asks the cause of delay in making known the result of their application for a donation in aid of their subscriptions; books, &c., requested. Informed that books, &c., will be forwarded, and an answer to the letter addressed to this Committee from the Commissariat Relief Office, on the 20th instant, with respect to the sum placed at their disposal by the Board of Town Commissioners.
6532	Sligo . . .	Ballymote . . .	Suggesting the introduction of grist mills through the Commissariat. Informed that the model hand mills have been ordered, and have just arrived, and if found to answer, will be recommended; their cost prices are from 4l. 12s. to 5l.; but they appear to be very efficient.
6591 and 6611	Wicklow . . .	Arklow Committee .	Ask if they can apply their funds to aid those afflicted with fever in the hospital established at Arklow? Informed that the relief fund cannot be applied to such a purpose; should the ordinary sources be insufficient, it is competent to, and imperative on the Board of Guardians of the Union, to establish an additional hospital, for which object full powers are given in the Irish Poor Relief Amendment Act.

ENCLOSURE.

MR. STANLEY to the Rev. C. B. GIBSON.

*Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
October 24, 1846.*

Commissary-General Sir Randolph J. Routh begs to state that the proposal of the Mallow Relief Committee to apply the subscriptions recently collected, in providing 1000 families with cheap food weekly at a loss of 50*l.* a-week, is opposed to the principle on which it is considered necessary that the Relief Committees should be guided in providing supplies of food, as explained in the Treasury Minute of the 31st of August last; and he must, therefore, request the Committee to reconsider the resolution adopted before he can recommend a donation to be granted in aid of the amount subscribed.

There can be no objection to providing food by any course which may lessen the cost, as by purchasing grain and having it ground, or by mixing meal obtained from different kinds of corn; but the sale of the food at less than the cost, or at a price which may not enable traders selling such food at the same rate to realize their reasonable profits, cannot be sanctioned when it is proposed to use for the purpose a relief fund including a donation from Government.

By selling under trade prices a pressure would be invited, which the sources of the Committee could not sustain; and if funds for the purpose were provided, traders would necessarily be precluded from assisting in providing for the public wants, as traders can only be drawn to assist in this object by the expectation of profit, and will necessarily abandon it if deprived of the business through which the desired profit may be realized.

The attention of the Committee is requested to the accompanying papers, containing suggestions of the means by which Relief Committees and employers may provide cheap food from home corn; and it is recommended that all supplies which the Mallow Committee shall provide be placed for sale with individuals of character, allowing them 5*l.* per cent. commission, and fixing a price sufficient to repay the first cost, with all charges, including the Commission.

MR. N. CUMMINS to MR. TREVELYAN.

Cork, October 28, 1846.

CONTINUING my Reports of 26th instant, I have to note that our markets continue to rule high for every description of food.

Wheat has risen in value during the last week 2*s.* to 3*s.* per barrel of 20 stone consumption, being directed almost entirely to this grain in the absence of Indian corn.

Some small parcels of maize imported from your side have, during the week, been placed at for white 17*l.*, and yellow 16*l.* 10*s.* per ton, or about 68*s.* per quarter.

Advices from the United States received to day lead the merchants here to expect large consignments of this grain at an early period.

Oatmeal 20*l.* per ton. Flour 17*l.* to 23*l.* according to quality. Wheaten meal 17*l.* to 18*l.* per ton.

SIR R. ROUTH to MR. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, October 28, 1846.

I HAVE YOUR various letters of the 26th this morning. I see Mr. Erichsen begins to fear want of shipping from America, which has been always my apprehension.

I do not often see Colonel Jones, as his office is so distant at the Custom-house, but he frequently comes to the Castle on business, and when he has any with me he usually calls.

I did not send him your paper on the fisheries until he asked for it, as I had no idea that it was connected with his duties. I have no doubt that I could contribute in a small way to their success, as I mentioned to you yesterday, by making salt an article of sale from our stores on the coast, and which I think indispensable.

I am afraid I made a mistake in speaking of Lord Lucan's island, which is Inishturk, situated between Boffin and Claire.

I am glad to see Mr. Erichsen's letter about the barley meal, and I hope he will direct his attention to Dublin; and I am anxious about Belmullet, and Westport, and Clifden. The harbour of Belmullet is perfect; at Clifden the landing is made in Mannin Bay.

Our military detachment will be at Belmullet on the 15th November, and Deputy Assistant Commissary-General Bishop proceeds thither, via Westport, by Saturday night's mail, as Mr. Dobree is very desirous of having Mr. Cumming

again with him. The post of Belmullet extends from Broad Haven to Achill Island, and all the barony of Erris, and as far, or nearly so, as Croosmolina in Tynawley. I do not care what Mr. Erichsen sends, whether barley, wheat, or Indian corn, in grain or in meal, so as we obtain the article. I sometimes tremble when I think of the number of empty depôts which we have to fill, and I am afraid that the storm may have dispersed some of our expected shipments. If we had these depôts full, or partly full, the importations would keep them so; but arriving and issuing at the same time, we shall always be in a state of anxiety.

Could you speak with Mr. Erichsen on this subject; some immediate purchases on the spot of any description of food, so as to commence our depôts, which, with the exception of Limerick, are all empty, or nearly so. If we do not look to this and consider it, I am afraid we shall be in difficulties.

Look at the number of places—

Longford,	Ballina,
Banagher,	Sligo,
Galway has about 250 tons,	Killybegs,
Clifden,	Burton Port,
Westport,	Gweedore Bay,
Belmullet,	&c.

It is really a subject worthy of reflection, and you will excuse me if I press it upon you in the midst of ten thousand affairs that are pushing upon you.

I shall take care and keep Colonel Jones advised as far as I am able.

The Board of Works have never repaid the 10,000*l*.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, October 29, 1846.

I AM drawing out the Instructions to Officers employed on Inspections of Committees, &c., and I hope to send them to you on Saturday with some general idea of the numbers required. I propose to give to each a head quarter station, from whence they will diverge, examine, and report. For instance, I thought of Cork for Assistant-Commissary-General Bishop, and giving him the west riding of Cork and the south-west of Kerry; but, in fact, it requires a little consideration to determine these points, and I shall probably consult the Deputy Quarter-Master-General upon it.

Colonel Archer is fully equal to any inspection duty.

Colonel Douglas might have his head quarter station at Limerick, and take upper part of Kerry, Clare,—but I have not thought of this subject sufficiently yet to suggest any thing that I could ask you to rely upon.

I shall be very glad to hear that Scotland is supplied, and that your resources are turning towards us. As I said yesterday, I am anxious about my empty depôts. Here is Westport that would hold 8000 sacks, equal to 1000 tons, and a most needy district. Belmullet, that requires half that quantity, and Clifden the same. Galway, that has the same storage as Westport, and Sligo, with its dependencies of

Ballina,	Burton Port,
Killybegs,	Gweedore Bay,
Ardara,	

about 20,000 sacks, or 2500 tons.

I say nothing of Limerick, as it has a commencement depôt formed, and there is at present a mercantile house retailing there and at several towns in the environs. Pray mention to Mr. Erichsen, if he can, to order some of the Sligo cargoes to Ballina. It is about twenty miles to the westward of Sligo, and a good harbour, and we have great mill power at Ballina.

Mr. Millikin proceeded yesterday to Galway to relieve Mr. Wood.

Mr. Gem goes to Sligo on Saturday, and Mr. Bishop to Belmullet; and Mr. Cummins, at the earnest request of Mr. Dobree, goes to Sligo.

Pray how do you understand the Government pledge about the West Coast; do you include the whole county of Kerry, or does it extend more into the interior? I should interpret it as meaning all Kerry, and the south-west of Cork as far east as Skibbereen.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

October 31, 1846.

I HAVE duly considered the state of your depôts, as described in your letters dated the 28th and 29th instant. Some of the earliest cargoes purchased by us ought to have arrived ere this, but this hope having been disappointed, I have made the following further purchases, which will secure you some supply in the western depôts at the earliest possible period.

Seven hundred quarters of Indian corn arrived at Cork, and ordered to Liverpool to be transhipped without delay to Sligo.

Five hundred quarters arrived at Liverpool to be sent to Ballina.

Three thousand quarters of Indian corn, and one thousand barrels of Indian meal supposed to have sailed from the United States on the 24th October to Westport.

Eighteen hundred quarters of Indian corn sailed from the United States on the 12th October, to be transhipped from Liverpool to Galway.

The arrangement for Westport is the least satisfactory, but as the cargo destined for that port is the only one which contains any meal, I thought it better to send it thither.

If the hundred tons of meal lately sent from Liverpool to Westport, which has been obliged to put into some neighbouring port from stress of weather, is not sufficient to meet the present necessities of that place, you had better send some from Limerick, which may be replaced hereafter in the Limerick depôt.

It is probable, that before the quantities above advised reach their several destinations, some of the cargoes previously purchased will arrive at the same places; and I think the time is now arrived for us to suspend our purchases of cargoes, to be sent direct from sea to your depôts on the western coast, at least until a late period in the season. If we go on at this rate, the cargoes will arrive faster than your officers will be able to manage them.

But we will keep the three Admiralty mills, and the two private mills on the Thames, and the Malta mills constantly at work, and the quantities they will turn out will furnish a sufficient reinforcement to the large resources you will derive from the numerous cargoes ordered to Ireland.

We shall be obliged to you carefully to consider this important subject, and to give us the benefit of your views upon it.

I ought to have mentioned that the Admiral and the Commissary at Malta are taking active steps to carry out our views, and measures have been taken by them to secure considerable quantities of grain for their mills.

The Scotch store ship, "Belvidera," arrives in the river to-day, and every preparation has been made to put her cargo on board without delay, after which all our grinding in the Thames will be for Dublin.

When you have completed the posting of your depôt and inspecting officers, I shall be obliged to you to send me with your report on the subject a sketch map, showing the districts, and the officers, &c., posted to each.

We shall not forget your wishes about Ballina.

We have from the first, understood the limits of our responsibility to be the country to the west of the Shannon, with the county of Donegal to the north, and Kerry to the south; and a small corner of the county of Cork as far as Skibbereen, because it is on the western coast.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

October 29, 1846.

I SEND herewith a corrected copy of your statement of our purchases with reference to the probable dates of their arrival.

I am having the Egyptian wheat ground whole with the bran in it, having ascertained, by a trial of it made by myself and several other persons, that it is perfectly palatable and good in this way.

STATEMENT OF INDIAN CORN and WHEAT purchased for Ireland, showing what Quantity may be expected to arrive in each Month.

Quantity purchased.	Date.	Price.	From what Port; whether English or Foreign.	To what Port to be consigned.	When it may be expected to arrive.	Name of Vessel.	Remarks.
Qrs. 1,260 2,342	31 August 2 September	35s. 6d. 35s.	Trinidad; afloat Ditto	Sligo Ditto	November	" Mary Stuart " " Brodar "	{ These cargoes were expected in October, and are duly looked for.
1,800	14 September	41s. 3d.	Venice	"	"	" Sacronina "	
1,400	18 September	42s. 6d.	Ditto	"	"	" Meridiana "	
750	20 September	44s.	Corn; afloat	Westport	"	" Pigeon "	
600	26 September	42s.	Arrecap	Purismouth	"	" Evidiswar "	
300	30 September	44s.	Ditto	Plymouth	"	" Charlotte Ann "	
800 to 1,000	3 October	42s. 6d.	Ditto	Portsmouth or Plymouth	"	"	
600	5 October	44s.	Ditto	Ditto	"	"	
500	9 October	44s. 45s.	Ditto	Ditto	"	"	
1,300	24 October	45s.	Malta	Sligo	"	" Fashioned "	
1,500 to 2,000, Indian Corn	3 September	35s.	Trieste	"	December	"	{
1,200 to 1,500	16 September	40s. 6d.	A Port in the Adriatic	"	"	"	
1,400	23 September	42s. 6d.	Venice	"	"	"	
1,000 to 1,200	5 October	41s. 6d.	Marselles	"	"	"	
1,850	13 October	47s. 6d.	Venice	Plymouth	"	" Balisare "	
1,500 to 2,000	2 October	44s. 6d.	Marselles	"	January	"	
1,000 to 1,200	"	44s. 6d.	Genoa and Marselles	"	"	"	
1,700	13 October	47s.	Marselles	"	"	" Royal Oak," or "Empire,"	
"	"	"	"	"	"	" Victoria," or "Invicta."	
1,500	"	47s.	Leghorn	"	"	"	
5,000	18 September	35s. to 41s.	United States	Sligo and Galway	February	"	{
4,500	20 September	42s. 6d.	Genoa	"	"	"	
8,000	"	40s., 42s., 41s., 43s.	United States	"	"	"	
1,400	2 October	42s.	Genoa	Sligo and Galway	"	"	
4,800	9 October	44s. 6d.	Trieste	"	"	"	
2,000	2 October	43s. 6d.	Genoa and Marselles	"	March	"	
1,400	3 October	40s.	Danube	"	April	" Davidson "	
1,100	8 October	40s.	Ditto	"	"	" Scotia "	
2,500 to 4,000	22 October	45s.	Alexandria	"	"	"	
Wheat	"	"	"	"	"	"	

Statement of Indian Corn and Wheat purchased for Ireland, &c.—continued.

Quantity purchased.	Date.	Price.	From what Port: whether English or Foreign.	To what Port to be consigned.	When it may be expected to arrive.	Name of Vessel.	Remarks.
Qrs. 1,800 Wheat	23 October . .	45s.	Alexandria . . . . .	. . . . .	April . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
6,000 Indian Corn	24 October . .	47s.	United States . . . . .	. . . . .	May . .	. . . . .	The seller has the option of increasing this quantity to 8,000 qrs., on giving notice to that effect before the 18th November.
2,000 "	5 October . .	40s., 39s., 38s. .	Damascus, Constantinople, or Mediterranean.	. . . . .	Uncertain	. . . . .	To be shipped before 31st May.
900 Barrels Indian Meal .	17 October . .	37s. 6d. per barrel	Liverpool	Westport	"	" Active "	Now being shipped.
150 Qrs. Wheat	25 October . .	49s. per qr. . .	London	For grinding	"	"	Now grinding.

RECAPITULATION of the QUANTITIES of GRAIN expected, and the probable Time of its arrival in Ireland, &c.	
10,300 quarters Indian Corn	1,800 quarters, Wheat November, 1846
6,900 to 7,900 quarters "	" December "
5,700 to 6,400 "	" January, 1847
23,200 quarters "	" February "
2,000 "	" March "
2,500 "	" April "
6,000 "	" May "
2,000 "	" Uncertain "
58,600 quarters, Indian Corn.	6,600 quarters, Wheat.
Say about 60,000 quarters, Indian Corn.	100 ground into Meal.
	6,700 quarters.

900 barrels = 80 tons Indian Meal	
100 purchased previously.	
Together . . 180 tons Indian Meal.	

ISLAND CORN already received.	
Shipped from London to Sligo, about	1,200 quarters.
Shipped from Liverpool to Sligo and Westport	1,500 "
Received per " Mugdock " from Marseilles	700 "
Ground into meal in London, about	900 "
Sent to Portsmouth and Plymouth from London, about	1,500 "
Not arrived yet, about	6,160 quarters.
Together, about	65,160 quarters Indian Corn.

RETURN OF BARLEY AND BARLEY MEAL purchased up to 28th October, 1846.

Quantity purchased.	Date.	Price.	Destination.
3,500 quarters Barley . .	Up to 10th October	33s. to 35s. per qr.	For grinding into meal at the Admiralty and private mills.
1,150 " " . .	28th October . .	40s. " " "	
4,350 quarters Barley.			
3,300 barrels Barley meal .	3rd September .	18s., 19s. per barrel	Partly arrived at Leith, remainder daily ex- pected. For Greenock; will arrive in December. For London; will ar- rive in December. Received from Ham- burg.
2,000 " " . .	10th October . .	24s. " " "	
3,000 " " . .	26th October . .	22s. 9d. " " "	
570 " " . .	" " . .	24s. " " "	
8,800 barrels Barley meal.			
London, 28th October, 1846.		E. ERICHSEN & Co.	
SUMMARY of the foregoing Two Statements.			
		About,	Or about.
		Quarters.	Tons.
Indian Corn		66,809	13,309
Indian Corn meal . . .		950	180
Egyptian Wheat . . .		6,200	1,340
Barley		4,750	960
8,800 barrels Barley meal.		4,200	800
		82,660	16,420

MR. TREVELYAN to SIR R. ROUTH.

October 30, 1846.

I HAVE ordered the result of my first essay at mill-making to be sent to you by the railroad; but you must remember that at the time when it was made, we had no experience, and only an inferior Indian model for our guidance.

Since that, I have received a superior model from the Shetland Islands, and I have desired my workman to consult practical millers, and to make stone handmills for me on two or three different principles, each of which we have discussed together, and when they are made I will send them to you for your opinion.

If we should resolve on having any number of stone handmills made, the outsides of them will, in order to save expense, be much more roughly hewn than that now sent.

When am I to have the Irish quern which you promised me?

MR. TREVELYAN to SIR R. ROUTH.

October 31, 1846.

I SEND by to-day's post the specimen of meal ground at my own mill, referred to in the letter, a copy of which you will find overleaf.

You will say that it is rather granulated than ground, but this is the state in which it is best suited for making porridge, and it is not unsuited for bread.

An ordinary article at the breakfast table of English families in India is what is there called soodjee, which is merely wheat ground in the common

Indian hand-mill with the bran taken from it; but it is very palatable with the bran in it, of which I have just had practical experience, having taken enough out of the specimen sent to make me a dish of porridge; and you must bear in mind that a quart of meal, which Mr. Chapple says was ground in seven minutes, has been diminished by so much.

It remains to be seen whether these hand-mills will be powerful enough to bruise Indian meal to make hominy. I have not much hope of their grinding it into flour.

Mr. Chapple estimated the cost of a stone hand-mill, roughly hewn outside, at 10s., but I hope to get them cheaper.

If the Board of Works have not repaid you your 10,000*l.*, why do you not ask them for it?

Deputy Commissary-General DOBREE to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Sligo, October 30, 1846.

We are getting on, I may say, well in this part of the country, inasmuch as all is quiet, and though there is very severe individual want and distress, the people still manage to vegetate, some with two meals per day, some with only one, and that of the most meagre quality.

I have succeeded in finally suppressing the two remaining coast guard stations in this district, Ardara and Rutland, county of Donegal, and the duties which hitherto have been performed through the medium of that service will now devolve on the Local Relief Committees, to which they legitimately belong, and who alone are able to select the parties entitled to purchase from our issues, such indulgence being strictly confined to those who have grown no oats, and whose potatoes are quite exhausted. As there have been no importation whatever since my arrival in this district of any Indian corn or cheap food, on private account, it has been quite out of my power, without a positive order to that effect, to shut my stores altogether against a little relief occasionally to the poor people who were unable to purchase oatmeal at 2s. 6*d.* per stone, but I have reduced my sales to the lowest ebb, by limiting them, and occasionally only to two tons, one half meal, and one half biscuit, to Baronial Committees, and one ton in the same proportions to District Committees.

I have assured the merchants, who express themselves perfectly satisfied with all my arrangements, that so soon as they will open their stores, I will lock up mine, and make my operations subordinate to theirs whenever I may. Many of the Committees have been purchasing largely afloat, and are expecting cargoes of Indian corn, which they divide amongst themselves. Landlords have seen the advantage of bringing their oats to market for grinding, and many of the tenants are reluctantly following their example, but no attempt has been made to export a grain of any kind of corn from this place. It is really a very difficult and discouraging undertaking to administer relief to the people of this country, and it must be given to them medicinally, not as a tonic, to save their lives, and leave them to their own treatment when convalescent, for they will do nothing for themselves if they can help it.

My correspondent at Rotterdam informs me, that buckwheat is not considered more perishable than any other grain of the same nature; he adds, that it only requires a little salt, and very little boiling to render it a tasty and healthy food, and that the poor in Holland give it the preference, because it saves their fuel, which peas and beans consume largely.

The poor-houses here are overflowing with inmates; 250 were admitted last Monday at Sligo; and at Glenties, county Donegal, where on the 10th of September, one inmate only had been received since its first opening on the 1st of May, they are more than full. Able-bodied men, in full health, with tickets in their hand for employment on the Public Works, apply for admission, and are received on the plea that they cannot maintain their family of six, seven, or eight children with their wages at the present price of food.

The "Dasher," steamer, from Cork, has not yet arrived, owing probably to the very severe weather of last week.

Deputy Commissary-General MAJOR to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Commissariat, Malta, October 27, 1846.

As the steam-mills of the naval department are not yet ready for working, I have as yet only purchased 1300 salms or quarters of Indian corn, which I am in hopes will keep the mills supplied during November, but as yet, no correct calculation can be made of their product. I have consequently declined an offer of 800 salms at 32s. 6d. per salm, in hopes of better prices, and give time to obtain information from Naples, Alexandria, and Salonica, from which places, Indian corn is expected.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, October 30, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you for the approval of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury the annexed copy of a letter from Assistant Commissary-General Lister, in which he submits the continuance of Mr. Wood, of the Coast Guard, in the charge and issue of stores in Achill Island, with an allowance of five shillings per diem; and upon a due consideration of the manner in which this gentleman has rendered his account, his local knowledge and experience in that wild country, and the use we have already derived from his attention and business habits, I am induced to recommend this appointment, but not to commence until it shall be found necessary to open our depôt.

ENCLOSURE.

Mr. LISTER to Sir R. ROUTH.

Westport, October 28, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to represent to you, that as there is no constabulary force at Dugort (Achill Island), the charge of that depôt is necessarily (as heretofore) confided to Mr. Wood, Inspecting Officer of the Coast Guard Service.

The duties of this important depôt, from the time of its formation in May last, have been gratuitously performed by Mr. Wood, and in a manner (as my predecessor Capt. Percival has assured me) at once creditable to Mr. Wood, and satisfactory to the public.

Adverting, therefore, to these considerations, it appears to me essential to retain the services of Mr. Wood for the ensuing season; at the same time it would not, I think, be reasonable to impose on this gentleman such additional labour and responsibility without remuneration.

Under these circumstances, I deem it my duty to recommend to your favourable consideration, that Mr. Wood should receive the sum of at least £s. per diem from the 1st instant, when his duties recommenced. It may be well to add, that the store taken at Dugort adjoins Mr. Wood's house, and thus he will be enabled to look after the security, and superintend the sale of our supplies.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

November 3, 1846.

Give authority accordingly.

Mr. BUNBURY to Lord JOHN RUSSELL.

*Spiddal House, Galway,
October 30, 1846.*

MAY it please your Lordship to excuse the liberty I take in addressing you. I am induced to do so in behalf of more than 150 poor labourers who reside in the small village of *Spiddal East*, in the parish of *Moycullen* and county of Galway, who, from the failure in the potato crop, and the want of labour to enable them to buy food, are now in the most destitute state, if not relieved must all starve before a month.

From the new plans laid out for employment, it may seem an intrusion to address your Lordship in place of other authorities in this case. The way

those poor people are situated as to their landlords renders their case a very peculiar one, and quite bars them from any relief under the new plan for raising money to make roads, &c.—the owner of this property receiving too small a head-rent to make him security for the money, the chief-rents going to a poor widow for the next six years, so that neither can raise money.

As an humble individual visiting this country for a few months every summer, I have seen the distress prevailing here often, above all, this heart-rending season, which seems to threaten all—the poor without food, the rich (in name) to get no rents. I have no interest in this country. With feelings of the deepest humanity, I put in a presentment for a most useful road, which would have given daily employment for all those poor labourers, and many others around, besides being of public utility. Alas! on the grounds I state, it was rejected at the Outerard Sessions, the 12th inst.; I then represented the case to the Lord Lieutenant, in a memorial signed by 60 poor labourers. In consequence of the road not passing at the sessions, his Excellency had no control over the matter, and, with reluctance, was obliged to refuse; nor can the Board of Works grant any sum for works, unless a private collection is made—that cannot be had here.

I would humbly implore your Lordship to take this very sad case into your consideration, and lay it before Her Royal Highness and Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria (for which purpose I have fully stated all those particulars). I make no doubt Her charitable heart will cause a sum to be granted, so that the road I have mentioned may be commenced, not only save many lives, but be of public use to the country, as can be fully proved.

I wish it were in my power to give the relief I ask; all I have to give is my time and assistance, which I will cheerfully, in every way, should it please your Lordship to favour my humble petition in behalf of so many destitute beings, who will implore the Divine blessing on their Gracious Queen and Minister.

TREASURY MINUTE ON the above.

November 6, 1846.

Inform the party that their Lordships cannot make this case an exception to the rules under which relief is being administered to the destitute poor in Ireland, and they must refer him to the Commissariat Relief Office, or the Board of Works, according as the particular mode of relief may come under the superintendence of one or the other departments.

Transmit a copy of this letter and Minute to Sir R. Routh for his information.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, October 31, 1846.

I THOUGHT it better to get the instructions printed and sent to you in that form; they will, therefore, be ready too late for this evening's post, and will go to-morrow. By the time they come back from you, and are all in order, we shall be ready to send out our officers. I have entered rather fully into the business. All the instructions will not apply to each officer; but it is well that each should see the whole of the services intended. We attach a form of account to it, which I will send you hereafter. It has taken up so much of my morning, that I must be concise. Scarcely a day passes without deputations, for all that come to the Lord Lieutenant, favour me with their remonstrances for cheap food, and to-day has been fertile in those visits.

I have a few lines from my brother at New York, who sends me their circular, announcing the new crop at 600 millions of bushels, and Indian corn of last year at 73 to 74 cents, falling, and holders anxious to realise. I expect to see it on 1st January, at 33s. to 35s. per quarter. This is a great relief, but I still fear want of shipping.

The Alexandria or Egyptian wheat is considered very fine in the Mediterranean, but it is a soft wheat.

I am afraid the late storms have done us much injury.

The merchants at Limerick are in want, and are asking loans of Indian corn-meal; but we might as well issue as lead, particularly at these high prices. I shall think of it until to-morrow. What is your opinion?

I am very curious to see your mills, and if reasonable, they will certainly answer. The iron mills will be purchased, but I fear they would wear and get out of order, and they are not fitted for the poor; but the stone mills will be cheap, and the principle of grinding for your every-day consumption is most convenient, and both these requisites will be an admirable competition with the millers. I had nearly forgotten to ask you if the reports of the officers employed on inspection would be considered confidential, or liable to publication, as in the latter case they must observe more care in what they say. I think we should inform them on this point.

The Dublin hand-mills are screwed into the floor.

MR TREVELYAN to SIR R. ROUTH.

Treasury, November 2, 1846.

I HAVE written to Colonel Douglas and Captain Reid, to desire them to come immediately to the Treasury, to prepare themselves for their future duties, by reading up and studying the correspondence, including the instructions to the inspecting officers.

I am sorry to have to answer your question, on the application of the Limerick corn-merchants, on such slight data, and I can only say that, as far as I am aware of the circumstances, and can judge of the bearing of them on our general operations, I am against a compliance with their application.

It is desirable that the Relief Committees should make arrangements with local dealers for the sale of meal, because they can control the operations of the dealers, and be responsible for them, which the Government cannot.

It is more than enough for the public interest, that the Government should have to bear the odium of its own transactions in the corn-dealing line, without taking upon itself also that which attaches to Messrs. Russell and other private dealers. If we began upon this plan at one place, we must extend it to others, and it would soon have the effect of emptying our depôts, and depriving the country of the security they offer.

I therefore think that this is a new and objectionable complication, which we ought not to yield to.

If we lent corn at the present high prices, we must of course be repaid in money at those prices; and as I hope that the price of corn, and especially of Indian corn, will, now fall, there might be a considerable difference to be made good to us.

You will not of course accede to this proposition of the Limerick corn-dealers, without referring the question officially to the Treasury.

Besides Messrs. Cubitt's mill, I have set some professional manufacturers of mill-stones to work, to make models of hand-mills, all which I shall send you, and when you have selected the best, I shall then call for tenders for a large number, and hurry on their execution as fast as possible.

The reports of the inspecting officers are to be considered as confidential; or, in other words, the officers are to report everything without reserve, leaving it to the discretion of the Government to determine what shall be ultimately laid before Parliament, and what shall be withheld.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

RETURN OF CORRESPONDENCE from 25th to 28th October, 1846, both days inclusive.

I.—APPLICATIONS FOR DEPÔTS.

No.	County.	Locality.
6709	Cork	Bantry. The establishment of a depôt is recommended by the Local Head Constable.
6634	Galway	Deposit. Inisicailura.

Heads of Answer:—

That wherever depôts shall be found to be indispensable in the western districts, and shall be established when the Commissariat magazines obtain the supplies now collecting for them, the food sent there must be sold at such prices as may enable traders selling at the same rates to realize their reasonable profits, otherwise the trade supplies would be withdrawn, and the population would have no other resources than the depôts, which are intended only as auxiliaries to the ordinary means of providing for the public wants, and not as the main sources from which they are to be supplied.

II.—APPLICATIONS FOR MEAL, FOOD, &c.

No.	County.	Locality.
6670	Galway	Kilkeran Committee. Complain that the issue of biscuit from the local depôt is too small.
6681	Kerry	Glencrough Committee.
6618	Limerick	Newcastle district.
6686	Wicklow	Unless food is supplied the peace of the country will be endangered. Ballinglass Committee. Ask for meal on a guarantee for re-payment being given.

*Heads of Answer:—*Similar as to applications for Depôts.

III.—APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS ON SUBSCRIPTIONS.

No.	County.	Locality.
6614	Cork	Thomaspole Committee. Forward a certified list of subscriptions amounting to 22 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> , on which they solicit a grant. A donation of 11 <i>l.</i> 5 <i>s.</i> is recommended.
6684	Cork	Barbormock Committee. Forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 31 <i>l.</i> 5 <i>s.</i> , and solicit a grant. 15 <i>l.</i> is recommended.
6504	Cork	Kilcredan Committee. Solicit a grant on 50 <i>l.</i> subscribed, pledging themselves to expend the Relief Fund conformably to the instructions. The transmission of a subscription list in form, with certificate at foot, as required by the sanctioned instructions, is requested, and suggestions on the sale, &c., of the home harvest produce, &c., are at the same time submitted for their consideration.
6701	Cork	Mallow Committee. Forward resolution to the effect— That they will abide by the instructions of Government with respect to the mode of distributing relief and the sale of food. A certified list of subscriptions, to the amount of 136 <i>l.</i> 15 <i>s.</i> , is likewise forwarded on which a grant is solicited. A donation of 55 <i>l.</i> is recommended.
6616	Galway	Commissars and other remote western districts.

The Waste Land Society's Committee forward a subscription list, amounting to 182*l.* 19*s.*, collected for relief of widows, orphans, &c., of these districts, and its consideration is solicited with a view to a donation in aid.

Informed that donations can only be recommended in aid of local subscriptions, placed at the disposal of District Relief Committees, formed by the Lieutenants of Counties, in pursuance of the direction of Government for the purposes set forth in the enclosed instructions. This application cannot be considered one to which a government donation may be added, but as one of the organizations through which private benevolence generally may contribute to relieve the existing distress,—such as the Indian Relief Fund, Dublin Mission House Fund &c.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

III.—APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS ON SUBSCRIPTIONS—continued.

No.	County.	Locality.
6107	Kildare	Rathangan, &c. Committee. Forward a certified list of subscriptions, to the amount of 355s. 2d., and solicit a grant. A donation of 170s. is recommended.
6633	Sligo	Corteen Committee. Forward a certified list of subscriptions, amount 31s. 2s., and solicit a grant. 15s. 10s. is recommended.
6675	Sligo	Screen Committee. Forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 23s., and solicit a grant. 11s. 10s. is recommended.

IV.—COMMITTEES HAVE BEEN FORMED AT

No.	County.	Locality.
6710	Donegal	Kilcar and Glencolumbkille.
6719	Galway	Sub-districts of Iverk Barony.
6730	"	Chiflen.
6646	Kilkenny	Baronies of Galway and Kells.
6643	"	And four other districts.
6642	Monaghan	Monaghan and Tybolland.
6683	Queen's County	Throughout the County.
6644	Roscommon	Frenchpark.
6648	Sligo	Terribil Barony—sub-districts.
6711	"	Thorough Western District.
6722	Tipperary	Doon District.
6678	Tyrone	Cockstown.
"	"	Gortin.
"	"	Omagh.
"	"	Castleroy.
6720	Meath	Baronies of Skreen and Lower Kells.
6641	Waterford	Killeshinane.
6647	Wexford	Ballaghkeen and several other Districts of County.

V.—APPLICATIONS FOR BOOKS, &c.

No.	County.	Locality.
6655	Carlow	Idrone West Committee.
6679	Autrin	Ballymoyer.
6721	Clare	Owney, &c. Committee.
6656	"	Downe Committee.
6713	Cork	Watergrasshill Committee.
6659	Donegal	Tallybegilly Committee.
6681	"	Tollyfern, &c. Committee.
6677	"	Ballymoward Committee.
6669	Fermanagh	Barony of Tyrkenny.
6682	Galway	Kinsara Committee.
6728	"	Kilcora, &c. Committee.
6654	King's County	Croughan Committee.
6671	Kilkenny	Knockrother Committee.
6654	Longford	Fergney Committee.
6663	Londonderry	Garragh Committee.
6658	Limerick	Glin Committee.
6675	"	Doon Committee.
6726	Mayo	Slurke Committee.
6723	"	Balla Committee.
6685	Armagh	Ballybally Committee.
6724	Meath	Nobber.
6725	Queen's County	Roemallie Committee.
6711	Sligo	Thorough Western District Committee.
6731	"	Eske Committee.
6651	Wicklow	Blessington Committee.
6674	"	Ballinglass Committee.
6686	"	Dave.
6690	Wexford	Tullaghkeen Committee.

Books, &c., to be forwarded where Committees are constituted in accordance with the instructions.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

VL.—ON RYE, BERE, BARLEY.

No.	County.	Locality.	Subject.
6690	Clare . . .	Kilrush Committee .	Price, &c., required.
6695	Galway . . .	Portanna Committee .	Idem.
6697	" . . .	Kilmore Committee .	Request two tons of seed here, and one of rye.
6698	" . . .	Tulla Committee . . .	300 acres can be prepared for seed-rye. Ask its price.
6699	" . . .	Kilmoren Committee .	Six barrels of seed-rye will be required.
6699	Longford . . .	Columbkil Committee .	Furnish return of seed-rye, &c., required. Request no delay may be made in forwarding it to Longford.
6698	Meath . . .	Moynalty . . .	Suggests the general use of whole wheaten meal.
6694	Roscommon . . .	Ballinaber Committee .	Requests one ton of rye and one ton of bere.
6690	" . . .	Tighmoss and Dymott Committee .	Request 40 barrels of bere.
6691	" . . .	Elphin Committee . .	Return of rye, &c., required. Ask its price.
6695	" . . .	Rushin, &c. Committee .	Ask price, &c.
6699	" . . .	Kilbelle Committee . .	200 barrels of bere required without delay.

Heads of Answers:—

1st. Papers on the culture and use of rye, are forwarded for distribution, and informed that the cost price of the seed-rye, &c., will not be known until the invoices shall arrive with the importations.

2nd. Copy of circular containing the inquiries respecting seed-rye, &c., is forwarded, by which it will be observed that they are addressed only to Relief Committees in certain western counties, in consequence of the difficulty of procuring seed in England, and the necessity of sending to the continent for a supply, which at this advanced period of the year, cannot be had in large quantities.

VII.—PUBLIC RELIEF WORKS.

No.	County.	Locality.	Subject.
6699	Armagh . . .	Fockhill Committee .	Resolutions forwarded, calling upon Government to put works in progress.
6698	Cavan . . .	Cavan Committee . .	Were obliged to advance wages to labourers on public works; the pay-clerk not having received money from Dublin.
6693	Kilkenny . . .	Inistioge Committee .	Urges the necessity for immediate works.
6799	Limerick . . .	Hospital Committee .	The smith-work of the public works in Ireland should be impartially distributed amongst the trade.
6726	Mayo . . .	Shrule Committee . .	Ask for forms of labour lists.
6693	Sligo . . .	Corran Committee . .	A labourer on public works died of want, owing to his wages being withheld.

Heads of Answers:—

1st. That the Commissary-General Sir R. J. Routh has not cognizance of the arrangements for carrying on the relief works, and that the communications are accordingly forwarded to the Board of Works.

2nd. That forms for labour lists are to be supplied by local officers of Board of Works, who are to issue the tickets; their communications are therefore forwarded to that Board.

VIII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

County.	Locality.	Subject—Answers.
Tipperary . . .	Emly Committee . .	Call attention to their application for a donation in either meal or money for the poor of locality. Informed that there is not any power given to the Commissary-General Sir R. J. Routh to recommend donations of either money or meal, except in aid of local subscriptions placed at disposal of Relief Committees. A copy of Treasury Minute of 31st August last, with respect to the means of relief, &c.; as also a copy of the instructions for Committees are forwarded for consideration.
Clare	Inchiquin Committee .	Forward resolutions proposing that 2000 <i>l.</i> out of the sum presented for in Barony Sessions for relief works, be allocated for providing cheap food: also that all available home corn now in the country or in the hands of speculators be purchased by Government for the supply of the population. Informed that Commissary General Sir R. J. Routh does not feel called upon to express any opinion with respect to these resolutions; but desires to draw attention to the consideration of means for establishing a loan fund to augment the supply of food on sale in the district. That in the relief district of Drumholm and Rousnawagh, county Donegal, loans exceeding 1000 <i>l.</i> have been placed in charge of the Committee to be employed with the ordinary Relief Fund in purchasing food; that if loans can be obtained, it is

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

VIII.—MISCELLANEOUS—continued.

County.	Locality.	Subject—Answers.
		recommended that all the food purchased be placed for sale with individuals of character, allowing 5 <i>l.</i> per cent. for storing and selling, fixing a price to cover all expenses, including the commission. Papers on the means of providing cheap food from home corn are forwarded; and attention is directed to the disadvantages of employing their funds in providing food at prices under the rates which traders should charge; observing that present high prices tend to economise consumption, and must also induce the importation of supplies, &c.
Galway . . .	Lettermore . . .	[What is to become of the aged, &c. Informed that there is not any fund which can be recommended to be appropriated in affording gratuitous relief; but should correspondent refer to the fund of 50,000 <i>l.</i> for misery grants towards executing public works in the western districts, his application should be directed to the Board of Works.
Clare . . .	Kilmainy Committee	State there is a difference in Committee with reference to the appointment of a secretary. Informed that the appointment of secretary to a Relief Committee rests with the Vice Lieutenant of the county, if he shall think proper to exercise the authority to that effect devolved on him by the Lord Lieutenant.
Cork . . .	Timoleague Committee	Inquire relative to the salary of secretary, and the fund for this purpose? Informed that there is not any fixed rate as to the salary; and the fund for payment of it is that formed of local subscriptions and the Lord Lieutenant's donations in aid.
Donegal . . .	Coast from Belfast to Galway.	Relative to fisheries. Deposit.
Galway . . .	Leighlin . . .	Relative to the apportionment of Government grant to Belliniskill and Woodford Commissions on Sir J. Burke's subscription of 100 <i>l.</i>
		Sir John Burke having subscribed (as appears by his letter of the 26th March, 1846, then referred by the Under Secretary, D. 25.) 100 <i>l.</i> to the Relief Fund of the parish of Belliniskill, county Galway, of which the sum of 70 <i>l.</i> was appropriated to the district of Belliniskill, electoral division, (the subscription list for which includes it,) the remaining 30 <i>l.</i> devolving to Woodford Division; and a grant of 60 <i>l.</i> having been made on the whole, it has become necessary to apportion this grant to the separate subscription funds; and it is therefore directed that 48 <i>l.</i> be carried to the account of Belliniskill district, and 12 <i>l.</i> to the Woodford account.
Clare . . .	Tulla Committee . . .	Can they apply their funds in gratuitous relief, and sell food under cost price? Informed that where in consequence of the actual incapability of the Union workhouse to receive all the destitute poor, it shall become unavoidably necessary to give gratuitous relief to persons who cannot obtain subsistence from any other source, it will be better to avoid making any definite rule, but leave such extreme and peculiar cases to the discretion of the Committee. With respect to the sale of food under cost price, it is to be observed that this would invite a pressure which must speedily exhaust the Relief Fund, and exclude the intervention of trade competition, on which the population must ultimately rely for subsistence, &c. It is recommended to adhere to the rule in Treasury Minute, 31st August, of selling as nearly as possible at market prices. That 5 <i>l.</i> per cent. commission be allowed for storing and selling, &c.
Galway . . .	Killian . . .	A widow memorials for relief; the memorial is forwarded by Rev. Messrs. Gaurina and Noone. Informed that this case is not susceptible of relief under the arrangements made by Government for the present emergency; but case appears to be one in which relief can be best given through some of the local loan funds.
Cork . . .	Castletown . . .	Will Government give a loan, &c., to purchase provisions? their present funds are 200 <i>l.</i> Informed that there is not any fund at the disposal of the Lord Lieutenant to be advanced in loans for providing supplies of food, or granted in donations for the purpose, except (in the latter case) where there shall be local subscriptions placed at disposal of committees. The principle of making their sales by allowing a commission for storing and selling, is recommended. That an opening should be allowed for the competition of traders. Attention is directed to the consideration of an arrangement for farming and managing a local loan fund to be employed in providing supplies of food. That in one of the equally remote districts of Donegal, the landlords have placed a sum of 1,000 <i>l.</i> for this object under the management of a relief committee.
Wexford . . .	Ennisconly . . .	Correspondent offers 100,000 or 150,000 quarters of wheat, and 50,000 quarters of rye; he can refer to houses of first respectability in London. Informed that as he is wholly unknown to the Commissary-General, and that the transactions to which his offer relates are of great extent; it would be desirable to have the reference which he proposes to give.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

VII.—MISCELLANEOUS—continued.

County.	Locality.	Subject.—Answers.
Cork	Kildorrery Committee	Secretary has resigned. The people are kept quiet by the sale of Indian meal at 1s. 10d. per stone, bought at 15s. per ton. Informed that the sale of Indian meal under first cost must invite a pressure which would soon exhaust the relief fund. Home corn meal, either wheat or barley, or both, is recommended to be provided by purchasing the grain, and having it ground as suggested in enclosed papers. By this means food can be sold, without any loss, at a lower price than is now charged for the Indian meal selling under first cost. Sales of provisions, by allowing a commission for storing and selling, are recommended. With respect to the secretary, it is proposed that any member will undertake the duties, if a clerk be provided.
Meath	Kells	Request that Committee for Navan and Ardaraheen may be formed. Informed that the Vice-Lieutenant of the county has approved of a Committee for each district. The names of the chairmen are forwarded.
Essexhamon . .	Ruskey	Correspondent objects to the storekeeper of provisions selected by the Committee. Informed that, if his arrangement is to have a sub-comptroller in charge of a store of meal, to be provided through the relief fund, it cannot be interfered with if it is sanctioned by the Inspector-General of the commissariat; but should the Committee have in view the establishment of a sub-depôt of the Commissariat, it is not intended to have one now at Ruskey.
Wexford	Killegney Committee.	Can they make provision by employment for females? Informed that females are eligible to employment on the relief works in whatever way their labour can be made available, and are numerous employed in some counties.
Tipperary . . .	Killardiff district .	The Board of Works state that the 50 <i>l.</i> granted for works in this district has not been found necessary. Has the circumstance reference to the Commissary-General? Informed that, as the 50 <i>l.</i> has not been applied to the purpose for which it was issued, it should be repaid to the Commissary-General.

Commissariat Relief Office,
Dublin Castle, October 31, 1846.

Mr. SAVILLE to Mr. PARKER.

November 2, 1846.

THE Comptroller-General of the Coast Guard having laid before the Board a letter from Sir James Donabrain, Inspector-General, dated 27th ultimo, inclosing copy of a communication from a Relief Association for affording aid to the destitute poor on the coast of Ireland, requesting the assistance and co-operation of the Coast Guard under his survey in forwarding the objects of that Association—

I have it in command to transmit herewith copies of the letter and enclosures therein referred to, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, and to signify the request of the Board to be informed whether their Lordships see any objection to the employment of the Coast-Guard in the manner requested.

ENCLOSURE.

Sir J. DONABRAIN to the COMPTROLLER-GENERAL.

Coast Guard Office, Dublin, October 27, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith a letter which I have received from a Relief Association, for affording aid to the destitute poor on the coast of Ireland, also copy of the Resolution referred to therein; and I submit that the Coast Guard be authorised to afford all the aid in their power, consistently with a proper discharge of their own duties.

MR. MINCHEN to Sir J. DOMERAIN.

*Relief Association, 16, Upper Sackville-street,
October 21, 1846.*

I HAVE the honour to enclose you a copy of a Resolution passed by the Committee this day in the way of business. We are already aware of your readiness to give us every assistance in your power.

"RESOLVED—That the Secretaries be requested to write to Sir J. Domerain, with a view to ascertain whether the Committee may calculate on the assistance and co-operation of the Coast Guard in forwarding the objects of this Association, as was kindly offered by the Government in 1831."

*Relief Association,
October 21, 1846.*

(Signed) EDMUND WALLER,
Chairman.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

November 3, 1846.

Write to the Commissioners of Customs, that it is their Lordships' wish, that the Coast Guard in every part of the coast of Ireland, should exert themselves to the utmost of their power, consistently with the proper discharge of their own duties, to assist the Government officers and local Committees in carrying out the measures for the relief of the distress arising from the existing scarcity of food.

Transmit copy of this letter and of its enclosures, and of this Minute, to Commissary-General Sir R. Routh for his information.

SIR R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, November 2, 1846.

MONDAY is such a busy day with me that I shall merely acknowledge your letters, which are more than usually interesting.

It would be a great relief to us if you could consign a cargo to Behmullet direct, and to Clifden direct, which would be a great assistance to the Westport depot. Behmullet is a capital harbour, and the port of Clifden is Mannin Bay.

This would be a very essential measure, and directed to the two worst parts on the western coast. By the 15th of the month I shall have the barracks ready for the two detachments. The quantities to Behmullet and Clifden might be 1000 quarters to each.

I am disappointed altogether in obtaining a quern; I have had twenty promises, but none of them fulfilled; I am still looking out. I am not quite *au fait* as to the wheat meal you have sent to me; it appears to me to be too coarse for bread, in some instances merely broken; and the stirabout made from wheat does not succeed so well as other grain. However, I shall consult other opinions before I reply, but for hungry people it is at all times excellent. I shall try it myself to-morrow.

ENCLOSURE.

COPY OF MINUTE OF TOWN COMMISSIONERS.

Galway, Oct. 20, 1846.

THAT Mr. Stephens be requested to inform the Relief Committee that the Town Commissioners have not any surplus fund at their disposal; but that they did resolve to raise a sum of 500*l.* to be expended on the purchase of food, under the direction of a Committee of the Commissioners, in order to bring down the price of food to a rate commensurate with the rate of wages on the public works, and also to put food within the reach of those whose means are only equal to the purchase of their daily meal.

MR. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

November 4, 1846.

I HAVE arranged with Mr. Erichsen, that without interfering with the consignments to Sligo, Ballina, Westport, and Galway, advised in my letter dated 31st ultimo, we shall, in the course of next week, get ready in the Thames a cargo

of 1000 quarters to be sent direct to Belmullet, and the same to Clifden, the whole of these two cargoes to consist of barley, and, as far as possible, of barley-meat.

Mr. Erichsen will immediately make inquiries for suitable ships, which are not easy to be got for those distant unfrequented ports, and we shall make it our first care, after the departure of the "Belvidera," to fill and send off these two vessels, and after that we shall work for the depôts, which are to be supplied through Dublin.

SIR R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, November 2, 1846.

1,967L 5s.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you for the information of the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the weekly returns of the Commissariat Depôts in Ireland, and also a statement of the amount of donations, and of the sums subscribed up to the 31st ultimo.

ENCLOSURE.

WEEKLY STATE OF PROVISIONS, &c., in the several Depôts in Ireland, on the Evening of Saturday the 31st of October, 1846.

DEPOTS.	Indian Corn in Quarters of 8 Bushels each.			Indian Corn Meal.		Oatmeal.	Barley.
	In Port.	In Store.	With Mills.	In Port.	In Store.		
				Sacks 280 lbs.	Sacks 280 lbs.	Sacks 280 lbs.	Bags 112 lbs.
Limerick	7,122	20	..
Baragher	775	..	..
Kilrush	543	..	..
"Madagscar" at Tarbert	1,388	384	1,034
Haulbowline	200	..	..
Siribereen	961	..	660
Dingle	1,484	..	40
Galway	3,188	9	10
Westport	770	..	..	..	24	145
Clifden	86	..	89
Sligo	802½	..	311	..	140
Bellin	240	..	..	..	..	..
Longford	157	196	924
Roscommon
Castlere	16	..	..
Drogheda
Strokestown
Dublin	1,393	875	406
Total	1,010	802½	..	17,625	1,509	4,166

RECAPITULATION OF BALANCE ON OCTOBER 31, 1846.

1,512½ quarters of Indian corn, equal to	Ton.
17,625 sacks Indian corn meal, each 280 lbs., equal to	3524
1,509 sacks oatmeal	2,903½
4,166 bags of barley	188½
	200½

Total amount on 31st October 2,802½

Dublin Castle, November 2, 1846.

R. J. ROUTH, *Commissary General.*

DONATIONS ISSUED by Command of His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant to Relief Committees in aid of Subscriptions.

Date.	Name of Committee.	Amount of Donations.			Amount of Subscriptions.		
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
	Brought forward from last Week	1,219	0	0	2,496	3	4
October 24 .	Donaghmore district, county Cork	20	0	0	41	11	0
.. 27 .	Timoleague district, county Cork	11	5	0	22	10	0
.. .	Drumholme and Rossmore district, county Donagel	235	0	0	470	7	0
.. .	Screen district, county Sligo	11	10	0	23	0	0
October 28 .	Cornac district, county Sligo	15	10	0	31	2	0
October 29 .	Rathormac district, county Cork	150	0	0	319	5	0
October 30 .	Rathangan district, county Kildare	170	0	0	355	0	2
.. .	Clagher district, county Tyrone	70	0	0	143	2	6
.. .	Mallow district, county Cork	55	0	0	116	15	0
		1,967	5	0	4,018	16	0

Dublin Castle, November 2, 1846.

R. J. ROUTH, Commissary General.

MR. N. CUMMINS to MR. TREVELYAN.

Cork, November 2, 1846.

I HAVE much pleasure in reporting to you that since my respects of the 31st ultimo, five small cargoes of maize have arrived in this port: they do not average, however, much above 100 tons each.

Two of these have come up to this city for discharge; one of which, from Terceira has already been sold at 15*l*., and the other from Vienna is held to 16*l*. 10*s*., but it is not probable this price can be obtained, as I confidently expect the present northerly wind will bring to hand many other cargoes, daily looked for.

These arrivals, coupled with the English and American advices, must bring down our local rates, but the decline will I think be gradual.

MR. TREVELYAN to SIR R. ROUTH.

November 3, 1846.

WITH reference to the accompanying tender for grinding at Penzance, it occurs to me that Penzance would be a more convenient situation for our purposes than the Channel Islands, and if, on inquiry, we find Mr. Coulson to be a responsible person, and he offers to do our business on reasonable terms, I would suggest for your consideration, whether, after we have sent to Galway, Ballina, and Sligo, as much corn as can be ground at those places in a month or six weeks, it would not be advisable to send a small cargo to Penzance to be ground and sent to Limerick or Westport.

I have received information of millstones being in great demand for Ireland, and that Mr. Russell is making considerable additions to his mill power at Limerick, all which is very satisfactory.

The whole of the mill power at Limerick, will, I conclude, be required by the private trade, and had better be left to it; and I will take care that our depot there is largely supplied with flour.

MR. TREVELYAN to SIR R. ROUTH.

November 4, 1846.

You will find overleaf a copy of a Report from Mr. Erichsen on his purchases of rye and bigg.

I shall be obliged to you to ascertain from Mr. Labouchere, whether, considering the lateness of the season, it is desired that we should continue our purchases of rye on the Continent.

As the bigg is a spring crop, we have plenty of time before us as far as that is concerned.

ENCLOSURE.

MR. ERICHSEN TO MR. TREVELYAN.

London, November 3, 1846.

We have the honour to state that, in pursuance to your instructions, we have set every thing in motion the last three weeks to procure a few thousand quarters of fresh new rye for seed, but notwithstanding we have used every exertion, and have been buyers in Suffolk and Norfolk, as well as Yorkshire and Northumberland, we have only hitherto been able to collect of this description of rye, including 165 quarters received from Hamburgh by steamer, and about 200 quarters every day expected from Rotterdam, a quantity, altogether, not exceeding 600 quarters. We are preparing to ship part of this by the next steamer to Dublin, and the remainder will be forwarded next week. But considering the advanced period of the season, and the slow progress we make in buying, we beg to submit it to your decision whether we shall continue collecting the rye in these small quantities, or wait for further instructions.

We have bought in Scotland some small lots of bere for seed, which will be here in a few days.

SIR R. ROUTH TO MR. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, November 3, 1846.

I SEND you two documents to-day, not so much for their importance, but because they breathe the universal spirit of the country. You must observe that Ireland is without any internal machinery, and to create it in such a moment of difficulty, all at once, is impossible. The same cause will I fear, operate against the Board of Works in carrying out the measure of the Lord Lieutenant's letter, and I doubt much if it can be carried out. I cannot imagine how they will provide a sufficient machinery of superintendence to such numerous works, or how divide the sum allocated for the whole harony into its numerous compartments. This will be a month of great pressure, and I beg to repeat to you my anxious desire to have a supply of a thousand quarters at Belmullet, and the same quantity at Clifden.

I have this morning a strong case of the Union workhouse at Instymon in County Clare, who with 670 paupers are without supplies, and their contractors have refused to continue to act on their agreements. I send them an order to receive five tons of meal from Galway. The workhouse at Scariff, County Clare, near the Shannon, is as badly off, but they have supplies for about ten days. I must evidently furnish them with the necessary provisions which they require. At Galway, the poorhouse is in great distress, or likely to be so, and I must act in like manner. Therefore, there is, I think, a necessity of filling to a given extent the three depôts of Clifden, Westport, and Belmullet, by an immediate purchase; and also to forward supplies to Dublin for Longford and Banagher.

I assure you that there is a spirit abroad which very little would excite to open acts, and that there is no real certain way of putting it down but to have at our command, in case of need, the means of placing food at given points for sale. It would be a great object to hold out until the 1st of January, if possible, or at all events to the 1st of December, but I am anxious to have the means ready, if the case arises, to issue at once; and I fear it will arise, but I cannot tell at what point. In Messrs. Erichsen's Report, they mention six cargoes expected in November, for the west coast, and five for Portsmouth and Plymouth; and if no accident has happened to the two first, they may arrive almost immediately, and they are going to Sligo, where they are much wanted.

But Belmullet, Westport, and Clifden, have little or no immediate expectation to look forward to, and Banagher and Longford are entirely dependent on your supply. Longford has a wretched country to provide for, and Banagher not quite so bad, but still very bad. This combined with the inflammatory state of the country, and the difficulty which I know the Board of Works must experience to carry on business with the classes of people with whom they must act, make me very anxious to represent to you the necessity of some immediate supplies for the three western depôts and Dublin.

I think the east side, notwithstanding the Report of the Mayor of Waterford, may be still left to its resources, but they require to be watched, and we must look after the poorhouses, but without encouraging them to apply.

I hope you will understand what I mean, that I think in the present excited state of feeling, there should be immediately sufficient means at all *our* depôts now established, to act, if it becomes necessary, and without creating the excitement which would follow any large shipment from Limerick. The existence of that depôt, where it is, contributes much to the quiet of that part of the country, and I should wish to reserve it for that part of Ireland, say County Clare, down to Skibbereen.

I have tried the flour which I thought yesterday too coarse for bread, both as stirabout and in a biscuit, and it is admirable, and if you can succeed in a large number of mills at the price you mention, it will be an object of the first importance.

I shall defer for a few days writing to Lord Sligo. Could not assistance be granted to those islands for Public Works out of the 50,000*l.*? I mean if Lord Sligo advances 500*l.*, for a similar sum to be advanced from it on account of Public Works.

In the present state of feeling, in this country, it is almost necessary to make an apology for writing or speaking reasonably against popular opinions.

In many instances the farmers will not be persuaded to bring in their produce for sale until a portion of it has been plundered.

And so it is with too many classes, that their fears, and not their foresight, induce them to act reasonably.

I hear that there is a proposal at Galway for a public meeting of the nature of that intended to be held at Dublin, signed by all the first people of the county.

I do not know what to say about the pilchards, which are not known here. The Scotch herrings sell here at 15*s.* per barrel, averaging about 760 good fish, and you know they are large, like trout. The market is dull at this rate. I will put the information in the papers, to meet the eyes of the trade, and that is all that can be done in it.

ENCLOSURE.

COPY OF RESOLUTION passed at a MEETING of the GALLEN and COSTELLO RELIEF COMMITTEE, assembled at SWINEMORD, on Tuesday, 13th October.

RESOLVED,—“That we call upon the Government to establish provision depôts in every parish of the baronies of Gallen and Costello, as we have no confidence in the merchants of this county (with the exception of the Westport merchants), as the others have taken advantage of the poverty of the people, and have raised food even beyond famine prices, they have, and are exacting the pound of flesh; and we, therefore, earnestly solicit the interference of the Government to prevent the people from starvation, to which they are reduced by being left to the speculation of heartless, selfish merchants.”

To His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, Governor-General of Ireland, &c. &c. &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

WE, the Guardians of the Poor of the Waterford Union, assembled by special notice at our Board-room, beg leave most respectfully to represent to your Excellency that we consider an imperative duty devolves on us to report upon, and specially draw under your Excellency's consideration, all matters of urgent importance which relate to the present as well as the future prospects of the poor and destitute within our district.

In accordance with this feeling we cannot avoid taking leave to express our serious and but too well founded apprehensions that the total loss of the potato crop, hitherto unwisely relied on as the staff of life in Ireland, requires immediate and extraordinary legislative measures to avert, as far as possible, a more than probable scarcity of human food throughout the land.

We should not, under ordinary circumstances, desire to interfere with the general principles of free trade, but as there is no rule without an exception, so we believe that the present alarming emergency at once forcibly presents a powerful one in regard to Ireland, that should operate against the continued drain of corn from this country.

We believe that no less than four millions of our fellow subjects will require the substitute of daily bread for their subsistence in lieu of the potato for the ensuing year—that the labouring poor of this district will be more or less involved in the general vortex of distress and absolute want of food—that our poor-house is already over crowded beyond the number for which it was originally constructed—that applications for admission are on the increase, and that our medical staff have reported the danger of attempting further accommodation.

We, therefore, most respectfully implore your Excellency's favourable consideration of the very important and justifiable suggestion we now feel it our especial duty to offer, namely, that all the grain, flour, and meal of Irish produce, should be purchased by Government, with

the view to establish extensive public granaries and depôts of food for the exclusive subsistence of the labouring poor in Ireland, and that there should be a total cessation of distillation of spirits from grain, or the alternative, under the peculiar necessity of the case—that an immediate Order in Council should be proclaimed to suspend the exportation of grain, flour, and meal from Ireland for the ensuing six months, or such further time as Parliament may hereafter deem expedient.

We believe the effect of such an order would be to materially allay present well-founded anticipations of danger to the public, as the result would be to retain in every Union a sufficient store for the approaching winter, and thereby enable the operative classes of all grades to obtain a regular supply of bread in the several localities, without being kept under the bondage of anxious suspense awaiting the precarious arrivals of Indian corn from distant ports of the kingdom.

We believe the agricultural and trading interests would not suffer the slightest depression from such a benevolent act of the Government, because the simultaneous employment of the labouring poor, under the Baronial Sessions Act and Board of Works, would enable them to purchase food at remunerating prices to the farmer and local speculator in corn, which would still remain an article of free trade so far as for domestic consumption.

We consider we are but discharging a public duty in bringing these points under your Excellency's notice, and which we have no doubt will meet with that attention the pressing emergency of the case merits, and which we anxiously seek from a well-disposed paternal Government.

(Signed) BENJAMIN N. WALL, D.L. and J.P.

Mayor of Waterford, and Chairman Poor Law Guardians.

Board Room, Waterford, October 22, 1846.

MR. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROOTH.

November 5, 1846.

UPON the receipt of your letter, dated 3rd instant, reiterating your anxious desire that immediate steps should be taken for the supply of the depôts at Clifden, Belmullet, and Dublin, orders were sent to Lenth to forward to Dublin without delay, by way of Glasgow, 3000 barrels of barley meal, which we had in store for the Scotch service, and measures were taken to hasten the dispatch of the two vessels which I have already informed you, were intended to be sent direct from London to Belmullet and Clifden.

I have also made arrangements for increasing our mill-power, the strain upon which will be greater than ever, now that a portion of the stock which had been appropriated to Scotland has been diverted to Ireland.

As regards the Union workhouses, the Chancellor of the Exchequer desires that you will not make any issue from your depôts to Boards of Guardians, except in obedience to an express written order of the Lord Lieutenant, in any case in which you have reason to suppose that sufficient supplies are in existence in the farmers' haggards, or elsewhere in the neighbourhood. This is a most essential point, and any concession upon it would bring upon the Government the expense and, as a necessary consequence, the charge and care of all the poor in the workhouses, in addition to those outside. The same thing has been already repeatedly attempted in another way by applying for loans for Government, in anticipation of the poor-rates.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

RETURN of the COMMUNICATIONS referred by J. N. REDINGTON, Esq., Under Secretary for Ireland, to Commissary-General Sir RANDOLPH ROUTH, from 26th to 31st of October, 1846 (both days inclusive). Also the Answer given to each Class of Application.

I.—APPLICATIONS FOR DEPOTS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
D 6509	Cork	Barry. Informed that it will receive due consideration.
D 7231	Cork	Mill-street.
D 6563	Cork	Castletown.—Berehaven.
D 7288	Galway	Resolutions of Tynquin Presentation Sessions, praying for four depôts, viz., in Mountbellew, Kilkerrin, Moivea, and Abbey. Informed that it is not now intended to establish depôts in these localities. That Relief Committees are relied on for the collection of funds either by subscriptions and donations in aid, or by loans, to provide supplies of food, &c. Instance of loans having been made by proprietors to the amount of £1000 in a remote western district of Donegal is pointed out, &c.
D 6648	Kerry	Kennemer.
D 6243	Kerry	Informed that arrangements for the county Kerry are under consideration and will be carried into effect as soon as there shall be sufficient supplies in the Commissariat magazines.
D 6648	Kerry	Kilcolumaan. Smiths' answer as above.
D 7187	King's Co.	Ballyroan.
D 6308	Leitrim	Drumna. Correspondent requests to be placed in charge of a depôt at Drumna Informed that the depôt opened temporarily there was found unnecessary when the mills obtained supplies of water, and that where depôts shall be found necessary in remote districts, they will be in charge of Commissariat officers, or of the constabulary.
D 6565	Kilkenny	Barony of Gorman. Treasury Minute of 31st August last is forwarded, as showing that depôts are only to be formed in the remote western districts of Ireland.
D 7238	Limerick	Admiral Committee. Pray for a depôt in Limerick.
D 5898	Mayo	Westport. Constant supplies are prayed for. Depôt.—There is a Commissariat depôt in Westport.
D 5801	Waterford	Armore. The county is in a lamentable state. Treasury Minute of 31st August last is forwarded as precluding the formation of depôts in those parts of the country accessible to trade supplies through the ports, from Cork, along the eastern coast, to Londonderry.
D 6651	Wexford	Barony of Shelbourne. Ask directions as to the application of the funds of Relief Committees. Treasury Minute is forwarded, &c.—A copy of the sanctioned instructions is likewise forwarded, and attention directed to the rules for the application of the funds, &c.

II.—APPLICATIONS FOR MEAL, FOOD, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
D 7096	Cork	Crookhaven. Lord Bernard forwards a letter from this district representing serious distress.
D 6637	Galway	Oughisland. Informed that Indian meal is now at a higher price than home corn; that it is more advantageous to purchase home corn food; and it is suggested, that it should be brought into use in sufficient quantity for the present wants of the population.
D 7129	Mayo	Crumelina. Unless food be provided at a cheap rate many will perish.

Return of Communications, &c.—continued.

III.—APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
D 7191	Tyrone	Clogher Committee. Forward a certified list of subscriptions amounting to £143 2s. 6d., and solicit a grant in aid. £70 is recommended.
D 7260	Fermanagh	Coole Committee. Forward a certified list of subscriptions, and solicit a grant. £60 is recommended on £120 12s. 6d. collected.

IV.—PUBLIC RELIEF WORKS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
D 6963	Cork	Adrigole. The necessity of more extensive works, with suggestions for this purpose.
D 7231	Cork	Mill-street. Urges the necessity of immediate works.
D 7290	Queen's	Mountree. Immediate works are prayed for.

Heads of Answers:—

I. That the Commissary-General Sir R. J. Roath has not cognizance of the arrangements for carrying on the Relief Works, and that the communications are accordingly forwarded to the Board of Works.

II. That forms for labour lists are to be supplied by local officers of Board of Works, who are to issue the tickets; their communications are therefore forwarded to that Board.

V.—RELIEF COMMITTEES.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
D 7176	Cork	Kilcorrey. Chairman states that the Secretary has resigned. Can he appoint a paid one? Irregularities, &c., have crept into the accounts, &c. Informed that these statements are substantially the same as those made on a former occasion, and to which replies were given; and the information already conveyed, it is presumed, may meet the difficulties referred to; that any further information will be supplied, &c.
D 6962	Kildare	Castledermot. A Relief Committee is urgently necessary.
D 6943	Waterford	Kinsalebeg. The formation of a Relief Committee is requested.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

County.	Locality, &c.
Kildare	None Committee. Request information as to the formation of future Committees, and the disposal of funds on hand, amounting to £275. Informed that when the Lieutenant of the County shall signify approval of the Committee, the fund may be applied in the manner pointed out by the Instructions. That as Commissariat depôts cannot be formed in any part of the eastern division of Ireland, it would be advisable for the Committee to provide food for sale in the Naas district, allowing a commission for storing and selling, &c. Attention is directed to papers on the means of providing cheap food from home corn; also to the Treasury Minute of 31st August last, which requires that the food provided by Committees shall be sold as nearly as possible at market prices.

Return of Communications, &c.—continued.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS—continued.

County.	Locality, &c.
Sligo	Dromahaire. Letter of Inspecting Lieutenant of Coast Guard, stating,—That wheat is an average crop; oats and barley are considerably below average. The potato is a complete failure. Distress is general, and work loudly called for, &c. &c. Deposit.
Queen's Co.	Mountshu Memorial. Praying for a grant in aid of subscriptions amounting to £130, collected for the purpose of providing food to be sold at reduced prices. The parties are referred to the Treasury Minute of 31st August last,—and informed that donations are only to be made on subscriptions placed at disposal of Relief Committees formed by Lieutenants of Counties. That these bodies are required to sell the food procured by them as nearly as possible at market prices. Instructions are forwarded, as also papers on means of providing supplies of cheap food from home corn. The advantages of husbanding the funds which have been collected are pointed out, and of placing them at the disposal of a Relief Committee for providing auxiliary supplies of food, successively, throughout the present period of distress.

Commissariat Relief Office,
Dublin Castle, November 3, 1845.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

RETURN OF CORRESPONDENCE FROM 29th to 31st October, 1845, both days inclusive.

I.—APPLICATIONS FOR DEPOTS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
6777	Cavan	Ballyjamesduff. Attention is directed to the Treasury Minute, 31st August last, with reference to the districts intended for the establishment of depôts, observing that in other parts of the country it is expected that funds will be found, either by subscriptions and government donations in aid, or by loans, to be employed by Relief Committees in providing auxiliary supplies, &c. That in one remote district of Donegal a fund has been recently formed, including loans amounting to 1600 <i>l.</i> , &c. The principle of sales by commission is recommended and detailed.
6775	Donegal	Dunfahbeghy. Suggestion that a Government steamer should be employed to transport food to the Coast-Guard stations for sale; complaint of remoteness of district, &c. (See answer annexed).
6782	Donegal	Inver. A small steamer should be employed to transport food. There is previous delay in commencing public works. Informed that the paragraph in his letter, with reference to public works, is forwarded to the Board of Works, and that there is not at present a steamer available for the purpose mentioned, &c.
6774	Mayo	Kilgobbin Committee pray for the establishment of a depôt at Louisburgh. (See answer annexed.)

II.—APPLICATIONS FOR MEAL, FOOD, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
6811	Cork	Ballyposton. Prays for a weekly supply of two tons of meal.
6741	Tipperrary	Uile Committee. Request supplies from the Lintrick stores. Treasury Minute of 31st August last is forwarded as showing that the Commissariat supplies are only intended for the remote western districts, &c.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

III.—RYE, BEER, BARLEY.

County.	Locality.	Subject, &c.
	Clare	Mission Malting. Correspondent states that the farmers are grateful for the supplies of rye, &c., intended for them.
Donegal	Templecorone Committee	How are calculations for the quantities of rye, &c., to be made?
Galway	Templetopher Committee	Return of rye, &c., required.
Galway	Ballinskillick, &c., Committee	Request the seed, rye, &c., may be forwarded.
Limerick	Kilfussa Committee	Request 10,000 stones of bere and 1500 stones of rye. Its price?
Limerick	Rapen Committee	Ask price, &c., and at what time rye, &c., may be supplied.
Mayo	Turklow Committee	Are committees merely to be responsible for the sale of seed, rye, &c.
Monaghan . . .	Tennagh Committee	Ask price of seed, rye, &c.
Sligo	Dromard	Ask price, and suggest it to be given on the security of landlords.
Tipperary . . .	Silvermine, &c. . .	Upwards of 1000 stones of rye would be planted could it be now made available.
Tipperary . . .	Cullen, &c., Committee	Request a supply of bere, &c.
Tipperary . . .	Inch and Kilnecoly Committee	Ask for 100 barrels of bere and 300 barrels of rye.

Heads of Answers:

I. That the cost price of the seed, rye, &c., will not be known until the invoices shall arrive with the importations; meanwhile papers on the culture and use of rye are forwarded for distribution.

II. Copy of circular containing the inquiries respecting seed, rye, &c., is forwarded, by which it will be observed that they are addressed only to Relief Committees in certain western counties, in consequence of the difficulty of procuring seed in England, and the necessity of sending to the Continent for a supply which at this advanced period of the year cannot be had in large quantities.

IV.—APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS.

County.	Locality, &c.
Cork	Kilbokane Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions amounting to 41 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> , and solicit a grant. A donation of 20 <i>l.</i> is recommended.
Cork	Ballinapool Committee. Forward a certified list of subscriptions amounting to 33 <i>l.</i> , and solicit a grant. A donation of 10 <i>l.</i> is recommended.
Cork	Kilmichael Committee. Forward a list of subscriptions amounting to 10 <i>l.</i> 2 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> , and solicit a grant. Informed that until an account for the late period of distress shall be received in the form supplied, a grant cannot be made. A certificate to the list received is likewise requested.
Clare	O'Brien'sbridge Committee. Forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 66 <i>l.</i> , and solicit a donation. 33 <i>l.</i> is recommended.
Galway	Ballinskillick Committee. Forward certified lists of subscriptions, viz.: 91 <i>l.</i> for Ballinskillick, and 61 <i>l.</i> for Woodford district. Donations are solicited.
Westmeath . . .	45 <i>l.</i> and 30 <i>l.</i> are respectively recommended. Castlewarden Committee. Forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 114 <i>l.</i> 11 <i>s.</i> , and solicit a grant. 57 <i>l.</i> is recommended.

Returns of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

V.—PUBLIC RELIEF WORKS.

County.	Locality.	Subject, &c.
Armagh . . .	Armagh Committee .	Urges the necessity for immediate works.
Cavan . . .	Virginia Committee .	Complain of delay in works, and of the want of over- seers and tools, &c.
Clare . . .	Miltown Malbey Com- mittee.	Pray for additional works.
Cork . . .	Clonsilla Committee	Additional works are urgently required. Men are dying from the effects of cold and want.
Galway . . .	Clontibret, &c., Com- mittee.	Request a number of forms of registry for labourers.
Galway . . .	Gregg Committee .	Works are insufficient; outrages have already been com- mitted, &c.
Kilkenny . .	Ballynagget . . .	The necessity for immediate works is urged.
King's County .	Ballyroan Committee	Urges the necessity for immediate works.
Mayo . . .	Terlow Committee .	Complain of delay in furnishing forms for registering of labourers.
Waterford . .	Lismore, Tullow . .	Resolution forwarded relating to reproductive works.
Waterford . .	Carnegie Committee	Complaint of irregularity in paying labourers on public works; that 70 out of 500 are employed, &c. Pray for assistance for widows and orphans. Forwarded to the Board of Works, and the parties are informed, with respect to widows and orphans, that they should be induced to resort to the workhouse of the union.

Heads of Answers:

I. That the Commissary-General Sir R. South has not cognizance of the arrangements for carrying on the Relief Works, and that the communications are accordingly forwarded to the Board of Works.

II. That forms for labour lists are to be supplied by local officers of the Board of Works, who are to issue the tickets, their communications are therefore forwarded to that Board.

VI.—COMMITTEES SANCTIONED BY LIEUTENANTS OF COUNTIES.

No.	County.	Locality.
6760	Donegal	Killybegs
6783	Kilkenny	Barony of Callan, &c.
6733	Kerry	Terbert
6783	Kerry	Lisdoon
6783	Kerry	Lisdoon
6734	Tyrone	Five Districts, viz. :—
6734	Tyrone	Omagh
6734	Tyrone	Dungannon
6734	Tyrone	Fermanagh
6734	Tyrone	Clougher
6734	Tyrone	Strabane

VII.—BOOKS, PAPERS, &c.

No.	County.	Locality.
6754	Cavan	Kings Court
6755	Cavan	Cavan
6846	Cavan	Loughan, Lower, Committee
6850	Cavan	Bellinagh do.
6785	Cork	New Glanmore do.
6758	Donegal	Stranorlar
6766	Donegal	Donegal Committee
6790	Donegal	Kilow, &c., do.
6791	Donegal	Donaghmore do.
6793	Donegal	Crossroads, Dunfinghy
6751	Galway	Ballinskil, &c., Committee
6794	Galway	Ballinasloe
6783	Kilkenny	Instige for sub-districts of barony of Ida
6770	Kilkenny	Barony of Goura
6784	Kildare	Rathangan Committee
6845	Dublin	Swords do.
6844	Lengford	Moydow do.
6851	Limerick	Killynna do.
6792	Mayo	Ballinrobe
6759	Sligo	Curbery Committee
6847	Tipperary	Kilcooley, &c., do.

Returns of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

VII.—DOCKS, PAPERS, &c.—continued.		
No.	County.	Locality.
6848	Downgl.	Killygarron Committee
6820	Tipperary	Callan, &c., do.
6780	Tipperary	Malinbeg one do.
6792	Wexford	City Committee
6795	Wexford	Newtownberry Committee
6849	Wexford	Amberstown do.

Books, Papers, &c., to be forwarded where Committees are constituted, in accordance with the sanctioned instructions.

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS.

County.	Locality.	Subject—Answers.
Kerry.	Cahirciveen . . . (Forwarded by the Poor-Law Commis- sioners).	Resolutions of Guardians to the effect that they are compelled, owing to the scarcity of provisions, to reject the majority of applications for admittance to the poor-house. Deposit.
Cork.	Bandon Committee .	Resolution is forwarded, complaining of the enormous price of food, and the necessity of a Government debt; also asking for assistance to their funds, &c.; that labourers on relief works have laboured for a fortnight or thereabouts and received no money. Death has been the result in many cases. That the officers are too few, &c. &c.
Correspondent is informed that the arrangements of the Commissariat depts. have been fully explained in the letters addressed to him on the 5th and 10th instant. That if a list of any subscriptions available on the 1st ultima, or collected since, shall be transmitted in the manner pointed out by the sanctioned instructions, a grant in aid shall be recommended; but a donation cannot now be made on any subscriptions expended before the 1st ultima, as the accounts of that period have been finally closed. That an extract, with reference to labourers, &c., on the relief works, will be made and forwarded without delay to the Board of Works, to whose department the execution of the relief works exclusively belongs.		
Galway.	Ballinasloe Union .	The Medical attendant appointed by the Central Board of Health applies for his salary as such. Informed that on application to Assistant-Commissary-General at Galway it will be paid.
Cork.	Mallow	The Secretary of the Local Relief Committee requests that the Commissary-General will recommend him to the consideration of the Committee, with a view to remunerating him for his past services, &c. They have already named 60 <i>l</i> .
Informed that as the proposal to pay correspondent is not now officially before Sir Randolph J. Routh, and no reference having been made to him upon it by the Committee, there is not any proper opening for such a commu- nication as desired.		
Galway.	Inniscarra	Urges the necessity of appointing an efficient secretary. The appointment of such a person by the Vice-Lieut- enant of the county is opposed by the late Secretary. A letter is written to the late secretary of the committee, stating that a person having been appointed as secretary by the Vice-Lieutenant of the county, all papers and books forwarded to him from the Commissariat Relief Office for the use of the Committee, are to be transferred to the latter. Cor- respondent (the chairman) is informed accordingly.
Galway.	Ballinasloe	What fund is available for the payment of secretaries and clerks of Relief Committees?
Galway.	Barony of Tynagh .	Referred to 28th section of the printed instructions. Memorial of widows, praying for relief, forwarded by Mr. Michael Nolan, Castleblaney.
Referred to a letter addressed 28th instant, to Rev. Mr. McGowan and Rev. Mr. Noon, on receipt of a similar application through them on the part of one of the parties now concerned.		
Sigo.	Tearagoe, Dromore (West).	A lady has collected 23 <i>l</i> . for relief of the poor; intends to expend it on the purchase of flax to employ women, &c., and solicits a grant in aid.
Informed that grants in aid are only given by the Lord-Lieutenant on sub- scriptions placed at the disposal of Relief Committees, according to the in- structions (inclosed). That if the sum collected be transferred to the com- mittee of the district, they can obtain a donation in the usual course, and will, no doubt, undertake to give employment in the way contemplated.		

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

VIII.—MISCELLANEOUS—continued.

County.	Locality.	Subject—Answer.
Kilkenny . .	Danesfort Committee.	Request an index map of Skillelogher Barony. Informed that these maps are not supplied to the Relief Office for distribution.
Limerick . .	Adare Committee . .	Request a consideration of their former subscriptions, with a view to a grant in aid, not having, during the past season, solicited any donation. Informed that the Secretary of the Adare Relief Committee was apprised of the course that should be taken for obtaining a donation as alluded to, but no application was subsequently made; that it will not now be possible to obtain a grant on the subscriptions expended within the past season of distress, but on any that may have been collected since the 31st of August, or since placed at the disposal of the Relief Committee, &c.
Cavan . . .	Tellythuan. Killyshandra.	Requests directions with respect to the forms of furnishing accounts of contributions. Forms are forwarded, observing that as the subscription lists came from the Central Committee, and their amounts stand undivided in the records of this office, with the proportionate donations, it would be desirable to have an account from the Central Committee founded on those of the sub-districts.
Tipperary . .	Ouath, &c., Parishes	Request that this district be constituted one of relief, &c. Referred to the Lieutenant of county, as the formation of Relief Districts rests with him. A copy of sanctioned instructions is forwarded, as showing that where parishes are in more than one barony, separate registers are to be made of applicants requiring employment.

ENCLOSURE.

MR. STANLEY to the Rev. HUGH M'PADEN.

*Commissariat Relief Office,
Dublin Castle, October 30, 1846.*

COMMISSARY-GENERAL Sir Randolph J. Routh begs to state in reply to your letter of the 27th instant, this day received, that in recommending the present use of home corn to the population of your district as being cheaper than Indian corn, he relied on the means which even the most remote parts of the county Donegal possess of obtaining supplies from other places through the exertions of persons whose interests are involved in the general welfare; and although your parish may be so much as thirty miles from Letterkenney, even that distance is not any obstacle to traffic in food. Districts in the south of Ireland, much more remote from Cork than yours is from Letterkenney, obtained from Cork during the past season of distress, supplies on which the population mainly subsisted, and all were provided by Relief Committees.

When Government depôts can be opened in Donegal, they will not be established in more than a very few localities, to which necessarily the population must proceed for the purchase of supplies, if Committees will not form funds to provide them in each Relief District. There is, however, reason for hoping that this will be done, as already several funds have been formed, and amongst them one including loans amounting to 1,000*l*.

Where subscriptions for the object cannot be obtained, it is hoped that Loan Funds may be formed.

With respect to Public Works, an extract from your letter will be forwarded to the Board of Works, to which all the arrangements for providing employment are committed.

MR. STANLEY to Mr. GARVEY.

*Commissariat Relief Office,
Dublin Castle, October 30, 1846.*

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th instant, with the resolution adopted at a late meeting of the Kilgeesur Relief Committee, and I am to state that it is not intended to establish, now, a depôt in Louisburgh.

The Committee are requested to consider the adoption of means for forming a relief fund, either by subscriptions or loans, or both, to be employed in providing supplies of food to be sold for the Committee on commission at prices to be fixed by them sufficient to repay the first cost, with all charges, and a commission allowance of 5*l*. per cent.

Relief funds for this object have been formed in remote districts of Donegal, and in one of them there have been collected, in addition to the subscriptions, loans amounting to 1000*l*.

By means of relief funds, the population in the counties of Cork, Clare, Limerick, and Kerry, obtained large supplies of food in the past season of distress, and the Committees there are still pursuing the same beneficial course.

Deputy Commissary-General MAJOR to Mr. TREVELYAN.

November 3, 1846.

WITH reference to the annexed copies of a note from Sir Lucius Curtis, Rear-Admiral Superintendent, and the enclosures referred to, I have the honour to report for the information of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, that I have declined authorizing the purchase of the 12,000 to 15,000 salms of Indian corn, alluded to in the Honourable C. Murray's letter at Alexandria, on account of the risk of its heaving on board ship, and other objections, stated in my answer to Sir Lucius, a copy of which I also annex.

The mill Mills at the Navy Bakery are at work, and I have delivered them 500 salms of Indian corn. I am hourly in expectation of the arrival of a cargo of Levant corn, of from 700 to 800 salms, agreed for on the 19th ultimo, deliverable on the wharf, at the Victualling Yard here, at 32s. 6d. This morning I have entered into an agreement with the same person for the delivery in all December of 500 salms of Levant Indian corn at 32s. 6d., and 400 salms of Naples Indian corn at 34s. 2d. per salm, the latter being considered the very best quality, and always at 1s. 8d. or 2s. higher than that from the Levant.

As it is now generally known we are the purchasers, I have no doubt all the Indian corn at Alexandria and the Levant will be shipped to this port, and offered at the prices I am now paying; many cargoes of wheat and barley have passed this port to England and France, the prices of which are daily increasing; but not those of Indian corn, it being a grain, when unground, so very liable to heat on board ship, merchants are not willing to speculate with it to so distant a market as England, but will readily engage to deliver it at this place on arrival.

The present prices may be quoted as follows, viz.:—Wheat 43s. to 45s. from the Black Sea; Egyptian, 32s. to 35s.; Barley, 22s. to 25s.; and Indian corn 32s. to 35s. per salm.

Until the whole of the mills are at work no correct calculation can be made of the quantity of grain required; but agreeably to the statement in Sir Lucius Curtis' note, I am preparing for the supply of 2,600 salms per month for the present.

ENCLOSURE.

Sir L. CURTIS to Deputy Commissary-General MAJOR.

October 29, 1846.

I send you a copy of Mr. Murray's confidential note and enclosure; on the 1st of next month we shall have 17 mills available at the Bakery at Valletta,—these will grind from 11 to 15 salms a-day, working usual hours.

The mills at the new bakery will be ready next week; with 10 pair of stones, working 10 hours, we can grind 75 quarters of corn; I conclude Indian corn not so much; say for round numbers, at both places, between 80 and 90 quarters per day. This is exclusive of the private mills; that quantity I have not been able to ascertain, and shall not until some meal is sent in.

SIR,

Alexandria, October 21, 1846.

THE intelligence contained in your note of the 17th instant, of the demand for grain on the part of the English Government, is no secret among the merchants and corn-holders here; prices are already very high, and they are expected to rise for a month to come; freights are also unusually high, as you will see from the paper herewith enclosed, and shipping is very scarce. If you had been able to give me an official instruction, I could have made a much better bargain for you (or rather for the Government) than I shall be able to make a fortnight hence; but I could not venture to risk a purchase of grain for Government upon the mere strength of your private letter.

I have seen the most extensive broker in Alexandria just now, who has purchased the greater part of the grain now in the market, and he will not sell until I have your reply; through him we can obtain 40,000 quarters of wheat, and 12,000 or 15,000 quarters of Indian corn; and if your instructions are distinct, and the case pressing as to time, I would endeavour to get the Padua to let us have a few of his ships to transport the grain to Malta; he does not object to employ them in this way on receipt of the customary freight, but in this case I must beg you to send me clear official directions, enabling me to act at once. My sending you information is of no earthly use, as prices and freight here are not unlikely to vary 10 or 15 per cent. in a week. France is buying largely; the wants of Ireland are well known; and the opinion of the

best merchants here is that grain will be much higher before Christmas. I send you meanwhile a copy of the state of our grain market, drawn up by one of our most experienced merchants, and I have likewise transmitted a copy to Lord Palmerston.

Rear-Admiral Sir L. Curtis,
Esq.

(Signed)

I am, &c.,

CHARLES MURRAY.

Sir,

Alexandria, October 22, 1846.

THE following were the prices of grain previous to the arrival of the English steamer to-day, viz. :—

Wheat, 80 piastres per Ardeh, or 31s. per imperial quarter.	
Barley, 45 "	17s. 6d.
Indian corn, 62 "	24s. 6d.

I have not heard of any sales since the delivery of the mail, but the news being favourable for grain, &c., I hear holders are now demanding for—

Wheat, 90 piastres, or 35s. 3d. per imperial quarter.	
Barley, 50 "	19s. 9d.

There is no Indian corn for sale.

The above sterling prices are for the cost of the articles, with all expenses, put on board ship, but exclusive of freight to Malta or England.

At present there is no European vessel in port disengaged; and as many cargoes are offering to all parts freights are very high, say 12s. 4d. per imperial quarter to England, with five per cent. premium and a gratuity, equal to 13s. 2d. in full; 3s. 6d. per salm or quarter to Malta, equal to 3s. 9d. in full.

The Hon. Charles A. Murray,
Esq.

(Signed)

I am, &c.,

THOMAS BELL.

Deputy Commissary-General MAJOR to Sir L. CURTIS.

Commissariat, Valletta, October 21, 1846.

On inquiry I find the Alexandria India corn is very inferior to that of the Levant, and so liable to heat on board, merchants will not ship it unless sure of a quick sale.

After I saw you yesterday I was offered 300 salms at 21s., the sample of which is very inferior to that now grading, yet, I am told, it is a fair sample of Alexandria Indian corn; under these circumstances I consider it advisable not to run the risk of a purchase at Alexandria, but leave it to merchants who may be inclined to make me an offer of it deliverable here, particularly as my first purchase of 500 salms is published in the papers; and I have every reason to believe I shall find sufficient in this market to supply the mills, of better quality; besides, the meal, in my opinion, from the Alexandria corn, would not keep unless kiln dried; I, therefore, will not purchase any of it so long as the other is to be had.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

November 13, 1846.

Write to the officer in charge of the Commissariat at Malta, approving of Mr. Major's proceedings as reported in this letter.

Captain JAMES to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Royal Dock Yard, Portsmouth, November 4, 1846.

SINCE you mentioned your wish to have some specimens of querns, I have turned over my Irish sketches, and I have found one of the best description I have seen; and, as we have such numbers of stone-masons at work here, I have had one put in hand, and as soon as it is finished I will let you know the result, but my impression is, that the Indian corn being much harder than our grain, a heavier top-stone will be required.

I have sent to Ireland for the one I mentioned to you. I have every facility here for making these sort of things, and I shall be glad to make any trials of different kinds of querns if you require it.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Captain JAMES.

November 5, 1846.

PRAY accept my thanks for your kind and valuable assistance in perfecting a model of a hand-mill for me.

When you have made one to your liking pray send it to me by railroad.

The top-stone should, I suppose, be raised and depressed by a screw, and should be as heavy as one man can easily turn.

I enclose a letter I received from a Scotch gentleman, sending me a Shetland quern, and I will, if you please, send you your own quern after my people have examined it.

Commissary-General HEWETSON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Limerick, November 4, 1846.

THE stock of Indian meal, in the hands of the trade in Limerick, I regret to say, is very low; we are, therefore, anxiously looking for arrivals, overdue; one vessel, a foreigner, with 2000 quarters, from the Mediterranean, for Messrs. Russell, left Falmouth for Limerick, three weeks since, and to this date we have no tidings of her; another went on shore at Milford in the late gale; this is unfortunate at such a moment. In the absence of Indian meal, whole wheat meal, and some barley meal is substituted, but at a high figure; the former 18*l.* per ton, the latter 16*l.* Messrs. Russell assure me they will not go higher than 16*l.* for Indian meal; other houses, for small quantities of two or three tons are, however, demanding 17*l.* Oatmeal is 22*l.*, but this cannot last.

I am anxious the Dublin authorities should require a detailed report from the Lieutenants of counties, stating what the Relief Committees in their respective districts are doing, and the nature of their arrangements for obtaining subscriptions and purchasing food. I fear, in many places, there is not only a great disinclination to subscribe, arising, among other causes, out of the non-payment of rates, but a want of energy; and if, in such places, they are not urged by high authority, much misery will ensue. On the other hand, in many localities, the Committees are working hard and well. Their chief difficulty at present, is in obtaining supplies of food in sufficient quantities, and during the present, and a large portion of the ensuing month, this difficulty will more or less prevail.

The want of engineers in many of the baronies is a crying evil. I am surprised the Royal Sappers and Miners are not more generally called upon for this service. Their non-commissioned officers are quite equal to the superintendence of the various works, and are working men, but with such a clamorous, wrong-headed people to deal with, as the Irish labourers now seeking employment, more especially in Clare, Tipperary, Limerick, and Kerry, it is sad up-hill work.

The garrison of this city are harassed off their legs by the daily calls for military aid from the neighbouring towns and villages. Even the labourers on the works quit them to join in stopping the transit of grain; as yet there has not been any actual collision. The demonstrations, though most fatiguing to the troops, shew what they may expect if pushed to extremity. Certainly there is great distress, and it is the more severely felt in consequence of the evident indisposition on the part of the people to shake off the habits of indolence which their previous mode of life has made so inveterate.

I hear much on all sides about Public Works which merely afford employment, and works which will be reproductive; the latter, especially drainage, would be a great benefit to the country. You are of course well informed upon the difficulties impeding its progress. With the exception of drainage, I cannot in general get a satisfactory answer to my question on these occasions, "What have you to propose in the shape of other reproductive works which would give the requisite employment." I fear the consideration of this point would greatly impede immediate employment if the labour were confined to that of a reproductive nature, but the entire subject is most intricate and complicated, and as to the expense, if things go on at the present rate, it will be enormous.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, November 4, 1846.

I wish I could send you the biscuit I had made from the meal ground by your mills. I sent half of it to the Lord Lieutenant, and he told me this morning that he thought it capital, and he was very much gratified with the account I gave him of your progress in the manufacture of the cheap mills.

I had a visit this morning from the Mr. Davis, whose letter I sent to you. I find that the wheat and rye to which he alludes is Archangel wheat, and his referees in London, are Clarke, Morgan and Co., an Archangel commercial establishment. He says the price of his wheat is 25s. per barrel of 280 lbs., and that they would import largely, if they had any, the most distant encouragement. I gave him no hopes. You are aware that the Archangel wheat is a very small grain, and I believe of inferior quality, and makes a brown bread, but it is a grain that lies close and weighs usually 60 lbs. per bushel.

Can you tell me the cost of the rye, bere, or barley that you are sending for seed?

The Lord Lieutenant asked me to obtain for him the prices of the different qualities of rice, and he stated that he thought it was a supply very well adapted to Union workhouses, who may be in the condition of the Inistimon workhouse, whose contractor suddenly refused their supply.

We did not make any loan to the trade, and in every way a loan is objectionable, not being final, and leaving to the borrowers the repayment when the article has fallen in value. We shall certainly never make a loan. If an exigency were to demand anything in that way, it would be a sale at the current price, but in this instance, neither has been done. There was a small arrival to Mr. Russell, and the other parties procured wheat, and we had no occasion even to resist their importunities.

I shall probably hear to-morrow your opinion of the instructions to inspecting officers. When you approve finally of them, we shall act at once, and I am to have a private meeting with the Quartermaster-General, who is to assist me in making out the districts.

I have had a deputation from Belmullet and the barony of Erris this morning. We shall be obliged to make issues twice a week there and at Clifden, not later than the 1st December, if I can resist as long. I propose in all our beginnings to adopt this plan, so as to leave an opening for trade and private exertion, of limiting our issues to a given number of days in the week. Mr. Cummins is gone to inspect the "Princess Royal" at Donegal, and the state of her cargo. I doubt if we shall succeed in getting it round to Westport. It will require to be examined, and I think issued by Mr. Dobree, who is going on very well, reducing his issues to 25 tons weekly, and calling in all his constables and discontinuing the Coast Guard, and inducing some of the principal people to turn merchants and import.

My chief anxiety is Belmullet, Clifden, and Westport, where I want depôts of some resistance. I am delighted to see there is a prospect of keeping our mills employed at Ballina and Sligo. I have a long report this morning from Sir John Burke, from the barony of Leitrim, county Galway, (this is contiguous to Banagher), giving a sad account of the state of that part of the country, which I know is very poor and miserable.

I have no intention whilst I can reserve them, to open our Shannon depôts, but it is time to be prepared in that quarter, as well as the Connemara and Mayo coast. I am afraid I weary you with these repetitions, but still it is necessary to put you in possession of the facts.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, November 5, 1846.

LAST year there was a man in County Mayo, who refused the yellow Indian corn, when he was almost at extremity.

At the same time, if you like to try it, I shall most readily carry out the measure with all the efficiency in my power.

I am waiting the result of some inquiries to address you accurately on the subject of the Coast Guard.

I am quite ready to receive your revision of the instructions to inspecting officers. To-morrow being Friday, and no English post, I shall give up the morning to Colonel Bainbrigg for settling the districts, and I hope to forward them to you on Saturday.

I think Penzance well chosen for the grinding, particularly for Limerick, and our three Mayo depôts of Westport, Belmullet, and Clifden.

We cannot count upon any mill-power at Limerick. It would be better not to interfere with the trade, if we can avoid it, in those populous towns.

Pray send me the prices of rice for the Lord-Lieutenant, who wishes, I think, to make a purchase in that article for his own estates. He went down to Besborough this morning, and requested me to write to him.

Capt. MANN to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Kilrush, November 5, 1846.

I BEG to offer you my best acknowledgments for the copy of the Relief Correspondence of last season, and thank you very sincerely for the manner in which you allude to the renewal of my employment in connexion with the present relief operations, which to me is most gratifying, because I think and believe that *all* who may be employed, and do their duty in this interesting service, will at a future period be enabled to look back with pleasant and thankful feelings.

I feel very much interested in the welfare of the poor creatures about here, whose sufferings can scarcely be described in a letter; the greatest portion of my district is densely populated, and from this to Loophed there are but two resident landlords, some few parties living on profit rents, conacre and cottier tenants being the very largest proportion, and, of course, under the present affliction, the greatest sufferers. Very little wheat is grown comparatively, and that of indifferent quality. The oats are light, requiring about $9\frac{1}{2}$ stones to make a stone of meal. Barley a fair crop, but the merchants here are exporters, and not for the home market. There is but one small steam mill, and consequently there is a difficulty to obtain supplies of grain food. The hawksters take advantage, and prices range higher in consequence.

As yet the people have suffered patiently, at least without any actual outbreak, though much tempted by some of the evil-disposed, who take every opportunity of posting exhorting notices, copies of two I now send you. The mass of the people here are quietly disposed, and the tone of the principal speakers at a public meeting held here on the 2nd instant will, I hope, go far to keep them so. The first part of it was a meeting of the Relief Committee *alone*, for the purpose of pointing out to the Board of Works by letter the absolute necessity of employing more labourers, the high price of food, and the inadequate supply from want of mill power, (which I before mentioned), the absence of home market merchants, and having entirely *to rely* on Limerick for supplies. The next part of the meeting was in open court for the purpose of taking into consideration the necessity of opening a subscription, the proceeds to be expended in purchasing food and retailing it at a reduced price to the distressed, a matter I have been pressing on the Committee some time. The meeting consisted of the principal landlord, Col. Vandeleur, the clergy, magistrates, principal professional and tradespeople. The speeches were most judicious, kind, and firm. Dr. Foley, who is very popular with the lower orders, after pointing out the folly, and what might have been the consequence of a meeting of labourers in the town a few days since, and their refusal to work for the stipulated wages, (they did return to their work,) the value to them of task-work, and exhorting them not to allow evil councillors to induce them to forget their obedience to the law, the consequences of breaking it, &c., concluded thus in his own words, "That here we are Protestant and Catholic, Conservative and Repealer, Whig and Radical, Landlord, Tradesmen, &c., all banded together determined to do all that can be done by us to alleviate the distress, while the people remain quiet and obedient, and equally banded and determined to punish those who dare attempt an outbreak." This was the tone of the meeting; about 1200. was *then* subscribed, and the Rector and Catholic

Priest desired to go together from door to door and request further subscriptions. This is at it should be. Wherever I go it is universally admitted that the present affliction has made a great change in the general feeling of the country; men appear to be finding out their real friends, and the violent anti-English feeling is fast wearing away. I have added to this copies of communications made to me by some of the Committees, and it may be fairly said they appear grateful to the Government now, and it is to be hoped will continue so. Of course those who fill the papers with grumbling, because they are now obliged to do what they ought to have done long since, are excepted.

I have never ceased to impress on *every one* the necessity of using their best exertions to help themselves, and I am happy to say sometimes with good effect. At Killee a man who has been occasionally hired by me as an extra Coast Guard, set to manufacturing querns, which he gets 10s. and 12s. for; the stone there suits very well. He has sold several, has more orders, and others are now following his example, so that it is a little trade in its way, and the cottages are being supplied generally. They are made of two stones rounded, about 18 inches in diameter, and 4 to 6 inches thick, picked roughly over the two insides; the lower stone has a small iron spike in the centre, the upper stone a hole in the centre about 4 inches in diameter with a piece of wood across, in which there is a socket to receive the spike, and in which the stone goes round, into this hole the grain is put; the upper stone is hollowed round the edges of the centre hole to allow the corn to pass between the stones; a handle is fixed close to the edge of the upper stone by which it is driven round, and the whole is placed on a sheet to receive the meal thrown off. This, they say, will grind about three stone a-day (one man). He tells me he has ground horse beans, and that by a little raising of the stones he is sure he will be able to grind Indian corn; this I will get him, as it is very desirable the poor should be able to do it, both as regards deficient mill power and saving of expense to them.

A cargo of Indian corn (1800 quarters) arrived here yesterday, purchased at Antwerp, and said to be consigned here for the purpose of being ground by the steam-mill before alluded to, and sold out in this locality; my only fear arises from the little dependence to be placed on the mill owner. We found his promises could not be relied on last season, and more than once he placed Sir Edward Coffin in some difficulty as to supplies; however, I hope for the best; it's a good beginning and of vast importance if others can by it be induced to follow the example. I am now trying to bring about an arrangement between Colonel Vandeleur the lord of the soil, and Mr. Robinson, a Limerick merchant (a quaker), who expresses a wish to erect a steam-mill of good power here, import, and keep it in full work by that and home produce; the former appears quite alive to the importance of such an establishment as a public benefit, and the latter as to its being a profitable speculation. Anything in this way must do good, and it appears to me a legitimate line for me to move in, some who can afford it are promising to buy the small mills at a cost from 3*l.* to 5*l.* each, and employ their boys in grinding with them, the first will do about 20 stone a-day, this would afford both employment and profit.

My object in writing is to endeavour to show to you, that my best exertions are to act up to what I suppose the spirit of the Government instructions, which I have no doubt have been wisely and well considered, and your kind letter induces me to think I ought to explain the course I have pursued, and intend to continue under the renewal of my employment.

I feel much interested in a consideration of the present road contract and presentment system; having mentioned it to Sir E. Coffin, perhaps he has alluded to it. I am afraid of tiring your patience by entering into it; but it appears to me that a change would serve the poor by providing money payment wages; at present it is a very bad specimen of the truck system.

I beg to repeat my thanks for your gratifying letter.

ENCLOSURE.

"FELLOW MEN, of all creeds and classes, from the depth of our distress we cry unto you. Men and brethren, to you we send our cries, in the hope of obtaining a favourable hearing. We are, at this moment, almost within the precincts of frantic despair. We make our appeal hereby to humanity. Policemen, we appeal to you. Whether we have hitherto demanded

ourselves to your entire satisfaction in our obedience to the law, we know that there are many among you noble-minded, generous, and tender-hearted; to you, therefore, as the only true medium through which we can send our cries to our beloved Sovereign, we principally address ourselves. We appreciate your services. We are led to hope that the Lord Lieutenant would have, ere now, rescued us from the jaws of merciless famine; but alas! alas! we are disappointed. Make haste, then, and make known our situation, our woes, and our wants, to the representative of that Queen, to whom and for whom we hereby swear unalloyed allegiance and love. Tell her, through her Viceroy, that her faithful Irish subjects are starving; that those termed landlords are forcing them to pay enormous rents, by compelling them to sell the small quantity of grain, their only food. Ask how will the Queen of the British Empire suffer herself now and for ever to rest under the odium from all nations of the civilized world of suffering so brave, so loyal, and so generous a people to fall victims to famine and pestilence. We hope she will not; we believe she will not. Landlords, for your own sakes we implore you not to demand rents; we ask you to refund without delay; if any you have received, to refund same, as in default you shall be dealt with as you deserve. You who are tenants, pay no rents, or you shall suffer. Creditors, have mercy for a season, that you may find money. Famine leaves no law on the statute book, deprives religion of her consoling virtues, tears asunder the ties of friendship, and makes the most passive furious and reckless of danger."

This notice was found posted on Donkey Chapel, on Sunday last, by Sub-Constable Finch, of the Mount Rivers station.

SECOND NOTICE, found at the same time and place.

"NOTICE is hereby given, to the needy and distressed in this parish, to assemble on Monday at the Kilrush workhouse, in order to be admitted themselves and their families, and if refused, to be willing to commit depredations, slaughter cattle, open stores and farmer's yards, before they die of hunger.

"N.B. One of these is sent to every parish in the Union."

MR. TREVELYAN to Capt. MANN.

November 9, 1846.

PRAY accept my thanks for your interesting letter, dated the 5th instant, and its Enclosures.

I am much interested at finding that you have induced a person at Kilkee to set up a manufactory of handmills, which I think likely to prove a valuable resource in the present emergency, and even to become permanently useful, especially for grinding fresh Indian meal for daily consumption, according to the practice in the countries in which Indian corn already forms a staple article of popular food.

I have several of the most experienced persons in this country employed in preparing models of cheap stone handmills, which will be shortly sent to Sir R. Routh, in order that he and those with whom he is in communication may select one or more, which we may make our standard, and call for contracts; and I shall be obliged to you to send Sir Randolph, as soon as you conveniently can, one of your mills, in order that he may have it to compare with mine. You can charge the cost of it in your accounts.

MR. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

November 6, 1846.

I HAD three more model hand-mills brought to me by my workmen to-day, one of which surprised me, by the quantity of good flour it threw out. Several improvements have been made in the mode of feeding it, &c.; and I have every expectation that, by the application of some slight expedients, suggested by the skill of modern times, this simple machine of our ancestors may be turned to really useful account at the present time.

I have another model to receive from Mr. Corcoran, the most extensive manufacturer of mill-stones in London, and more than one from Captain James, of the Royal Engineers, who is employing on this object some of the most skilful workmen in the Royal Dockyard at Portsmouth; and when all these models are ready, I shall send my foreman to you with them; and I shall be obliged to you to submit them all to the Lord Lieutenant, and to select, with his Excellency's concurrence, one or more of them, which I shall make my standard, and call for contracts for any number that may be considered advisable.

We are using all possible despatch in this matter.

I have applied to Mr. Erichsen for the information which the Lord Lieutenant wishes to have, in regard to the prices of the different qualities of rice; but, judging from what I hear in my own household, of the increased price of this article, I doubt whether it will be applicable to the use of Union workhouses.

Messrs. ERICHSEN to Mr. TREVELYAN.

110, Finsbury Street, November 7, 1846.

WE have the honour to state, in reply to inquiries from Sir Randolph Routh, according to the extract of his letter of 4th instant, forwarded to us:—

First. Archangel wheat cannot be imported until July next, as the navigation does not open there before May: at present the value of good Archangel wheat is about 48s. to 49s. per quarter, being generally of low quality, and inferior to other descriptions of wheat.

Second. That the new rye for seed, which we are now shipping on board the "Prince of Wales," for Dublin, consists of many small lots, the prices of which vary from 46s. to 54s. per quarter. Detailed invoices will be furnished for Sir R. Routh's information.

The Secretary of the Steam Navigation Company having refused to take corn, we have been obliged to charter the said sailing-vessel, and we hope to get her off on Wednesday or Thursday. We expect daily, from Scotland, 144 bags, or 72 quarters here for seed, which will go by the same vessel.

Third. As to rice, the prices have got up here somewhat latterly: they are, however, 1½ per ton lower than they were some time ago.

The stock of rice in London, this day, is 84,170 bags, against 29,441 in 1845. The price is 17½ to 19½ per ton for good qualities.

SIR R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, November 7, 1846.

I FEEL much obliged to you for the activity you have given to my request, and I feel much relief from the certainty of a supply to these most interesting points.

The only remark I have to make in which the remedy is not complete, is the total want of mills at Belmullet, and I shall send there two of our large hand-mills, and if you have any of your inventions ready, it would be a fit opportunity to try and to test them. There is not a poorer country in Ireland, more backward, or more uncivilised, and they could not afford to pay a high price. At Clifden, and at Westport, there are resources in mills, though not in number equal to the wants of the people. Your supply also to Dublin will enable me to commence the depôts of Longford and Baughner.

With regard to the Union workhouses, I so entirely concur with your views, and resisted it so successfully last year, that of course I shall not fall unwittingly into the error. You know what a poor county Clare is, and the contractors to the Luistymon workhouse suddenly and without notice threw up their contracts, giving them no time for preparation. The chief Poor Law Commissioner called on me with this report, stating that there were 647 paupers, of which, about 60 were sick with fever, suddenly deprived of all subsistence, and must be sent away from the workhouse, unless we could give them temporary assistance. In this case I consented to give them an order for five tons on the Galway depôt at the current price, but I have not heard that the issue has been made.

About three weeks ago, in a deputation from Galway, the deputy chairman of the Board of Guardians of that town made application for a supply to the workhouse, but I declined entering into its consideration. I was also given to understand, but not officially, that the workhouse at Scariff, county Clare, on the banks of the Shannon, had only 10 days supply, but this was an *ad hoc*, not officially applied for, and it passed off without further remark.

This is all that has occurred on this subject, and I have no information even

that the permission to buy five tons for Inistymon has been acted upon, though it is a wretched country, and I doubt if they have the means to pay for it.

I send you the set of instructions first issued of 24th September, with the first addition, and the second addition. I cannot give you the correspondence, for it was chiefly conversation, or letters addressed to the Lord Lieutenant, or passages in letters, which would require much time to extract; but, in fact, it was chiefly conversation.

With respect to the rye we must be satisfied with what we have, and my own opinion is, that it is too late sown now, and would not produce an early crop. Bere must be the substitute, and Mr. Lebouche is desirous of directing our views in that channel.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

November 9, 1846.

I SHALL be obliged to you for any suggestions which you, or the gentlemen immediately about you, may have to make for the improvement of this table of weights and measures connected with corn.

From a letter I have received to-day from Captain Mann, it appears that he has induced a person at Kilkee to set up a manufactory of querns, which he sells at 10s. to 12s. each; and I have requested Captain Mann to send you one, in order that you may have it ready to compare with those which Mr. Cubitt's foreman will show you, for he is the person whom I have employed to superintend my workmen.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Mr. BLAIR.

Treasury, November 7, 1846.

THE information communicated by Professor Lindley and Mr. Shepherd is very interesting and important, but it does not meet our object, which is, to obtain the experience of the whole country on the occasion of the two last failures of the potato crop, which we propose to do through the Boards of Guardians in England, and the corresponding functionaries in Scotland; and you will perhaps be so kind as to draw up for us, in communication with Professor Lindley, and other gentlemen whose advice you may consider likely to be useful, a moderate number of specific queries calculated to collect the result of the observations which have been made in every part of the country, as to the particular kinds of potatoes, the period of planting, the kind of soil, the mode of cultivation, &c., which have been found to answer best.

The queries should be as few as possible, and each separate query should be confined to one distinct point.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, November 9, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the weekly return of the Commissariat dépôts in Ireland, and also a statement of the amount of donations and of the sums subscribed up to the 7th instant.

ENCLOSURE.

WEEKLY STATE OF PROVISIONS, &c., in the several DEPOTS in IRELAND, on the Evening of Saturday, 7th November, 1846.

DEPOTS.	Indian Corn in Quarters of Eight Bushels each.			Indian Corn Meal.		Oatmeal.	Buckw.
	In Port.	In Store.	With Millers.	In Port.	In Store.		
				Sacks 280 lbs.	Sacks 280 lbs.		Bags 112 lbs.
Haulbowline	250*	..	1,500*
Limerick	7,122	20	..
Banagher	776	..	..
Kilrush	548	..	..
" Madagascar "	1,888	384	1,634
Skibbereen	964	..	657
Dingle	1,454	..	183
Cahirciveen	250	..	..
Galway	3,186	9	10
Westport	770	..	..	..	24	145
Chilieu	36	..	57
Sigo	734	..	276	..	19
Ballina	240	..	..	..	..
Longford	141	195	834
Castlerea	16	..	..
Dublin	1,456	876	495
Total	770	974	..	17,437	1,509	4,104

RECAPITULATION OF BALANCE ON 7th November, 1846.

1,744 quarters of Indian corn, equal to	348½ tons.
17,637 sacks of Indian corn meal, each 280 lbs., equal to	2,804½ "
1,600 sacks of oatmeal, each 280 lbs., equal to	188½ "
4,104 bags of buckwheat, each 112 lbs., equal to	206½ "

Total amount on 7th November 2,947½ tons.

* Return received too late for being included in total.

Dublin Castle, November 9, 1846.

R. J. ROUTE, *Commissary-General.*

Donations Issued by Command of his Excellency the LORD LIEUTENANT to RELIEF COMMITTEES in aid of SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Date.	Name of Committee.	Amount of Donations.			Amount of Subscriptions.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
October 31.	Amount brought forward	1,957	5	0	4,018	16	0
"	Kilbowlane District, County Cork	20	0	0	41	10	0
"	Castletownshelvin District, County Westmeath	57	0	0	114	16	0
November 3	Woodford District, County Galway	50	0	0	61	0	0
"	Ballinskil District, County Galway	45	0	0	52	0	0
"	Ballinspittle District, County Cork	16	0	0	33	0	0
"	O'Brien's Bridge District, County Clare	33	0	0	66	0	0
"	Barony of Coole, County Fermanagh	60	0	0	129	12	6
November 4	Boylestown District, County Meath	11	10	0	23	9	7
"	Killevan District, County Monaghan	13	0	0	26	6	6
"	Angharagh District, County Monaghan	27	0	0	34	18	10
"	Kilreehan District, County Cork	41	0	0	82	13	6
"	Askenan District, County Limerick	83	10	0	167	4	7
November 5	Edgeworthstown District, County Longford	92	0	0	184	2	0
"	Lisnaskea District, County Fermanagh	13	10	0	27	17	6
"	Castletown District, County Cork	190	0	0	266	16	10
November 6	Boyle District, County Roscommon	73	10	0	67	18	2
"	Passage West District, County Cork	65	0	0	132	6	3
"	Bellinacorney District, County Westmeath	92	0	0	184	0	0
"	Swinsford District, County Mayo	24	0	0	48	0	0
		2,844	5	0	5,813	8	3

Dublin Castle, November 9, 1846.

R. J. ROUTE, *Commissary-General.*

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, November 9, 1846.

THERE must, I think, be some mistake in the memorandum you send me under date of Friday, November 6, 3 o'clock, that a further purchase had been made at Liverpool of 625 barrels Indian corn meal at 28s. per quarter, and that Messrs. Erichsen had given instructions to their agents to complete the purchase for *Ballina* to the extent of 100 tons meal, and engage a vessel without delay.

I presume *Westport* must have been intended and not *Ballina*, as we want no meal at *Ballina*, which is one of the largest mill sites in Ireland, and which we occupy as a Commissariat post, chiefly for the purpose of grinding.

I make due note of the purchase of 1857½ quarters Galatz, per "*Invincible*," at 57s. 6d. per quarter, arrived at Cork, and ordered to Sligo; and as the weather is now fine, and the wind moderate, I anxiously look forward for some of our expected arrivals, for I still think our difficulty will be "*quantity*."

I shall be glad to see your mills arriving, and I hope they may be sufficiently moderate in price to be within the means of the labouring classes. The common quern in Kerry costs 8s. 6d., but I cannot get one in this neighbourhood.

I have sent the instructions to be printed, and it is possible I may have it in time to send you this evening, if not it will go to you to-morrow. As there is no London post to-morrow, I shall strive to draw up the districts. It is quite time that all this were in movement.

I think I may fairly include in the Londonderry district all those places to the east of the Donegal Mountains, such as Milford and Letterkenny, &c., indeed all east of Dunfally, as places drawing their supplies from Derry, which is the fact in ordinary years, and there is no reason for making an exception on this occasion.

Our inspecting officers will be well employed, and I should think there would be quite room for Captain Stopford.

In my note of Saturday I forgot to mention that the 5 tons of meal granted to the Inystron workhouse was a supply for about 12 to 15 days, to allow them time to come to an understanding with their contractors, for which Mr. Smith O'Brien became guarantee.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, November 10, 1846.

I SEND you the six copies of the instructions as you desire, on which I have only two remarks to make; first, as to No. 8, suggesting to you in preference the terms of the Treasury Minute, which are, I think, more clear and less subject to misinterpretation.

No. 8 says selling "at the current prices prevailing in the nearest markets, with a reasonable addition for the cost of conveyance." The Treasury Minute says that the sale "should be at such prices as will allow of the private trader selling at the same price with a reasonable profit."

There may be some demur or misunderstanding of the first; there can be none of the second.

Then in No. 34, whether you intended to omit county Leitrim, or, at all events, the coast part between county Sligo and county Donegal.

I find so little time to do well what I have to do, that I send you the districts drawn up in a hurried way, but they are susceptible of alteration in quietly going over them; I cannot, however, do that to-night, and I have been disappointed in the assistance of Colonel Bainbrigge, the deputy quartermaster-general, who is sick; however, I prefer sending it to you in its present state, however imperfect, rather than let it lie over any longer, and I shall revise it hereafter. It will give you a general idea of the thing. I will resume the subject on Friday next.

MR. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

November 12, 1846.

THE 100 tons of *meal* for Ballins was, I fear, a mistake; and as I was perfectly aware that that place is remarkable in our operations principally for its mill power, I cannot exactly account for its having occurred.

But we have lost no time in applying a remedy, the particulars of which I will give you to-morrow.

We have carefully gone through the revised Instructions, and have suggested a few alterations, which I will notice in the order in which they occur.

Paragraph 4. We think the word "guarantees," as applied to Loan Funds, objectionable, as being calculated to lead to an impression that some security would exist for their repayment, either by the intervention of Government or in some other way, over and above the security to be derived from the prudent management of the Committee. We have therefore substituted the word "precautions."

Paragraph 8. The standard for the regulation of the prices to be charged by the Local Committees is justly regarded by you as a point of great delicacy and importance.

The best way of coming to an understanding on the subject will be to consider precisely what our object is.

In the late relief operations our object really and avowedly was to control the markets and reduce prices, leaving the trader no more in any case than what we chose to consider a reasonable profit. In the circumstances which then existed this plan of proceeding was practicable, because the deficiency was a local one, and the distressed districts being of manageable extent, and the supplies everywhere else abundant, all we had to do was to make the necessary transfers in order to equalize the means of subsistence.

During this relief season our object ought to be to take care, as far as we are able, that no part of the districts in the West of Ireland for which we are responsible, shall be destitute of the means of subsistence, and that the supplies furnished by us in the western part of Ireland, and by the Relief Committees in every part, are sold at such prices as will not check the introduction of supplies into the market from other sources, or prevent the concurrent action of private dealers. In a time of general scarcity like the present, high prices must prevail. They are our only safeguard against rapid consumption; our only means of drawing increased supplies; the only thing, in short, which stands between us and absolute famine. We must give up all idea of acting upon prices with a view to effect a reduction of them, and all we can safely aim at is to accomplish such a just distribution and equalization of the existing stock of food that the people in every part of Ireland may have an opportunity of purchasing food at the current prices, if they have the means of doing so.

This is the object of the operations carried on through the agency of the Commissariat and the Local Committees; while the object of the operations carried on through the agency of the Board of Works is to give the people, as far as possible, the means of purchasing the food so brought within their reach.

You are now in possession of the grounds on which the eighth article has been finally settled as follows:—

"The articles of food purchased by the Committees ought not to be sold below the current price prevailing in the neighbouring market towns, with a reasonable addition for the cost of conveyance, &c."

The expression used in the Treasury Minute, dated 31st August, "should be at such prices as will allow of the private trader selling at the same price with a reasonable profit" is open to the objection, that it admits of an endless variety of interpretation.

Properly interpreted—that is to say, that the selling price should be such as would allow of the trader buying again at the prevailing prices, in order to continue his operations—the expression would do very well; but you will feel that there would be very little prospect of the matter being regarded by the majority of

the Local Committees in this light, and that the practical interpretation which would be given to the expression would be, that the meal should be sold at the prices of ordinary years.

Another objection to the expression "reasonable profit" is that it appears to have given rise to an impression that our object in preventing artificial low prices, is to maintain the profit of the dealer, instead of the real object of preventing the starvation of the people.

The expression which has been finally adopted, "neighbouring market towns," places the matter on a sufficiently wide basis to prevent inconvenience from the accidental circumstance of prices being, from any cause, higher in the nearest market than the average of the neighbourhood.

With regard to Leitrim, as it comes within the letter of our pledge, owing to a small portion of it being situated on the Western Coast, this county has been inserted also.

It is unnecessary to make further remarks upon the Instructions, which have been approved as they now stand in the proof corrected in my handwriting, now returned by me; and it will not be necessary for you to make any further reference to the Treasury regarding them, unless you should see reason to object to our last corrections. You will affix your own signature to them.

I see you propose to divide Ireland into nine Inspection Districts, which will, I suppose, be known by the name of the principal town in each district.

It is not necessary to come to a final decision at present in regard to the boundaries of these districts; and in order to assist us to coming to a clear understanding of the subject, I shall be obliged to you to send me a small map of Ireland with the boundaries marked upon it.

The selection of proper officers is of immediate and of the very highest importance, and we implicitly rely upon your not suffering any consideration to induce you to recommend the appointment of an Inspecting Officer of whose qualifications for the office you are not thoroughly satisfied.

Your best plan will be to name your best men first for the most distressed districts, and to submit the names of others for sanction as the occasion may require, and as you may feel confident of your men.

I think you will find Colonel Douglas a valuable officer.

I went to-day to the Admiralty, and as what Lord Auckland told me with regard to Captain Stopford, in addition to what I knew before, satisfied me that we could depend upon him for this service, I have requested him to proceed to join you at Dublin without delay.

Lord Auckland told me that if we wanted more officers, and would apply to him, he would take pains to select the most able men whom the junior ranks of the navy can afford, and knowing that we have this resource, in addition to the officers of the army, it will not be necessary for you to employ any persons who appear to you to be only imperfectly qualified for this most arduous and trying duty.

It will, I think, be desirable that you should send to the Treasury copies *in extenso* of all the reports made to you by the Inspecting Officers, and you should caution them that while, on the one hand, they tell us all that in their opinion ought to be known, on the other, they should avoid being unnecessarily prolix, or filling up their reports with irrelevant matter.

ENCLOSURE.

INSTRUCTIONS TO OFFICERS employed on Inspections.

- SIR,
1. You will be pleased to proceed to and establish yourself there as your head quarters.
 2. Your principal duty will be that of visiting and communicating with Relief Committees, of all of which you are an ex-officio member, and are authorised by the instructions to take your seat at their Board.
 3. All private subscriptions and Government donations are to be placed at the disposal of the Committees.
 4. The Committees may not always be able to raise money subscriptions, and the sums raised will frequently be limited. In these cases you will point out to them the advantage of raising a loan fund under proper precautions for its repayment.
 5. There are many who could lend, without interest, sums which they could not afford to give; and if the principles herein laid down are observed, the result to the community will be the same, without any tax on individuals.
 6. You are to see that the funds are applied according to the instructions which have been issued under the authority of the Treasury and the Lord Lieutenant for the guidance of Relief Committees.
 7. The most legitimate channel for the application of the Committees' funds is the purchase and sale of food, in which a small capital may be frequently turned for the benefit of a large community.
 8. The articles of food purchased by the Committees ought not to be sold below the current price prevailing in the neighbouring ports or market towns, with a reasonable addition for the cost of conveyance, &c.
 9. The instant this principle is disregarded, a feeling of insecurity is engendered, which obliges the merchant to contract his operations, for no trader will or can regulate his prices by any other criterion than a reference to the demand and supply of food in the district.
 10. Any dealer or merchant selling in the same locality should be enabled to do so with a reasonable profit, according to the prevailing market price, without fear of being undersold by the Committees, and every encouragement must be given to the trade to supply the wants of the community; nor is any undue alarm to be inconsiderately raised at high prices when they are the result of a real scarcity of the article, for they are our protection against improvident consumption, and oblige us to economise the supply, besides furnishing the only legitimate means, in the present state of active general competition, of attracting increased supplies to the local markets.
 11. Ten months must elapse before a new harvest; and what we have, with what we can import, must suffice for the interval.
 12. We are in the same state as a vessel at sea, or an army on short allowance. The crops have failed; and however well-grounded our expectations may be of foreign arrivals, they are always subject to uncertainty, both as to time and quantity, and the risk of starvation.
 13. During the last year there was a want of order and account in the sale of provisions at the Committees' stores, which were frequently managed by different persons, and without discrimination. The only principle on which this business has worked well, is that which was established at Cook and other well-ordered districts, where an individual of character was selected to retail, the Committee furnishing him with the corn or meal, and allowing him five per cent. on his sales, the retail price being fixed by the Committee.
 14. In some instances Committees may be called upon to provide labour, though not to the same extent as last season. It is, as a general rule, very undesirable that the Committees should employ their funds in this manner, which wastes their capital, without affording to them any money return for re-employment; and you will remember that the instructions to Committees discourage their undertaking works which may be executed through the ordinary course of relief works. (Sections 22 and 23.)
 15. In these cases in which it may be absolutely necessary for the Local Committees to give relief by means of employment, the same rules are to be observed in regard to wages and task-work as are observed in the nearest works under the superintendence of the Board of Works. Task-work is to be insisted upon wherever it is practicable; and the refusal of it is to be considered as evidence that the parties refusing are not proper objects of charity.
 16. Females may, with advantage, be employed by the Committees in spinning; and there are numerous means presented by every locality of giving employment to the poor who are too feeble to take a part in the labours of public works, and for whom some task of work should be provided when they seek relief, and cannot be admitted to the Union workhouse. Where there are sea fisheries carried on, women might make nets to be sold by the Committees.
 17. Questions are sometimes asked respecting the employment of women on the Public Works. They are certainly eligible, and in the western districts they are employed in some kinds of light work.
 18. You will inquire into the system upon which the lists of labourers are made for the Board of Works, doing your utmost to see that no persons are placed or retained on the lists except those who are really destitute and cannot obtain employment elsewhere; and you will give your best assistance to the officers of the Board of Works on this or any other matter touching their important duties.

19. There is reason to believe that persons have left constant employment and good wages in other parts of the kingdom, and that others have given up their ordinary employment in the neighbourhood, for the purpose of throwing themselves upon the Relief Works. In some cases it seems probable that even the usual operations of agriculture are likely to be left unexecuted in consequence of such conduct, and that the means taken to provide subsistence for the people this year are so perverted as to make it probable that there will be a deficiency of the ordinary supply of food for the coming year. It is obvious that every exertion ought to be made to prevent so glaring an abuse, and equally obvious that nothing but the exertions of persons resident on the spot, possessed of local knowledge, and acquainted with the people of the neighbourhood, can attain this object. You will therefore impress on Relief Committees the necessity of paying the strictest attention to this subject, and of rigorously refusing to place or return on the lists of labourers the names of any persons having acted in this manner, or indeed of any but those whom they know to be destitute of any other mode of providing for themselves the food necessary for their subsistence.

20. You are to discountenance relief to destitute persons unable to work, whilst there is any room in the Union workhouse. If, however, this asylum should be full, the exigency must be left to the careful discretion of the Committees; but you will represent to them the necessity of a searching inquiry on such occasions, and the danger of encouraging applications that will not bear a close scrutiny.

21. You are to examine into the accounts of each Committee, and you are to report whether they are regularly and properly kept according to the Instructions.

22. It is desirable that the balance of each relief fund which was formed in the late period of distress should be settled to the 15th August.

23. In adjusting the balance, no expenses should be allowed which are not consistent with the Instructions, or the sanctioned practices of that period, or which do not appear to have been actually indispensable in the administration of relief.

24. Some few Committees will be found to have paid the travelling expenses incurred by deputations to Dublin. This, certainly, does not appear to be a proper application of relief funds, and credit for such payment should not be allowed in determining the balance, except where very strong grounds for appointing a deputation and defraying its expenses can be shown. Nothing was accomplished through the Relief Commission by deputations, that might not have been effected as fully and promptly by communications in writing through the Post-office.

25. The office of secretary or clerk to a Committee is usually undertaken gratuitously; but if a remuneration is sought, it must be defrayed from the funds of the Committee, and the payment should be confined to the days on which the Committee meet, unless otherwise specially voted.

26. If there is more labour than the secretary can conveniently afford from his other avocations, a small payment to the schoolmaster or clerk of Petty Sessions for acting as assistant to the secretary would be generally sufficient.

27. You will report on the state of the district, on the quantity of home produce still stacked in the country, and the places where you observe it.

28. You will describe all circumstances which come within your own observation that may tend to show the true state of the population. The progress making in preparing the land for crops should be carefully observed, the nature of the crops proposed for culture, and how far experiments in potato planting are likely to be hampered.

29. In reference to agricultural labour, it will be very important to show how far the holders of small farms are attending to the land, or likely to cultivate their holdings; whether farmers who employ labourers find any difficulty in obtaining them; also, what are the real grounds of the preference given to employment on Public Works.

30. When fisheries exist on the coast, you will ascertain whether they are worked, and with what result. If not efficiently prosecuted, it will be desirable to learn the true cause; whether want of local markets, or means of transit, or of curing; or the uncertainty of the supply on the fishing ground; or want of energy in the fishermen, and whether this arises from bad training or from their being rendered comparatively independent of fishing by holding land, or being engaged in the more profitable business created by the coast carrying trade.

31. You will remark where you see the population industriously inclined, and where under frivolous pretences they are declining employment.

32. It is not improbable that much of the present character of the peasantry has arisen from the con-acre system and the habits which the small independence they obtained from their potato crops, at such little cost of labour, enabled them to indulge; but the change of food will open a new field, and lead, it may be hoped, to a new spirit of industry, and it will be interesting to learn from your observations the progress that is making towards this development.

33. You will discourage all applications for interference with the freedom of trade, either by suspending the distillation from grain, or prohibiting its export, or underselling the current price; as any such restriction, however flattering it may appear at the moment, must injuriously affect the social system of the country, and diminish its resources.

34. No applications for the assistance of the Government in procuring supplies of food, are to be received in respect to any districts, except the country west of the Shannon, the counties of Donegal, Leitrim, Limerick, Kerry, and that small portion of the county of Cork which is situated on the western coast of Ireland.

35. In your communications with all classes of persons, you must bear in mind that this being a great social crisis, it can be properly met only by the united and energetic efforts of the whole

community. To the landlords and farmers belongs the essential duty of so improving and extending the cultivation of the soil as to give permanent productive employment to the population. Upon the merchant and dealer devolve the collection and distribution of the improved descriptions of food which will take the place formerly occupied by the potato; but it would be a mistake to suppose that the labourer also has not an important part to perform. In a season of general distress the most frightful results can be avoided only by the great body of the people observing perfect order and submission to the laws; and the efforts of the other classes of the community can be productive of useful effects only so far as they are seconded by the patient and persevering industry of that class which is more particularly designated as the labouring class.

36. Finally, in all your communications with all classes of people you will be forbearing and courteous in your language and demeanour, and you will endeavour by all the means in your power to induce those with whom you may have any intercourse to support the benevolent intentions of the Government in giving such a direction to the efforts of the community as may, with God's blessing, convert what would otherwise be a great calamity into a prolific source of public benefit.

*Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
November, 1846.*

MEMORANDUM OF DISTRICTS.

NOTE.—* Half-office. † Barrick.

Ennis * (head quarters) District, including all Clare and Galway, † to Kinavara and Goet, † to Killybegs, * and including Nenagh, † CloghJordan, and Borrisokane, *

Tipperary † (head quarters), Roscrea, † Templemore, † Thurles, * Cashel, † Cabir, † Clonmel, † Carrick-on-Suir, † Fethard, † Clogheen, † Charleville, † Braff, †

Trillick † (head quarters), Turbert, † Rathkeale, * Lisorell, Killarney, * Dingle, Cabircireen, Kenmare, Glenties, *

Cork † (head quarters), West Riding, Mallow, † Buttervant, † Kanturk, * Mill-street, † Macroom, * Bandon, † Clonigilly, † Kinsale, † Dumanaway, * Skibbereen, * Bantry, * Ben Island, Castletown, *

Voughal † (head quarters), Middleton, * Castlemartyr, * Tullagh, Fermoy, † Cappoquin, Mitchelstown, * Dungarvan, † Ballinacorney, † Kilmacshommas, Waterford, † Piltown, *

Carlow † (head quarters), Wexford, † Euniscoathy, Innistigue, Callan, Kilkenny, † Newtown-bury, Castlecomer, † Balinglass, † Tullogh, Arklow, † Athy, † Moneen, Maryborough, † Montmellick, * Monasterivan, * Portarlinton, Barr, † Tullamore, † Kildare, Newbridge, † Naas, †

Bewington, Balinglass, Bray, Wicklow, *

Roscommon † (head quarters), Boyle, † Carrick-on-Shannon, † Ballaghaderreen, † Rosky, † Elphin, * Strokestown, * Tormaherry, † Longford, † Edgeworthstown, Mullingar, † Kinnegad, † Athlone, † Shannon Bridge, † Farnham, † Shannon Harbour, Banagher, †

Castlebar † (head quarters), Belmullet, * Achill Island, † Westport, † Newport, † Barrow Erri and Treleary, Ballina, * Ballinacorney, †

Town † (head quarters), Castlebar, * Dunman, † Headford, Castleblaney, Ballinacorney, * Lodrogh, † Athlone, Croomore, Galway, † Oughterard, † Clifden, * Ballynakill, Lough Corry, *

Sligo † (head quarters), Ballyshannon, † Donegal, † Killybegs, Glenties, Burton Port, Letterkenny, * Lifford, † Rathmelton, Dungannon, *

Eniskillen † (head quarters), Carrig, † Clones, Monaghan, † Carrickmacross, Armagh, † Dundalk, † Charlemont, † Dungannon, *

The Earl of AUCKLAND to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Admiralty, November 10, 1846.

I SEND you extracts and enclosures from a letter written to me by Sir Lucas Curtis, who seems to be actively exerting himself.

ENCLOSURE.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM SIR LUCAS CURTIS.

I BEG to inform your Lordship that I have seen and communicated to the Commissariat officers the contents of Mr. Murray's private note and its enclosure, and recommended him to secure the Indian corn therein mentioned; but he tells me that he must first know the quantity we can grind per day; this is almost impossible, as it must depend on circumstances.

On the 1st of November we shall have mills to spare at the present bakery; they will grind nearly 20 quarters per day. The new bakery steam-mills will be ready to work in a few days; what they will grind is, as have stated, uncertain until they shall have been tried. There will be also four mills at the Commissariat, which are nearly put in order, besides what will be ground by the Island Mills; and my opinion is, that it would be advisable to secure the whole of the Indian corn mentioned in Mr. Murray's note, even if not required, and a loss should be sustained in disposing of it hereafter. I fear it will be difficult to obtain freight, as almost every vessel is taken up, and what can be obtained will be very high. Your Lordship, however, may be assured I will do my best.

Mr. TREVELYAN to the Earl of AUCKLAND.

November 11, 1846.

I HAVE carefully considered the advices from Alexandria and Malta, including some information we have received from our Commissary.

Our main object is to keep the mills at Malta constantly at work; and this cannot be done without buying corn at the prices at which it may be offered to us.

The Commissary informs me that he is offered Indian corn at Malta at 31s. 6d. to 32s. 6d., landed free of any other expense; that he is waiting for advices from Naples; and that he does not intend to order the 12,000 quarters of Indian corn from Alexandria, unless he fails to secure supplies at more moderate prices from other quarters.

Under these circumstances, the matter appears to me to be in as good train as we could desire; and I do not see that any advantage would be gained by the issue of fresh instructions at present.

The purchases which are being made by the French Government at Alexandria and elsewhere have, I think, had at least as much effect in enhancing prices, as our own demand. It is a well known fact in the corn markets in different parts of the world, that when orders are sent to the agents of the French Government to purchase corn for home supply, they are executed without any regard to price.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Castle, Dublin, November 11, 1846.

I ENCLOSE to you a memorandum of the Committees which have been formed, and the subscriptions made, so as to give you a general idea of this subject.

Our correspondence with these committees is increasing fast. I think on the whole, their views and opinions are acquiring new lights, and notwithstanding the abuse in the papers of political economy, &c., it is gaining ground, and many of its worst adversaries are beginning to become its advocates.

The mercantile opinions you sent me, have their gloomy side in the apprehensions they entertain of the first three or four months of the next year. I think March and April will be our worst months, for the canals in America will be frozen from the 15th of December to the 15th of March, but we shall get a large supply, which will carry us on towards the end of February, and we cannot expect much of the new crop before the end of April, and the following months. We cannot be too economical of our supplies, and when we make our American purchases, we must calculate on the quantities required to 1st May.

ENCLOSURE.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE, IRELAND.—RETURN OF RELIEF COMMITTEES, with amounts of Local Subscriptions and Government Grants up to the 11th November, 1846, inclusive.

Towns.	County.	Relief Committees.		Local Subscriptions.		Government Grants.	Observations as to Formation of Districts.
		Total Number formed locally by the Towns and County.	Number of those who received Grants in 1846 of Local Subscriptions.	£.	s.	d.	
ULSTER.	Antrim . . .	..	..	..	..	..	All to be formed.
	Armagh . . .	16	..	..	..	..	All appear to be formed.
	Cavan . . .	15	1	66	15	6	Complete.
	Down . . .	23	3	875	7	0	All complete but one or two Districts.
	Down . . .	1	..	..	..	..	To be all formed except Barony of Mourne.
	Fermanagh . .	12	2	168	10	0	Complete.
	Londonderry .	15	..	..	..	..	Complete but city of Londonderry.
	Monaghan . .	11	1	81	5	4	All formed but Barony of Farney.
	Tyrone . . .	20	1	143	2	6	All nearly formed.
	Total . .	113	8	1,315	0	4	
MIDLAND.	Clare . . .	35	1	66	0	0	Complete.
	Cork . . .	42	13	1,347	15	1	About half completed.
	Kerry . . .	24	1	517	17	0	Complete.
	Limerick . .	42	2	335	9	7	Some Districts as past season.
	Tipperary . .	17	..	..	..	..	All to be nearly formed.
	Wexford . .	28	..	..	..	..	All formed, but some alterations to be made by Lieutenant.
	Total . .	188	17	2,267	1	8	
	Total . .	188	17	2,267	1	8	
LEINSTER.	Carlow . . .	28	..	..	..	..	All appear to be formed.
	Dublin . . .	4	..	..	..	..	All to be nearly formed.
	Kildare . . .	12	1	355	0	2	Eight Barons remain to be formed.
	Kilkenny . .	38	..	..	..	..	All complete but small portion of Barony Fossadimon.
	King's . . .	18	1	29	5	0	Complete.
	Lengford . .	19	3	348	15	1	Complete.
	Louth . . .	17	..	..	..	..	All complete but town of Drogheda.
	Meath . . .	38	3	725	1	1	Nearly complete.
	Queen's . .	24	..	..	..	..	Complete.
	Wexford . .	22	2	298	11	0	Complete.
	Wexford . .	42	..	..	..	..	Complete.
	Wicklow . .	12	..	..	..	..	Complete.
	Total . .	299	10	1,756	12	4	The greater portion formed.
CONNAUGHT.	Galway . . .	48	5	949	2	0	All formed but two or three Districts.
	Lettin . . .	8	2	420	0	0	Nearly complete.
	Mayo . . .	11	1	48	0	0	More than half to be formed.
	Rooscommon .	30	1	67	18	2	Complete.
	Sligo . . .	16	5	590	15	3	Complete.
	Total . .	113	14	2,075	15	5	
General Total .		683	49	7,414	9	9	

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

RETURN of the CORRESPONDENCE from 2nd to 4th November, 1846, both days inclusive.

I.—APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
6853	Wicklow	Aghsboy, &c. Committee forward a list of subscriptions, amounting to 81 <i>l</i> . 5 <i>s</i> . 4 <i>d</i> , viz., for the parish of Aghsboy, 54 <i>l</i> . 18 <i>s</i> . 10 <i>d</i> , and 26 <i>l</i> . 6 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> . for Killeen parish. Grants are solicited. 27 <i>l</i> . and 13 <i>l</i> . are recommended on these sums respectively.
6890	Meath.	Bayetown Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 23 <i>l</i> . 9 <i>s</i> . 7 <i>d</i> . and solicit a grant. A donation of 11 <i>l</i> . 10 <i>s</i> . is recommended.
6854	Cork, Barrory of Imokilly	Kilcreedan Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 87 <i>l</i> . 13 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> ., and solicit a grant. 41 <i>l</i> . is recommended.
6839	Fernsagh	Lismalea Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 27 <i>l</i> . 17 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> ., and solicit a grant. 13 <i>l</i> . 10 <i>s</i> . is recommended.
6940	Longford	Edgeworthstown Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 184 <i>l</i> . 2 <i>s</i> ., and solicit a grant. 92 <i>l</i> . is recommended.
6881	Cavan.	Stradone Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 16 <i>l</i> . 15 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> ., and solicit a grant. 8 <i>l</i> . is recommended.
6983	Cork	Monkstown and Passage West Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 132 <i>l</i> . 6 <i>s</i> . 3 <i>d</i> ., and solicit a grant. 65 <i>l</i> . is recommended.
6984	Roscommon . . .	Boyle Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 67 <i>l</i> . 18 <i>s</i> . 3 <i>d</i> ., and solicit a grant. 33 <i>l</i> . 10 <i>s</i> . is recommended.
6985	Westmeath . . .	Ballynecney Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 184 <i>l</i> ., and solicit a grant. 92 <i>l</i> . is recommended.
6986	Mayo	Swineford Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 48 <i>l</i> ., and solicit a grant. 24 <i>l</i> . is recommended.
6941	Cork	Castellany Committee state, that from want of employment they were obliged to reduce the price of meal. They solicit a grant on a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 266 <i>l</i> . 16 <i>s</i> . 10 <i>d</i> ., and they promise to sell food as near cost price as practicable. 133 <i>l</i> . is recommended.

II.—APPLICATIONS FOR DEPOTS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
6857	Cork	Castletown Berhaven.
6858	Mayo	Claremorris Committee pray for a continuance of supplies at the local depot.
6860	Clare	Barrin Committee pray for a depot at Ballyvaughan. The parties are recommended to employ a Relief Fund in providing food to be sold in the district on commission, by persons of character selected for the purpose, fixing prices, &c., observing that by adopting this course provisions may be put on sale in various parts of the district at prices which will not exclude the competition of traders; and by providing the successive supplies frequently the retail prices will be susceptible of abatement as food shall become cheaper in the progress of the importations.
6864	Clare	Kilmihil and Kilmaclean parishes. Correspondent calls for relief or the immediate establishment of a depot. Informed that, in consequence of the proximity of these parishes to Kilmish, it cannot be considered necessary as any time to have a depot formed there, but that the Relief Committee for the district may very usefully provide supplies to be sold on commission by persons of character, selected for the purpose, fixing prices for them sufficient to repay the first cost, with all charges, including a commission of 5 <i>l</i> . per cent., by which course the local retail trade may be advantageously extended.
6875	Roscommon . . .	Kilgiffin Committee pray for a depot at Ballegg constabulary station.
6946	Clare	Kilmish Committee. Informed that until the Government depôts shall be so fully supplied as to be capable of sustaining the demand which will be made, without any suspension of the issue, it is not intended that any of them shall be opened; that if they were to commence issuing in their present state concurrent purchases should be made which would necessarily advance the prices of Indian corn much beyond the rates now prevailing; that, under these circumstances, Relief Committees are now recommended to use the local influence of their members for promoting sales of home produce, and to apply their funds in providing supplies of it.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

Heads of Answer:

I. Attention is directed to the Treasury Minute of 31st August last, with reference to the districts for the establishment of depôts.

II. That in other parts of the country it is expected that funds will be formed either by local subscriptions and Government donations in aid, or by loans, to be employed by Relief Committees in providing auxiliary supplies, &c.

III.—APPLICATIONS FOR MEAL, FOOD, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
6878	Donegal	Inner Committee state, that ten tons of meal weekly would not exceed their demands, &c.
6868	Cork	Cloyne and Churchtown Committee forward resolutions to the effect, that they dissent from the principles laid down by the Commissary-General, Sir R. J. South, as to the impolicy of interfering with the profits of trade, &c. in the sale of provisions to the poor. See answer annexed.
7031	Limerick	Extract of a letter from J. Kearney, Esq., as showing the insufficiency of supplies of food, &c. in district.

Heads of Answer:—Similar as to applications for depôts.

IV.—PUBLIC RELIEF WORKS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
6836	Cork	Macroon and Clondrohid Committee request registry forms for labourers.
6839	Cork	Passage West and Monkstown Committee stand forward a list of their labourers who require employment.
6880	Wicklow	Ballingham Committee request forms of registry of labourers.
6894	Armagh	Goodfellow Committee forward resolution complaining of delay in works.
6919	Donegal	Ballyshannon Committee pray for immediate works.
6947	Monaghan . . .	Ballybay, &c. Committee request forms of labour lists.
6962	Wicklow	Ashford Committee request forms of labour lists.

Heads of Answer:

I. That the Commissary-General, Sir R. J. South, has not cognizance of the arrangements for carrying on the Relief Works, and that the communications are accordingly forwarded to the Board of Works.

II. That forms for labour-lists are to be supplied by local officers of the Board of Works, who are to issue the tickets; their applications are therefore forwarded to that Board.

V.—RYE, BERE, BARLEY.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
6861	Sligo	Lisney Lower Committee state, that 200 bushels of rye, and 200 bushels of bere are required. Informed that their requisition will receive due attention when the supply to be distributed at cost price shall be imported.
6871	Cavan	Carrigallen Committee inquire as to price, &c. of seed rye, &c.
6879	Longford	Newtownforbes Committee request supplies of seed rye, &c. immediately.
6881	Limerick	Crough Committee state, that 300 stons seed rye, &c. will be required.
6882	Tipperary	Templeclery Committee inquire on what terms will eight barrels of rye be supplied to them.
6883	Antrim	Ballymoney Committee state, that five tons of seed rye, &c. will be required.
6948	Galway	Iniscarra Committee require 150 stons of bere, and 200 stons of rye.
6950	Roscommon . . .	Srookstown Committee request 100 bushels of rye and 300 bushels bere. Informed that due attention will be given to this requisition when the supplies now collecting for this county shall arrive.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

V.—RYE, BEER, BARLEY—continued.		
No.	County.	Locality, &c.
6951	Leitrim	Mohill Committee inquire the price, &c., of seed rye and beer, and suggest the system of giving it on credit to small farmers. Informed that the price at which seed rye and beer, now in progress to this country, will be distributed, cannot be stated until the invoices shall arrive; but it is only the cost price that will be charged; this, however, is to be paid before issue of each parcel purchased, as it is not responsible with the Commissariat arrangements to open credit accounts; and, it is presumed, that through the loan loan funds and banks, such holders of small farms as alluded to, will be enabled to purchase seed.
6969	Sligo	Limny Upper Committee state, that they will require forty tons of beer and ten tons of rye.
6994	Mayo,	Ballina Committee inquire relative to the price of rye, &c. and time of supply.
6995	Galway	Celtin Committee inquire price, &c.
7016	Galway	Kilconell Committee state, that the quantity of land prepared for seed, rye, &c., cannot be ascertained: a depot for its sale should be established.
6974	Roscommon	Facery Committee state, that 28 acres of land are ready for seed beer, and that only seven stooks of seed rye have been applied for to them. They also suggest Athlone as the most eligible place of consignment of the seed. Informed that due notice of the importation for the seed beer and rye will be given on its arrival in this country.

Heads of Answer:

I. Papers on the culture and use of rye are forwarded for distribution, and informed that the cost price of the seed rye, &c., will not be known until the invoices shall arrive with the importations.

II. Copy of circular containing the inquiries respecting seed rye, &c., is forwarded, by which it will be observed, that they are addressed only to Relief Committees, in certain Western counties, in consequence of the difficulty of procuring seed in England, and the necessity of sending to the continent for a supply, which at this advanced period of the year, cannot be had in large quantities.

VI.—APPLICATIONS FOR BOOKS, PAPERS, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
6955	Cork	Rathcormac Committee.
6985	Armagh	Sub-Districts of Forkhill.
6918	Kildare	Rathangan Committee.
6919	Down	Ballyshannon.
6921	Kildare	Clare and Downings Committee.
6923	Waterford	Killeshin ditto.
6924	Kilkenny	Mayno ditto.
6925	Roscommon	Ashtown ditto.
6927	King's County . . .	Banagher ditto.
6928	Galway	Kilconell ditto.
6929	Down	Pettigo ditto.
6932	Ditto	Strawcoler ditto.
6933	Kilkenny	Inastoge.
6935	Cavan	Droghda Committee.
6936	Tipperary	Ballymoreen.
6959	Carlow	Old Leighlin Committee.
6982	Sligo	Districts throughout the county.
6968	Cork	Cussetown Committee.
7003	Tipperary	Clonbeg ditto.
7004	Monaghan	Monaghan ditto.
7005	Tipperary	Shronehill ditto.
7013		

Books, papers, &c., to be forwarded to Committees, constituted in accordance with the sanctioned Instructions.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

VII.—RELIEF COMMITTEES SANCTIONED BY LIEUTENANTS OR VICE-LIEUTENANTS OF COUNTIES.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
6856	Donegal	Pettigoe.
7032	Ditto	Inver.
6917	Cavan	For the county.
6929	Cork	Maerom and Clondrohid.
6885	Armagh	Porkhill Sub-Districts.
6937	King's County . .	Banagher.
6956	Kerry	Lesteragh District.
6926	Leitrim	Sub-Districts of Clonsilla, &c., District, viz: Glenties, Glenties, Glenties.
7029	Queen's County . .	Baronies of— Clonsilla, Clonsilla, Clonsilla, Tinnahinch.
6982	Sligo	Tireragh West, and the other Districts of the county.
7007	Tyrone	Dungannon.
7011	Wexford	The Districts of county.

Head of Answer:

Acknowledged, and the Lieutenant or Vice-Lieutenant of county is informed, that the requisite books and papers will be forwarded by post, to the Secretaries of the Committees, according to the addresses which may be furnished by him.

VIII.—ACCOUNTS OF EXPENDITURE FURNISHED BY COMMITTEES, AS UNDER.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
6905	Cavan	Cavan Committee state, that they have already furnished their accounts.
6915	"	Ballynagh Committee.
6900	Clare	Kilnashel and Kilnashel Committee have already furnished their accounts.
6903	Cork	Newmarket.
6904	"	Kilnashel.
6910	"	Kinsale have already furnished accounts.
6938	"	Mitchelstown Committee.
6969	"	Castlemagner Committee already forwarded their accounts.
6971	"	Butterant Committee.
6973	"	Killalea do.
7012	"	Wallstown do.
7015	"	Bathymack do.
6964	Galway	Kilnashel Committee have already forwarded their accounts.
6965	"	Kilnashel Committee.
6966	"	Mayleagh Committee have already forwarded their accounts.
6967	"	Kilnashel Committee.
7016	"	Kilnashel Committee.
7025	"	Gort Committee have already furnished their accounts.
6918	Kildare	Kilnashel Committee.
6968	Kilkenny	Moncoin Committee state that their accounts will be held over till the promised investigation takes place.
6975	"	Mayleagh Committee forward their accounts.
6977	"	Urringford Committee do.
7024	"	Kilnashel Committee state, that not having received any Government grant, they consider their accounts unnecessary.
6963	King's County . .	Moneygall Committee have already furnished their accounts.
6972	"	Croghan Committee forward their accounts.
6901	Limerick	Kilnashel, &c., Committee have already furnished accounts.
6967	Longford	Fergus Committee state, that the Government grant not being yet expended, they will furnish their private accounts, if required.
6950	Meath	Attorney Committee forward accounts.
6961	Mayo	Snowdon Committee will forward accounts.
7019	Meath	Naven Committee forward accounts.
7023	Mayo	Crossboyne Committee do.
6991	Tipperary	Newport Committee forward their accounts.
6940	"	Templederry Committee do.
7014	"	Kernn Committee do.
6970	"	Ballygishan Committee will forward their accounts.
7018	"	Shroton Committee forward their accounts.

Returns of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

VIII.—ACCOUNTS OF EXPENDITURE, &c.—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7017	Tipperary . . .	Telrid Committee forward their accounts.
7020	" . . .	Rathronan Committee do.
7022	" . . .	Bansha Committee do.
6911	Waterford . . .	Bonmahon, &c., Committee have already furnished their accounts.
6962	Wicklow . . .	Ashford Committee will forward their accounts.
6974	Wexford . . .	Shelmister East, Committee forward their accounts.
6976	Waterford . . .	Timore Committee forward their accounts.
7021	Wexford . . .	Ferns Committee forward their account of expenditure.

IX.—MISCELLANEOUS.

N	County.	Locality, &c.
6706	Limerick . . .	Shanagolden Committee. Lord Montagu states, that during the distress of last year a bureau work was undertaken, for which a presentment of 140 <i>l.</i> was made and expended; that the presentment was wholly spent, but the work still required much to complete it; that the Relief Committee felt obliged to continue employment, and therefore expended out of their funds the sum of 5 <i>l.</i> 17 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> in continuation of the work, and of which the public now have the full benefit. The Committee, therefore, pray Government to replace this sum to their credit. Informed that as the expenditure referred to was made by the Shanagolden Relief Committee in carrying on a work which had not been sanctioned, the Commissary-General, Sir R. J. Ross, is unable to recommend a repayment. That in some cases it has occurred that Relief Committees, with a view of giving immediate employment, commenced works, which, under the arrangements for last season, the Board of Works had recommended, but were not prepared to put in execution at once; that if this were the ground of the application, the expenditure made might be reimbursed through the Board of Works: but in this case the difficulty is, that there is not any fund out of which repayment can now be made.
6873	Care	Barrin Committee inquire at what rate secretaries are to be paid, &c. The fund? Informed that the rate of remuneration to secretaries is left to the discretion of each Committee, as the duties are so various that a general rule would not be available, and in many cases the assigning of salary might prevent persons of respectability from going. That wherever salary shall be given it is to be paid out of the relief fund of the district, formed by local subscriptions and the Lord Lieutenant's donations.
6962	Westmeath . . .	Collinstown Committee request one of the new steel corn-mills. Informed that the steel mills referred to are on sale in the warehouse of Messrs. Samuel Gatchell and Sons, of Pill-lane, Dublin, at the price of 1 <i>l.</i> That the models obtained by the Commissariat appear to prepare meal either fine or coarse, as required, very well; but there is not yet sufficient time for ascertaining their durability.
6863	Cork	Kilboshan District.—An extract from a letter is forwarded by the Under Secretary for Ireland, to the effect that the local relief funds are exhausted, and the Committee have failed to raise further subscriptions; a donation is solicited. Informed that the Lord Lieutenant cannot be recommended to make donations on any subscriptions to which a grant has been already added, nor on any which are not available for the present period of distress.
6949	Donegal	Drumbohm and Rovenowlogh Committee inquire, viz.— 1 <i>st.</i> As to the sale of food at or under first cost price? 2 <i>nd.</i> As to the purchase of flax, &c., for giving employment? 3 <i>rd.</i> With respect to weekly allowances to destitute persons not fit for the workhouse? (See Answer annexed.)
6944	Tipperary . . .	Cappawhite Committee request that portions of upper and lower baronies of Kilsenaugh may be added to their district. Informed that the amended instructions issued on the 8 <i>th</i> ultimo contained provision for districts which must include portions of two baronies, in which cases it will be only necessary to register the applicants for employment in each barony separately. That it will be requisite that the vice-lieutenant of the county should sanction the arrangements.
6945	Galway	Crogha.—Inquiry is made with reference to salary of secretary, &c. Informed that the salaries are left to discretion of Relief Committees, and to be paid out of the relief fund.
6932	Tyrone	May Committee inquire as to the application of the relief fund about to be raised in the district; and they state that the distribution of gratuitous relief to a certain class will be necessary. (See Answer annexed.)

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

IX.—MISCELLANEOUS—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
6942	Kilkenny	<p>Instigoe.—Vice-lieutenant of county asks if, where one parish and sometimes where one parish and part of another were last year formed into relief districts in the same barony, they may be left as separate relief districts?</p> <p>Informed that it is found necessary in many cases to modify the rules as to relief districts for the purpose of removing local objections. In the 4th section of the Instructions (forwarded) this is referred to in cases where relief funds were formed in the past season; and that it is considered to be discretionary with lieutenants and vice-lieutenants to make such modifications generally wherever requisite.</p>
6943	Tyrone	<p>Pinona Committee request the sanction of Commissary-General Sir R. J. Routh for the appointment made by them of a secretary.</p> <p>Informed that the appointment is recorded.</p>
7076	Galway	<p>Rahoon, Atherry.—The vice-lieutenant of the county forwards a letter, stating that it will be necessary to form a new Committee, in consequence of the modified instructions, &c.</p> <p>A copy of the additional instructions is forwarded to the writer of the letter alluded to, observing that they do not require any new organisation of Committees as supposed, but enable lieutenants and curates to sit as <i>ex officio</i> members, also the Commissioners of Public Works.</p>
7075	Galway	<p>Tuan Committee forward a resolution through the vice-lieutenant, proposing to alter the district for which the Committee acted in the past season.</p> <p>A statement of the parishes or portions of parishes which were included in this district is requested, observing that until this shall be received the arrangement already made for Tuan will be considered as open for revision.</p>
6150	Galway	<p>Dunmore.—Correspondent states, that having no such functionaries as those specified in the instructions within the parish excepting a curate, the principal clergy living in a different barony, he desires to be informed if local gentlemen and respectable farmers are eligible to form a Relief Committee.</p> <p>Informed that on forwarding a statement of the arrangement desired for a relief district, it will be submitted to the vice-lieutenant of the county.</p>

Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
11th November, 1846.

ENCLOSURE.

Mr. STANLEY to the Rev. WILLIAM ROGERS and the Rev. JOHN RUSSELL.

Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
November 4, 1846.

COMMISSARY-GENERAL Sir Randolph J. Routh begs to state that he does not consider the Clergy and Churchwarden Relief Committee to have any ground for the imputation of having been unsoundly dealt with, which is made in the resolutions you have transmitted.

The Committee, on applying for aid to sell *Indian corn meal* at a reduced price, were informed that, if additional subscriptions should be collected, a grant would be recommended; but that while *Indian meal* continued high in price, the relief fund should be employed in providing wheat and barley meal.

This occurred on the 26th of September; and yet on the 16th of October, is forwarding a list of subscriptions, you applied for a Government grant on them, to enable the Committee to continue selling *Indian meal* at a loss equal to 140s. a-week.

Under such circumstances the Commissary-General felt bound to request the Committee to reconsider the resolution for pursuing a course that meant at once exhaust any relief fund which could be formed.

Mr. STANLEY to ARCHDEACON FENWICK.

Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
November 3, 1846.

HAVING laid your letter of the 2nd instant before Commissary-General Sir Randolph J. Routh, I am directed to return the following replies to your inquiries:—

1st. As to the sale of food at or under first cost price. You will observe by the Treasury Minute of the 31st of August last, a copy of which is enclosed, that the Relief Committees are required to sell food as nearly as possible at the current market prices. Were they to sell at lower prices they would invite a pressure which would exhaust their funds, and discourage the intervention of traders; and it is recommended to the Committee to provide food of the cheapest

kind, so as that the prices may be kept as low as may be practicable, without waste of the Committees' resources.

2nd. As to the purchase of flax and other materials for giving employment, to be resold when manufactured. This mode of giving relief is highly approved of; and loan funds can be most usefully brought in aid, as you propose, in providing materials for the poorer classes of tradesmen.

3rd. With respect, however, to weekly allowance to destitute persons *not fit for the workhouse*, it is considered very undesirable that Relief Committees should, by adopting any system of out-door relief, encourage reliance on their funds among persons who, if really destitute, ought to be referred to the source of relief provided for them by law. The Committees may give relief to such persons when the workhouse of the Union is full; and when they press for it at any other time, relief should only be given through some kind of employment to such members of each family as can make a return in labour. Public works, however, are not such as the Committees should undertake, but only small works of utility; and your attention is requested to the rules as to works in the 22nd and 23rd sections of the Instructions.

Mr. STANLEY to Mr. JACKSON.

*Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
November 3, 1846.*

I AM directed to state, in reply to your inquiries, that the Instructions to Committees are intended to regulate the application of all relief funds towards which a donation shall be granted by the Lord Lieutenant; but that whenever the workhouse of the Union may be full, it will be discretionary with Committees to give gratuitous assistance to destitute persons not capable of making a return in labour of any kind.

The employment to be afforded by Committees is not intended to be of the nature of public works, but small works of utility, as well as spinning, basket-making, &c., for which the materials are to be provided, and then the manufactured articles to be sold by the Committees.

As each relief district may present some useful mode of employment peculiar to it, or not generally available, it is considered best to leave to Committees the selection of the tasks of work to be required in return for the relief to be afforded.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

RETURN of the COMMUNICATIONS referred by T. N. REDINGTON, Esq., Under Secretary for Ireland, to Commissary-General Sir RANDOLPH J. ROUTH, from 2nd to 4th November, 1846, both days inclusive; also the Answer given to each Class of Applicants.

I.—APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
D 7387	Limerick . . .	Askeaton Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 167 <i>l.</i> 4 <i>s.</i> 7 <i>d.</i> , and solicit a grant. 83 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> is recommended.
D 7386	Mayo	Kilmeen, &c. Committee forward a list of subscriptions collected, amounting to 53 <i>l.</i> , and solicit a grant. Correspondent is requested to state whether a Relief Committee for the parish has been formed by the Lieutenant of the county; in which case the transmission of a certificate, according to the 27th section of the Instructions is further requested.
D 7475	Queen's	Rahern Committee state that they have collected 54 <i>l.</i> by subscriptions, &c. A grant is solicited. The list of the subscriptions is requested to be transmitted in the manner pointed out by the Instructions.

II.—APPLICATIONS FOR DEPOSITS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
D 7491	Westmeath . . .	Mullinger Guardians (Poor Law) call upon Government to establish depôts in their district. Attention is drawn to the Treasury Minute 31st August last (forwarded) by which it will be observed that Government depôts are only to be formed in remote western districts.

Return of Communications, &c.—continued.

III.—APPLICATIONS FOR MEAL, FOOD, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
D 7478	Limerick	Rathkeale Committee: Viscount Guillemore requests some effort may be made to supply provisions to the markets; that meal is 18s. 10s. per ton, &c.; that he has taken upon himself to appoint the Roman Catholic curates on Committees. Informed that if it were considered advisable to open a Government depot in Rathkeale, at present the current trade price could not be abated, but should be adopted, and that there is no way of relieving the distress arising from the present scarcity but having the home supplies brought more extensively into use. When the foreign supplies now in progress shall arrive, prices will be much lower, and there is now every motive of interest as well as consideration for the public welfare to induce the sale of the home corn. With reference to the appointment of curates on Relief Committees, copies of additional instructions are forwarded.
D 7490	Kerry	Tarbert: Correspondent encloses extracts from communications of traders, stating their inability to supply the markets, and calling upon Government to issue supplies.
D 7523	Tipperary	Borrisokane: Correspondent prays to be permitted to purchase food at the Banagher depot.
D 7536	Kerry	Tarbert: Correspondent prays for an issue of food from the bulk "Madagascar." Informed that the "Madagascar" is moored in the Shannon only for receiving supplies from large vessels, and reshipping for transmission to depôts without incurring port delays; therefore the Tarbert Committee cannot receive supplies from her as requested. That as Messrs. Russell offer to provide the Committee in part with Indian meal, and in part with whole wheaten meal, there appears to be no good reason why this offer should be declined, particularly when the former is tendered at 1s. per ton under the price in other parts, &c.
3/29905	Galway	Inisowlin Committee ask for a few tons of meal. The district is in a state of insurrection.
Q19388	Roscommon	Boyle: Correspondent suggests that the four police stations of the district should be supplied with wheaten or barley meal.

Heads of Answer:

- I. Attention is directed to the Treasury Minute 31st August last, with reference to the districts for the establishment of depôts.
- II. That in other parts of the country it is expected that funds will be formed either by local subscriptions and Government donations in aid, or by loans, to be employed by Relief Committees in providing auxiliary supplies, &c.

IV.—COMMITTEES APPROVED BY LIEUTENANTS OF COUNTIES.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
D 7516	Down; Barony of Mourne.	Kilkeel Committee.—Noted, and books, &c. are forwarded.
D 7316	Tipperary	Mullinahone Committee.—Noted, and books, &c. forwarded.

V.—MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
D 7590	Tyrone	Bedoney memorial, praying that a Committee may be appointed to act for the upper part of the parish of Bedoney. Forwarded to the Lieutenant of the county, &c. &c.
D 7523	Kerry	Cahirciveen District.—Resolution of the Board of Guardians (forwarded by Poor Law Commissioners) to the effect, that from scarcity of provisions, &c., the majority of applicants at the poor-house must be rejected. The Poor Law Commissioners are informed that Her Majesty's steamer "Blazer" left Cork on the 31st ultimo, for Cahirciveen, with stores, and that other stores are in progress for the same station, but the weather is retarding their arrival.

Mr. FREWEN to Mr. TREVELYAN.

*Cold Overton Hall, Leicestershire,
Near Oakham, November 12, 1846.*

Do you think the Government could be induced to extend their provision stores over the whole of the West Riding of the county of Cork? as I can safely say that the whole of that district is in a most deplorable state, much worse than the East Riding.

The river at Innishannon divides the two ridings, and there are districts of country to the south and north-west of that place, that are in a most frightful state. I have received letters from gentlemen and clergymen, with whom I am well acquainted, giving a most appalling account of the state of things.

If the Government think well to establish a provision store in the neighbourhood of Innishannon, I shall be very happy to be of any use to them that I can. It is a very central place, and the river is navigable for large ships within half-a-mile of the town. There is a place called Colliers Quay, on the west bank of the river, (and therefore in the West Riding), where the ships discharge their cargoes, and there are good roads to it from all parts. I would do my best to let you have a store at that place; but the tenant has unfortunately got a lease of 90 years, and I may have some trouble with him. Large barges can go up to Innishannon, (as large as any of the London barges), only they have not got such a thing in the Bandon river; but we should have no difficulty in finding the Government a place to keep stores in the town.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Mr. FREWEN.

Treasury, November 13, 1846.

IN reply to your letter of yesterday's date, asking my opinion whether the Government could be induced to extend their provision stores over the whole of the West Riding of the county of Cork, I beg to state that there is no probability of the Government being induced to depart from the line taken in the Treasury Minute, dated 31st August last; namely that the operations of the Government in providing supplies of food for sale in districts to which the ordinary operations of the provision trade cannot be expected to extend, should be confined to the country west of the Shannon, and the districts bordering on the western coast of Ireland.

Bantry and Skibbereen are included under the last mentioned head, but no reason exists for extending this part of our operations to Innishannon, which does not equally apply to every distressed district on the eastern side of Ireland.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTE.

November 13, 1846.

ON another careful review of the Inspection Instructions, we think the words "in avoiding to sell below cost price," in paragraph 5 should be omitted.

We must adhere to one rule, either "the price of ordinary years," or cost price, or market price; and for the reasons mentioned in my letter of yesterday, the market price, or the nearest approximation that can be obtained to it, according to the circumstances of the case, should be the rule; and nothing should be allowed to appear in the Instructions calculated to weaken this important point.

As it is, there is a manifest inconsistency between the cost price in paragraph 5, and the market price in paragraph 8.

It does not require any detailed explanation to show that it might become necessary to depart from the cost price, either by coming short of it, or going beyond it.

Suppose a Committee to have purchased when Indian corn was at 25s. a quarter, could it venture to sell at that rate now?

On the other hand, suppose it to have purchased at the late Cork price, 62s. a quarter, could it, if prices fell considerably, maintain that rate?

On Monday, three officers will proceed to join your establishment, Deputy Assistant Commissaries-General Trimmer, and Le Mesurier and Captain Reid.

Mr. Coreoran's handmill is the best I have yet had made. I am now only waiting for Captain James's mills, and I will then send them all to you, (Cubitt's, Coreoran's, and James's), under charge of Mr. Cubitt's foreman.

Mr. Coreoran wrote to a correspondent in France, for a statement of price, &c. of a particular description of powerful handmill used in that country. I enclose the answer he has received, and I have ordered one mill as a specimen, with all the apparatus connected with it, and will send it to you as soon as I receive it.

I have not heard anything, for a long time, of the *dépôt* ships which were to have been stationed at Galway and Killybegs. Pray what has become of them?

Deputy Commissary-General MAJOR to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Malta, November 5, 1846.

I REPORTED yesterday, officially, the quantity of Indian corn purchased up to that date; this morning I have entered into agreement for another cargo, 700 salms, deliverable in all this month; this will make 2900 salms to be delivered to the Navy before the end of December, all Indian corn.

The Peninsular and Oriental Steamer "*Oriental*" arrived this morning, by which I have received the official No. 12, of 9th October, and your private letter to Deputy Commissary-General Ibbetson, which I took to him in quarantine. Agreeably to instructions contained in the letter, I have directed the broker to procure samples of beans, peas, and Egyptian wheat against the 7th, when Mr. Ibbetson will be released, and takes charge. Wheat and barley will be more difficult to be obtained than Indian corn, as merchants are speculating largely in the two former, and we are the only purchasers of the latter. I have consequently every reason to expect larger quantities will shortly be offered.

With respect to the 300 salms of Indian corn alluded to in my note to Sir Lucius Curtis, which was offered to me at 21s., and I considered of inferior quality compared to that from the Levant, I enclose a trial of each, by which you will be able to judge of the superiority of that from the Levant. I have not yet received any from Naples, or would have shown a sample of it also, as it is considered the very best in the Mediterranean.

The mills in the Commissariat bakery, alluded to by Sir R. Routh, are not all in repair at present, only 10 being in use daily for the garrison have been kept in order, four others have been put in order since the receipt of the instructions relative to this duty, and I offered them to Sir Lucius Curtis, but he considered they would not require them, I consequently refrained from preparing any more as they will require new stones, and could not be got ready in less than three or four weeks. I shall communicate with Sir Lucius Curtis to-morrow, and ascertain if he requires more mills, and obtain the necessary stones from that department, as they have a supply in stones, which will render the whole of the mills in the Queen's bakery serviceable, by hiring mules for the purpose.

As the sample of Egyptian corn proved to be musty and of inferior quality, evidently old and damaged, I declined the purchase.

Kiln drying is at present out of the question, there being no preparation for such an operation; drying in the hot sun on the terraces being hitherto considered sufficient. As Mr. Ibbetson is not able to take any part in this business before being released from quarantine, I considered it advisable not to let this mail close without giving you such information as I have been able to procure to the present moment.

ENCLOSURE.

Maha, November 5, 1845.

PRODUCE of two samples of INDIAN CORN ground in the Commissariat Bakery, on the 4th November, 1845.

No. I.—Sample of Egyptian Indian Corn.

$\frac{1}{2}$ of a sack, weighing	113½
Lost in cleaning	1½
Net weight	112
Produce in flour	62
“ fine semola	31
“ coarse semola	11½
“ bran	6½
Lost in bolting	1
Rather starchy and unsatisfactory.	112

Offered at 21s.

No. II.—Sample of Locust Indian Corn.

$\frac{1}{2}$ of a sack, weighing	121½
Lost in cleaning	½
Net weight	121
Produce in flour	51½
“ fine semola	49
“ coarse semola	13
“ bran	6½
Lost in bolting	1
This is a good result.	121

Purchased at 32s. 6d.

J. W. MAJOR, Deputy Commissary-General.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, November 12, 1846.

I HAVE no letter from you to-day. I send you a Report from Mr. Ball, Assistant Poor Law Commissioner, who was employed last summer on inspection duty in counties Clare, Limerick, Kerry, Tipperary, &c., and of which duties he forwarded at the time detached memorandums, and subsequently he sent it in a more official shape, but it did not reach the Commission until late in September. My object in sending it to you is to consult your views whether you think it would be well to print it, as a sample of one of the inspections of last season, but including several districts, and whether it might not be an useful reference to officers employed on similar duties.

You will be good enough to observe that it is not intended by drawing out districts, to attach an officer to every district. An officer would make his inspection of a district and his report, and would return to Dublin, and after a short repose to make up his account, &c., he might proceed to inspect another district. Almost the only one that might be stationary, I mean that would not return to Dublin, would be Mr. Bishop at Cork, for the convenience that his occasional presence there would afford to us in our communications with the Admiral. But this is a point that you will have to determine, whether such officers should station themselves at their head-quarter outpost, or return to Dublin, or whether you will leave it an open question to be determined by the service, as its exigencies might recommend.

I am very glad to be able to report to you, that in consequence of an arrival to a merchant at Sligo of provisions, we have been able for the first time to close that dépôt, save and except some trifling assistance to distant Committees in Donegal.

I have completely succeeded in calling in all our Constabulary depôts, and I hope not again to re-establish any retail stores, but perform all this duty through the Committees, as it was practised last year at Limerick and Cork, obliging the parties to send to our main depôts for their supplies, as we find Joseph set us the example in Egypt.

I am much pleased with the beginnings of Deputy Assistant Commissary-General Bishop at Belmullet. He seems to be a very pains-taking clever young man, and anxious to understand the principle on which we set, and to carry it out.

I propose to send my son Randolph occasionally on inspection, and the other (Jules) also, so that they may have a fair variety and proportion of labour, and that you may judge of their merits.

This is a kind of service that will be very useful to all engaged in it, and develop both mind and body, and give them a general view of the extraordinary state of this people.

I have not yet replaced Captain Pole at Banagher, but it must be done soon, as that post will become important, and is situated in the midst of a bad part of Ireland, on the west side of the Shannon, that side of county Galway and county Roscommon.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

*The Castle, Dublin, November 14, 1846.**

I HAVE your letter of the 12th, and the instructions are printed in strict accordance with your copy, and I hope to have half a dozen copies in time for to-night's post.

Colonel Douglas has arrived, and he is preparing himself for his departure, the particulars of which I shall give on Monday, as well the destination of each, as the number of Committees under their charge. Colonel Archer and Mr. Bishop will leave pretty nearly at the same time, all in the early part of next week.

Mr. Mansell called upon me to ask if the Government would be disposed to assist them in procuring good flax seed from Holland, where it appears to be this year particularly good, and he was to have forwarded to me a letter for you, but as it has not reached me I presume he has chosen some other channel.

I shall be quite satisfied if the supplies for Belmullet and Clifden reach by the end of this month, and I hope they will not be later, and that we shall have some of your mills by both opportunities. The millers are charging exorbitantly for grinding.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

November 16, 1846.

FROM the slight inspection which alone we have yet had time to give to Mr. Ball's report, and from the ability and good sense displayed in the documents we had from him last season, we think it will be advisable to have his report printed for the use of the officers who are now about to be employed under you on similar duties.

You ask me whether the Inspecting Officers should station themselves at their head-quarter outpost, or return to Dublin.

As a general rule, they should remain at their head-quarter outpost, in order that they may be ready to proceed in any direction in which their services may be required, and that they may be at hand to be consulted by the local Committees and others, on any point of difficulty that may arise. But it may also be attended with advantage that they should occasionally return to Dublin, especially at first, in order that by personal conference with you, they may come to a perfect understanding of what is expected from them.

I enclose a note from Lord Auckland, in which his Lordship recommends as a fit person to be employed on this duty, Commander Hill, who has been brought home from his government of the settlements on the Gold Coast, to give his evidence in an important slave case pending before the courts here, and as I know from other sources of information, that Captain Hill is an active able person, I consider him as the next for employment, in case you require any more assistance of this kind. Pray return me Lord Auckland's letter.

I congratulate you on having succeeded in replacing the Constabulary depôts by issues through local Committees, which is an important step towards a sounder and more permanent state of things.

You will find either of the three officers sent to-day, well qualified to succeed Captain Pole at Banagher.

We quite agree with you, that the character and qualifications of our younger officers will become strengthened and developed by the arduous and interesting duties they will have to perform as Inspecting Officers, and we hope you will give all who are fit a turn of it, as you have opportunity; but it must, nevertheless, be remembered, that age is in itself an important qualification, as commanding

increased respect, provided other qualifications are not wanting, and the older officers, whether belonging to the Commissariat or not, who show a talent for this sort of business ought to be considered as permanently appropriated to it in preference to the younger officers.

We will procure flax-seed from Holland, if you and the Irish Government consider it desirable, but we should be extremely cautious how we enter on a new field of Government interference, for every step in this direction tends to paralyze private exertion, perhaps in a tenfold degree. The rye and bere were new articles intended to take the place of the potato, but the flax cultivation has gone on without any interruption, and if it is desired to extend it, there can be no difficulty in the parties obtaining additional seed through the accustomed channels.

Captain JAMES to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Portsmouth, November 14, 1846.

I HAVE made a quern or hand corn-mill, and it grinds corn very well, though not so fast as one could desire, but better than I expected. No. 1 on the other side is a sketch of it, and it can hardly be improved as regards simplicity and indestructibility, two important points for any thing which is to be placed in an Irish cabin.

It is a fac-simile, as far as my memory serves, of one I saw in the county of Down.

In fig. 2, I have represented a simple arrangement by which the power of this mill might be greatly increased; with this we could apply a greater weight, and give considerable velocity to the grinding-stone, and a boy or girl would be able to turn the handle at A with the right hand, whilst with the left, the stone might be raised as required, by the handle B.

But I have not tried it with the machinery, though I will do so if you wish it, and it would only require two days to put it up.

The mill is in other respects quite ready, and I will send it up on Tuesday if you do not wish to have it placed in a frame and turned by machinery. I think it would be desirable to show that this could be either used as of old, simply by the hand, or with increased power through the intervention of a little machinery.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Captain JAMES.

Treasury, November 16, 1846.

I SHALL be obliged to you to send without delay the quern you have ready in its present state of fitness for being worked only by the hand, and I will send it to Dublin with the others, which are already for despatch.

And having sent off this, you will, perhaps, be so kind as to set your people to work to make another for me, fitted with machinery described by you, which I shall also send to Dublin when I receive it from you.

I shall be obliged to you to furnish me with an account, when all this is done, of any extra expense that may have been incurred, including such gratuity for additional exertions as you may think proper to be allowed to your workmen.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

November 16, 1846.

You will agree with me that we have not been idle, when I inform you that the accumulating meal, equal already to 200 tons, referred to in the accompanying note from Mr. Erichsen, is over and above the lading of the "Belvidera," and of the two vessels which have been freighted for Clifden and Belmullet.

I have ordered all we can get together in the Thames this week, to be consigned to you at Dublin, and the produce of next week's grinding will be sent as you may direct.

Mr. N. CUMMINS to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Cork, November 14, 1846.

REFERRING to my respects of 2nd instant, I have now very great pleasure in advising a decided reduction in the late extravagantly high rates of our markets for all sorts of grain food.

As I anticipated we have had almost daily arrivals of maize, chiefly from the Western Islands and Mediterranean; this important article has in consequence receded from its extreme rate of 16*l.* 10*s.* within the fortnight to 13*l.* per ton, at which rate convenient cargoes might be this day purchased.

Should arrivals continue, as may be expected, prices must give way still further. All descriptions of corn food have felt already the influence of this timely supply.

Whole wheaten, eaten, and barley meal are dull of sale at the relative prices of 16*l.*, 20*l.* and 14*l.* per ton.

Deputy Commissary-General DOBREE to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Sligo, November 14, 1846.

I HAVE the satisfaction of informing you, that in consequence of the arrival of some Indian corn-meal and wheat on private accounts, I closed my dépôt on the 5th instant, and have no intention of opening it again for the present, except for the Committees in the remote parts of the County Donegal; other consignments have come in since, as well for the merchants as for the Relief Committees, and for landlords, and there is now in the market a supply adequate to the demand, the price still keeping up to 17*l.* and 18*l.* for Indian meal, and 20*l.* for oatmeal. The "Invisible," consigned to ourselves, reported herself yesterday from Cork, so that now I shall begin to amass, and prepare for forming our dépôts at the out-stations.

I persevered unceasingly since my arrival here under many discouragements and much opposition, in gradually shaking off the Committees from their entire dependence on our stores, and it is with no small gratification that I have been thus enabled to discard them altogether the moment a favourable opportunity occurred, and to refer their applications direct to the merchant. The Sligo market is showing great activity with promise of further importations, and there is every appearance of a sufficient supply, till the large importations from America shall arrive; but my fear has always been, that in the midst of plenty the people will in time not have wherewithal to buy. There is throughout the country, amongst the lower classes, very great individual distress, which others with plenty are taking advantage of, to withhold paying their rents, and to participate in all the measures of relief intended for, and which should be strictly confined to, the destitute; all fly to the Public Works and neglect their land which lies choked with weeds, and which will be in no very fit state to receive seed in the spring.

I have submitted to the Commissary-General my recommendation that in this district there should be no more Coast Guard nor Constabulary shops. For a temporary emergency, and without any Commissariat establishment to form a sufficient number of main dépôts, they might have been indispensable; but under the present prospect of a "sine die" deficiency of home produce to feed the population, a retail business in the hands of Government servants must of necessity retard, if not prevent altogether, the organization of those means, and that machinery which it is so important to force into existence for providing the different localities with cheaper imported food than they can procure from the produce of the country. They are still grubbing up a few diseased potatoes as large as walnuts; but that vegetable in this district has quite disappeared from the gentleman's table. I have not seen one these three weeks.

Mr. Cummins, Commissariat Clerk, is at Killibegs. Deputy Assistant Commissary-General McCulloch is gone to the north-north-west part of Donegal to fix on the most eligible site for a dépôt, and Deputy Assistant Commissary-General Gem will proceed to Rutland or Gweedore Bay as may appear most expedient, after Deputy Assistant Commissary-General McCulloch's Report has been brought under consideration. With these three stations in Donegal, and Ballina in the county of Mayo, I anticipate no want in the country, except that of employment, the providing of which, on judicious and wholesome work, seems every day to offer more and more difficulties.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

RETURN of CORRESPONDENCE from 5th to 7th November, 1846, both days inclusive.

I.—APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
6893	Cork	Kilmichael Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 107 <i>l.</i> 2 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> , and solicit a grant. 50 <i>l.</i> is recommended.
7116	Monk	Lane Barony Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 507 <i>l.</i> 11 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> , and solicit a grant. 250 <i>l.</i> is recommended.
7085	Limerick	Newcastle Committee Treasurer states, that he has now on hand 156 <i>l.</i> collected as a Relief Fund, and he solicits a grant in aid. A list of the subscriptions requested to be supplied in the manner pointed out by the Instructions when a grant will be immediately recommended.
6990	Down	Dromahaire and Balinashill Committee beg for assistance towards their Relief Fund. Informed that on arrival of a list of the subscriptions supplied in the manner pointed out by the Instructions, and the amount to be expended conformably to them, a donation in aid will be recommended.
7080	Sligo	Terrill Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 255 <i>l.</i> 12 <i>s.</i> , and solicit a donation. 125 <i>l.</i> is recommended.

II.—APPLICATIONS WITH RESPECT TO DEPOTS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7036	Limerick	Newcastle Committee state, that food at any price cannot be obtained for this district from the Government depot at Limerick. That they do not comprehend the use of a depot under these circumstances, &c. &c. Informed that it is not intended to open the Government depots until the supplies in them shall be sufficient to sustain the demands which may arise when the issues commencent. That they cannot be opened in one part of the country until all shall be in readiness. That as the supplies at present in store could not now be diminished without the concurrent purchase of Indian corn to replace them, the consequence of such an additional demand in the present state of the market would be an advance of prices much above the present rates already so seriously augmented by the deficiency of the supply of Indian corn as yet imported, and hence Relief Committees are recommended to use the local influence of their members for promoting sales of home produce which must be conducive to the interests of the holders as well as to the public welfare, the prices which can be now obtained being much over the rates that will prevail when the foreign supplies in progress shall arrive.
7144	Cork	Rock Island Crookhaven Committee put forward resolutions praying for the establishment of a depot, &c. &c. See answer annexed.

III.—APPLICATIONS FOR MEAL, FOOD, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7089	Longford	Rathfriland Committee request a ton of blarney, and one ton of meal, per week, at reduced prices, from the stores at Longford. Informed that on application to Assistant Commissary General Campbell such issue will be made as his means will now afford. That the prices are high, and must continue so, until the foreign imports arrive. That there are large importations in progress, but cannot reach the Irish markets before the expiration of the usual time for such voyages.
6998	Cork	Mill Cove Banchaven Committee urgently represent the necessity of a facility of transit of provisions; the people must otherwise starve, &c. &c.
7035	Galway (Barony Ross)	Moss District, J. B. Blake, Esq., J. P., states, that the peace of the district will be in danger if Indian meal, or supplies of food by Government, be not provided. Informed that due attention will be given to the wants of the districts as soon as the supplies in progress to the Commissariat depot shall arrive, but that in the present state of the stores the assistance desired cannot be afforded. That some effort must therefore be made, by a Relief Committee, or other local organization, to get supplies from traders, of such food as can be obtained at the lowest price, for a short time, until the Government supplies shall be sufficient for commencing the issues contemplated. That it appears by advices received, there have been recent arrivals of considerable supplies of corn to merchants in Galway.

Returns of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

IV.—COMMUNICATIONS WITH REFERENCE TO RYE, BERE, BARLEY, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7038	Kerry	Tarbert, &c. Committee ask the terms, &c., of seed rye, &c., and when it will be supplied? Informed that on completion of the seed rye, &c., now collecting for Ireland, the distribution will speedily take place, and the first cost price at which sales are to be made will be announced when the invoices arrive.
6995	Galway	Celtic Committee inquire how and at what price seed rye and bere, can be obtained. Informed that the quantity of seed bere and rye, to be supplied through the Commissariat, will be soon received, and that due notice of its arrival will be given.
7042	Kilkenny	Intelligence Committee inquire with reference to the price of seed bere, &c., and as to the quantity the Committee may export? Informed that on arrival of the supplies now collecting for Ireland the cost price and arrangements for distribution will be announced; but that it is only intended for the western counties.
6989	Sligo	Upper Lough Committee request 40 tons of bere and 10 tons of rye. Informed that as soon as the supply collecting shall arrive, the arrangement for its distribution, and the cost price, will be announced.

V.—PUBLIC RELIEF WORKS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7039	Roscommon	Oran Chonogormican and Donamore District. Correspondent requests a number of forms for registry of labourers. Requested to apply to the local officers of Public Works, who are to supply these forms.
7083	Monaghan	Balliboy Committee request forms for registry of labourers. Requested to apply to the local officers of Public Works, &c.
7041	Kilkenny	Stoneyford Committee request forms for registry of labourers. Informed that they will be supplied by the Board of Works to their local officers, to whom application should be made.
6988	Cork	Millicore, Berchaven, Committee, request forms for registry of labourers. Referred to local officers of Public Works.
7140	Lengford	Edgeworthstown Committee request forms of labour lists. Informed that they must be supplied to the officers of the Board of Works, and are to be provided by those officers.

VI.—ACCOUNTS OF COMMITTEES, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7098	Cork	Douglas Committee inquire if it is necessary that they should return an account of their expenditure, &c., on the forms supplied, as they already supplied that account in a printed form; and if they can engage the services of the constabulary as formerly in distributing circulars, notices, &c., or claim their services to any extent. Informed that it is necessary to have one of the forms of account filled and returned, and that it was not previously known that the Committee received assistance from the constabulary in the way stated, nor can its continuance be made the object of an official application.
7187	Kerry	Trillick Committee forward account of expenditure for the past season of distress, &c. Acknowledged.
7186	Ditto	Killerglin Committee forward account of expenditure, &c. Acknowledged.
6990	Clare	Kilnabgill and Kilnasodagh Committee state that they have already furnished their accounts, and feel surprised that a circular calling for those accounts again should have been forwarded. Informed that the accounts referred to were duly received, but attention is called to two Government donations, namely, 5 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> for Kilnabgill, and 6 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> for Kilnasodagh, granted on the 12th August last, which it is presumed might not have been received in time to be included in the accounts in question.
6897	Donegal	Milford Committee state, that the composition of the Committee has not yet been sanctioned by the Deputy-Lieutenant of the county, and therefore no funds have been expended. Informed that the account called for by circular of the 27th ultimo is for the period ended 15th August, during which the private subscriptions amounted to 34 <i>l.</i> 5 <i>s.</i> , and the Government donation to 30 <i>l.</i>
6967	Lengford	Fogarty Committee state that they have not yet expended the 50 <i>l.</i> granted to them by Government, but will, if necessary, furnish an account of their private subscriptions. Informed that the account called for by the circular of the 27th ultimo is required to be made up to the 15th August; and that one of the forms of account current should be filled up to that date.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

— VI.—ACCOUNTS OF COMMITTEES—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
3645	Claire	Newmarket-on-Fergus County Surveyor is requested to have an avouched account current prepared and transmitted, showing the application of the sums issued to him for providing employment in Newmarket-on-Fergus in the past season of distress.
6964	Galway	Castleblkeney Committee state that they have already furnished their accounts.
6915	Cavan	Ballymogh Committee ditto.
6953	King's Co.	Mooneyvall Committee ditto.
6901	Limerick	Barony of Upper Connello ditto.
6959	Meath	Barony of Lene Committee ditto.
6835	Tipperary	Outrath and Mortinstown Committee forward accounts in duplicate.
6927	Limerick	Kilmallock Committee state that they have already furnished their accounts.
6960	Tipperary	Nenagh Committee ditto.
6902	Ditto	Cappanwhite and Donahill Committee ditto.
7128	Claire	Broadford Committee state that they have already forwarded their account of expenditure.
6908	Tipperary	Uppercchurch (Borrisinagh) Committee ditto.
7046	King's Co.	Philippstown Committee ditto.
7064	Tipperary	Cloomed Committee state that they will furnish account of their expenditure as required.
6829	Waterford	Portlaw Committee state that they have already furnished their accounts, and will again do so.
6970	Tipperary	Ballygibbon, &c., Committee, Upper Ormond, } state that they have Modreeny, Lower Ormond, } already furnished their Ardaraun, Lower Ormond, } accounts, and if necessary will furnish them again.
6912	Ditto	Killensale Committee ditto.
6913	Kildare	Kilcullen Committee furnish replies to queries of circular 12th August last.
6911	Waterford	Borishannon and Kilmarthomas Committee state that they have already furnished account of expenditure, &c., and will, if necessary, do so again.
6909	Wexford	Somerswalsh Committee ditto.
7049	Cork	Claremont Committee and Kilmorony Committee state that they have already furnished their accounts, and shall furnish them again shortly.
7047	Limerick	Kilbesherry Committee forward replies as requested by circular, 12th August, and will furnish more detailed returns of account of expenditure, &c., if required.
7025	Galway	Gort Committee state that they have already furnished an account of their expenditure, &c., and will do so again if necessary.
6895	Cork	Blackrock and Ballintemple Committee state that they have already furnished their accounts, and will do so again if required.
7028	Galway	Spiddal Committee state that they have already furnished their accounts.
6828	Kerry	Castledward Committee state that they have already furnished their accounts.
7026	Wicklow	Ballinglass Committee state, that having already furnished the account of their expenditure, &c., taken from detached papers, it becomes difficult to re-furnish it; but that if the former account is returned, they shall have it shaped according to the form supplied.
6958	Meath	Crossmolund Committee furnish replies to queries of circular 12th August last, and will give other details, if required, of their expenditure, &c.

Head of Answer:

That the replies returned to queries in circular of 12th August last, do not supersede the necessity for obtaining the "Account Current" on the forms supplied from the Commissariat Relief Office on the 27th ultimo.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

VII.—APPLICATIONS FOR BOOKS, PAPERS, &c., BY COMMITTEES APPROVED BY
LIEUTENANTS OF COUNTIES.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
6988	Cork	Milcote, Bercharon Committee. Sent.
7160	Monaghan	Classes Committee request a supply of stationery. Informed that any stationery required by Relief Committees is to be provided out of the relief funds to be formed in the manner pointed out by the Instructions.
6031	Donegal	Sinnclear Committee having been sanctioned by the Lieutenant of county, apply for books, &c.
7162	Donegal	Books, &c., forwarded to the secretary. Upper and Lower Morville Committee.
7062	Westmeath	Books, &c., sent. Athlone Committee.
7156	Waterford	Books, &c., sent. Frasago East Committee.
7157	Kilkenny	Books, &c., sent. Kilmenaugh Committee.
7066	Tyrone	Books, &c., sent. Carrickmore Committee.
7161	Tipperrary	Books forwarded, and the extent of the district is requested. Clonmel Committee.
7113	Wexford	Books, &c., sent. Templemahon Committee.
7150	Sligo	Books, &c., sent. Tirerrill Committee.
7155	Fernanagh	Books, &c., sent. Barony of Coole Committee.
7153	Londonderry . . .	Books, &c., sent. Maghera Committee.
7158	Cornn	Books, &c., sent. Cotehill Committee.
7152	Londonderry . . .	Books, &c., sent. Magherafelt. Lieutenant of county states that he has formed a sub-committee at Balgilly, and requests books, &c.
7109	Clara, Barony of Bur-	Noted—Books, &c., sent. Parishes of Abbey, &c., Committee.
7063	ren.	Noted and sent.
7078	Kilkenny	Barony of Gowran, &c. (8 Districts). Noted and sent.
7149	Queen's County . .	Rosenallis (Mountmellick Committee). Sent.
7038	Tipperrary	Castletower Committee. Sent.
7061	Cork	Viscount Bernard, for Cork. Sent.
6927	King's County . . .	Benagher Committee. Informed that Henry Cusahan, Esq., having been returned by the Earl of Rosse as secretary of the Committee, the books &c., were sent 17th October, 1846.
7159	Wexford	Duncannon (Barony of Shelbourne Committee). Sent. A complete list of relief districts for this county generally is forwarded. Noted.
7011		
7082	Fernanagh	Brockborough Committee (Barony of Magherastephane). Maguiresbridge Committee (Barony of Magherastephane). Books, &c., sent 7th and 15th October last.
7112	Donegal	Carrigan Committee (Barony Raphoe). Books, &c., sent.
7069	Donegal	Ballinduff Committee (Barony Raphoe). Books, &c., sent.
7111	Tipperrary	Ballybot Committee (Barony of Upper Ormeau). Instructions, &c., sent.
7110	Queen's County . .	Mountmellick Committee. Books, &c., sent.
6968	Sligo	A list of chairmen and secretaries, with their respective Districts, is forwarded, and books, &c., requested.
7067	Kildare	Books, &c., sent. Nass Committee. Books, &c., sent.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

VIII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7014	Tipperrary . . .	Barony of Ikerrin Committee state that further subscriptions are now in progress of collection by them, but that much difficulty in obtaining contributions arises from the prevalence of distress. It is suggested that should the Committee fail to obtain a fund sufficient for providing the additional supplies of food that will be necessary for the district, it may probably be considered advisable by the Committee to obtain loans for the purpose, as in other parts of Ireland, or advances from one of the local banks, on personal guarantees for repayment, as has been done in one of the County Wexford districts; that whatever supplies can be provided should be placed with individuals of character, for sale on commission, at prices sufficient to repay the first cost, with all charges, and a commission of 25 per cent. Attention is requested likewise to papers on the means of providing cheap food from home corn until Indian corn meal shall be imported in sufficient quantity to lower prices.
6993	Limerick	Barony of Small County—Hospital Committee. Correspondent remonstrates against the exclusion, by this Committee, of his poor parishioners from relief, because Count De Salis, landlord of 800 acres in the district, has not subscribed to their funds. Informed that all persons in the barony requiring relief in wages for labour, are entitled to a fair proportion of employment on the Public Works; but as the subscriptions placed at the disposal of the Relief Committee are voluntary contributions, the Committee may feel bound to limit the relief provided by them to the poor of localities from which the subscriptions were obtained; that it might be useful to communicate with the proprietor whose estate is excluded, so he may not be aware that the poor suffer by his not being a contributor to the Relief Fund.
7020	Wicklow	Arklow. The Medical Officer appointed to this district by the Central Board of Health, complains that the remuneration as such given to him, viz. 2s. 8½d. per diem, is not the wages of an artisan. Informed that the Commissary-General cannot undertake to offer an opinion on the question raised with respect to the sufficiency of the salary assigned under the Act 9 Vic., c. 6, but that in the division of the amount which shows a rate of only 2s. 8½d. per diem, there must be some error, as the time during which the appointment existed was only 105 days, namely, from the 15th May to 31st August, and for this period of service 207. 5s. appears to have been allowed.
7033	Galway	Parishes of Leirrim, Kilmeen, &c. Committee state that their district is formed without regard to Poor Law electoral divisions, and inquire if they can be considered legally constituted. Informed that there is not any fixed rule for the formation of Relief Districts, but that the Instructions point out the arrangements which it would be advisable to follow in determining the extent of districts; and that since the Government resolved to sanction the appointment of Presentation Works according to electoral divisions, it has become obviously desirable that Relief Districts should, as far as may now be possible, consist of such divisions.
7008	Westmeath	Castletown-Delvin Committee inquire whether they are correct in the practice they have adopted, of selling food in extreme cases at the prices of ordinary years. Informed that a copy of the Treasury Minute of 31st August last has been issued to each Relief Committee, as containing the leading regulations which are to be followed in the application of Relief Funds, and that the rule therein of selling food at prices as nearly as possible the same as the market prices of the neighbourhood, has not been altered.
7091	Wexford	Taghman Committee forwarded resolution requesting to be informed under what regulations they may dispose of meal. Informed that Committees are recommended to place all food provided by Relief Funds for sale, with individuals of character, fixing a price sufficient to repay the first cost and all charges, including a commission of 5 per cent. for storing and selling. That by the Treasury Minute of the 31st August last, the Committees are required to sell the food provided with Relief Funds as nearly as possible at market prices; and that this direction may be best complied with by the arrangement recommended for selling on commission.
7084	Tyrone	Dungannon Committee inquire if they may dispose of the Relief Funds in any other way than that which is stated in the Instructions, and state that they cannot procure subscriptions unless they are allowed a discretionary power in the disposal of the funds. Requested to state the mode in which it is considered desirable that the Relief Funds of the district should be applied.
7087	Donegal	Newtown Cunningham Committee inquire if they purchase meal, whether it would be sent to them by a Government vessel free of cost. Also in what manner seed rye will be given, and at what price. Ask also for the necessary supplies of books, papers, &c. Informed that as this district is on the eastern side of the County Donegal, and not more than seven miles from Londonderry, the Committee will find it more advantageous to purchase supplies of food from the merchants of that port than from the Government depôts, as there cannot be a free transit from the latter to Newtown-Cunningham district. That

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

VIII.—MISCELLANEOUS—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
		the Commissariat arrangements do not properly extend to the district, as will be found by the Treasury Minute of the 31st August last. Also that the supply of seed rye for distribution will, it is expected, be very shortly complete as far as it is now possible to augment it; and that on the arrival of the invoice, the first cost, and arrangements for sale, will be made known. Also that the books, &c., have not hitherto been forwarded, a notification of the county Lieutenant's arrangements for the district not having been made.
6987	Cork	Mallow Committee state that the grant of 55 <i>l.</i> in aid of their funds by the Government has not yet been forwarded. Informed that it will be paid on application, by letter, to Commissary-General Hewatson at Limerick.
7108	Queen's County . .	Upperwood Committee. Correspondent states that, at the request of the vice-lieutenant of the county, he enters upon the duties of secretary for a time, &c. Noted.
7054	Ditto	Rathdowney Committee. Secretary wishes to know what salary he may expect, &c. Informed that there is not any fixed rate of salary for the secretary of a Relief Committee, as the duties vary with the extent and circumstances of the Relief Districts; but that where Committees consider it proper to pay salaries, the amount is left to their discretion, and must proceed from the Relief Funds, there being no other available source of payment.
7087	Limerick	Hospital District. The Board of Works reply to a communication in reference to a statement made by the District Committee as to the distress, &c., of the local blacksmiths, arising from the little demand for spades, &c., that the matter has been referred to the Board's proper Officer.
7081	Galway Barony of Tinquin .	Maytough Widows again petition for relief. A duplicate of the letter of the 28th ultimo is forwarded. See 6898.

Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
November 14, 1846.

ENCLOSURE.

MR. STANLEY to the Rev. Mr. NOTTER.

Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
November 9, 1846.

COMMISSARY-GENERAL Sir Randolph J. Routh begs to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, with resolutions adopted on the 3rd instant by the Kilmoe and Crookhaven Relief Committee.

In these resolutions the Committee state that, in their district, 7000 inhabitants require food; that there is very little corn there; that the poor cannot purchase fish taken on the coast; that there is neither a mill nor bakery within twenty-three miles; that the Relief Fund with which meal has hitherto been provided is now exhausted; that when the last of the Committee's supply was sold, 3*s.* a stone would be given for more.

Under these circumstances the Committee call for the establishment of a depot, and complain of having received suggestions with respect to the expediency of providing wheat and barley meal, in consequence of the high price of Indian corn at the time.

The Committee do not advert to the generally known fact of the insufficiency of the quantity of Indian corn as yet imported, for enabling Government to obtain supplies adequate to the maintaining of issues from depôts; nor is any allowance made for the general difficulty of obtaining foreign supplies to make good a loss in the home supply, which was not fully developed until the end of August; and yet these foreign supplies are demanded while the ample produce of the home harvest is stored through the country, or exported for sale elsewhere.

The Committee may rest assured that when the Commissariat arrangements for assisting in providing the supplies of food required shall be complete, due attention for that object will be given to the wants of the population in every district of the western division of Ireland.

In the meantime, the sources which would enable the population to purchase food at a depot, if one were now existing in your district, will, it may be expected, lead to the introduction of supplies through the exertions of the Relief Committee.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, November 16, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the weekly return of the Commissariat depots in Ireland, and also a statement of the amount of donations and of the sums subscribed up to the 14th instant.

23345. 52.

ENCLOSURE.

WEEKLY STATE of PROVISIONS &c., in the several DEPOTS in IRELAND, on the Evening of Saturday, the 14th November, 1846.

DEPOTS.	Indian Corn in Quarters of Eight Bushels each.			Indian Corn Meal.		Oatsmeal.	Rice.
	In Port.	In Store.	With Milkers.	In Port.	In Store.		
				Sacks 280 lbs.	Sacks 280 lbs.	Sacks 280 lbs.	Bags 112 lbs.
Limerick	7,190	29	..
Barragher	776	..	..
Kilrush	542	..	..
"Malagaqua"	1,388	384	1,654
Haulbowline	250	..	..
Shillbreena	904	..	657
Dingle	1,484	..	183
Calcutragreen	250	..	1,500
Galway	3,147	9	10
Westport	770	..	..	..	24	63
Clifden	29	..	25
Belmullet
Sligo	1,381	..	137
Balina	240	..	..	..	..
Longford	141	196	894
Castleroa	16	..	..
Dublin	1,456	676	500
Roscommon	16	..	..
Total	770	240	..	19,090	1,518	5,613

RECAPITULATION of BALANCE on the 14th November, 1846.

1,010 quarters of Indian corn, equal to	202 tons
19,090 sacks of Indian corn meal, each 280 lbs., equal to	2,378½ "
1,518 sacks of oatsmeal, each 280 lbs., equal to	184½ "
5,613 bags of biscuit, each 112 lbs., equal to	290½ "
Total	3,051½ tons

R. J. ROUTH, *Commissary-General.**Dublin Castle, November 16, 1846.*

DONATIONS issued by Command of his Excellency the LORD LIEUTENANT to RELIEF COMMITTEES in aid of SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Date.	Name of Committee.	Amount of Donations.	Amount of Subscriptions.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	Brought forward from last week	2,844 5 0	5,813 8 3
November 7 .	Tirerill District, County of Sligo	125 0 0	255 12 0
"	Kilmichael District, County of Cork	50 0 0	107 2 6
"	Stranane District, County of Cavan	8 0 0	16 15 6
November 10 .	Newcastle District, County of Limerick	84 0 0	168 5 0
November 12 .	Sehall District, County of Cork	23 0 0	45 0 0
"	Galway District, County of Galway	250 0 0	500 0 0
		3,384 5 0	6,907 3 3

R. J. ROUTH, *Commissary-General.**Dublin Castle, November 14, 1846.*

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, November 16, 1846.

YOUR letter of the 13th arrived in time to make the alteration in paragraph 5, and which has been done accordingly.

I think the "Manchester" had better go to Galway, where she will experience no difficulty in depth of water and good anchorage, &c., but at Westport I should fear sending so large a ship, from the delay and inconvenience of discharging her, at perhaps three miles from the quay.

The other two, or rather their cargoes, had better be sent—the "Sardinia" to Ballina, and the "Montezuma" to Sligo. I am anxious to put those depôts in some order, and with a little more of something like abundance.

With regard to the cargo of the "Manchester," I should grind the 3000 quarters at that port, and probably send the 1000 barrels of meal to Westport, and as soon as I hear of her arrival at Cork, I shall endeavour to arrange this matter.

The "Andromache" is now on her way to Galway from Cork, but loaded with supplies for Valencia and Dingle, which the small steamers will take from her.

The "Andromeda" has also arrived at Cork, and as soon as she has unloaded some stores for that port, she will proceed to Killibegs, where her presence will enable us to make a better bargain for a magazine on shore at that port. We shall be ready soon to fill her, which will be a great convenience for the northern ports of Donegal.

I enclose to you extract of a letter from Mr. Hughes at Skibbereen, giving an account of the state of his part of the country.

I have sent to O'Brien to prepare the bread and biscuit, and send it to you.

I am revising the districts, so as to make them fit in with the baronies, and to have an equal number of Committees or nearly so in each. Of all of which I shall advise you in time.

ENCLOSURE.

EXTRACT of a Letter from Mr. Commissariat Clerk HUGHES, dated Skibbereen, 13th November, 1846, and addressed to Commissary-General Sir R. J. ROSS, Dublin.

THE little farmers who have been holding over their corn, are now getting aground; most of the small mills are in full work. I was at one about two miles from this yesterday, and counted nearly twenty animals all with corn waiting to be ground, which I find is taken to the different points where the men are paid on the Public Works, and sold at a high price. In a conversation with the miller, it appears he can turn out from 45 to 50 barrels weekly.

The weather is very fine for the last four or five days, and I did expect to see some preparations for wheat sowing, but nothing of the kind—all is *à l'arrê*. One man at whose house I called, seeing both wheat and oat stacks, between 11 and 12 a.m.; a beautiful day. I found this laxy fellow—farmer I will not call him—stretched on a settle in his hovel of a kitchen. Yet this man has 40 or 50 acres of good land well situated; and on questioning him about thrashing and bringing in his corn, was answered, he had none to dispose of. Nothing I believe could rouse or induce these indolent people to sow before February.

I shall attend to your orders about the queens.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

November 18, 1846.

THIS will be delivered to you by Mr. Chapple, Mr. Cubitt's foreman; who has superintended under my directions the making of several hand-mills, which he will deliver to you, together with one which has been made by Mr. Coreoran, and another by Captain James, of the Royal Engineers.

I shall be obliged to you to call to your aid competent millers or others, and to ascertain by actual trial which of them it will be advisable to adopt as models, and whether the specimens so selected are immediately susceptible of any further improvement.

Pray also inform me whether there are any manufacturers of such articles in Ireland, who might be called upon for tenders.

You are already aware that I have requested Captain Mann to send you a specimen of his hand-mills, and I am promised three more fitted with machinery, one from France, another from Ipswich, and the third, which Captain James has kindly undertaken for me; all which shall be forwarded to you as soon as I receive them.

Mr. Chapple is a very respectable pains-taking man. Mr. Cubitt has furnished him with an advance to defray his expenses, and he will remain as long as you wish to keep him.

Captain MANN to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Kilrush, November 16, 1846.

On the receipt of your letter I went to Kilkee, and found that *several* persons had taken to quern making, the success of the man alluded to having proved the inducement.

I have purchased one from the best maker, a stone-mason, and will forward it to-morrow to Sir R. Routh, according to your directions; the price is 15s., but the man fairly says if a greater quantity was wanted they would be lower, because it would be worth his getting a larger and more fit stock of tools in that case.

This sort of handmill will be far better suited to the wants of the poor in country places than any other, because there is no risk of its getting out of order further than they can repair, while iron work must always be more or less liable to it; in towns, or near them, the larger iron mills may do better. There will be a class of persons, artisans and others, whose time could be more advantageously employed, and who would be better able to pay a little per stone to the party possessing and working the mill; beside, with the latter there would be some shifting of screws in order to take the large grain (Indian corn), that would be likely to puzzle many of the poor; while with the quern, a bit of tow in the socket of the iron would raise the stone sufficient to receive the grain and grind coarse: then the tow taken out, it might be thrown off fine. In fact this sort of mill is simple, inexpensive, and the poor understand it; and if they wish to be kind and lend, it can be easily carried from house to house; the more expensive mill must be a joint-stock purchase, and perhaps lead to quarrelling.

You may have cold water thrown on the intention to supply *all* the poor. I find objections raised on the score that it is likely to cause waste; the question is, whether the real objection in this case is to the poor possessing the means to use their own corn. Some little time since a report was spread that the Government disapproved of the people using querns, and that the police were ordered to break, and were seen destroying them; it created quite a panic, and the poor creatures concealed them in bogs, &c., complaining to me on the subject. I mentioned it to the head of the police, and of course found it false; my encouraging the manufacture of them at Kilkee set that at rest. I can only add that I am very happy you have taken up the matter, and certain your intention carried out will be a great boon to the poor.

On the subject of the road contract and presentment system, there are a multitude of stories told that will not bear repeating, except two, which being related to me as matters of fact, you shall have hereafter. One thing appears to me clear, that these contracts are in the hands of people who either have interest with, or are tenants of grand jurors; the result is, that large sums of money go to any but the right party—the poor man who does the work. It has now become of great importance, that every source by which money-wages could be gained by the poor man should be fairly open to him. And hence arises the question, whether it is possible to make arrangements that would place all the road repairs in the country under Government control? (say the Board of Works) in the same manner, some of the roads are already. It must be a very large sum that is levied as cess for that purpose; and that it is too

often shamefully abused, few will deny. The contracts, I fear, generally are taken by parties put forward by a landlord (perhaps his tenant or servant) who supplies horses and carts, throws a few loads of gravel about, and when the time comes for payment, takes the supposed contractor, certifies and gets the amount allowed, and then receives it; the poor man perhaps allowed at the rate of 6s. per day for the time he worked, out of his rent, which rent being fixed at so much cash, and so many days' work in the year at that rate: the cases in point I alluded to, are these:—

An officer of the Board of Works stated to me that, not long since, going on a road that had, by its repair, &c., come under that Board, he observed a man with a cart throwing here and there a few shovels of gravel; on inquiring why he did so, the man stated he was the contractor for keeping the road in repair, and that 50*l.* had been granted for that purpose by the grand jury. On being threatened that the police should be sent to turn him off, the man got frightened, and said that, although the contract was in his name, it was his master's (a magistrate's) horses and carts who were to do it; he was merely a tenant, and would derive no benefit as the money would have to be paid over to the former as soon as it was received.

A stipendiary magistrate told me, that a person (I understood, a magistrate) having interest with the grand jury, promised to obtain the contract on a road for a party, who was, in consideration, to give him 20*l.*, and a bill to that effect passed between them. The party got the contract, but from some unforeseen circumstance, it proved a losing one, and he refused to take up the bill. He was threatened with a civil action by the bolder, but the story getting wind that the contractor would insist on proof of the consideration, some friends interfered, and it was dropped.

I know there is a law that would meet these and many other cases, but so many are, I fear, tarred with the same brush, or very nearly, that it would be a hopeless attempt to stop jobbing in that way, other than having the charity to remove the temptation from them.

In my former letter, I described the state of this part of the county of Clare as to population, and how few there are in a position to help the poor. One serious consideration now is as to what the land is to be tilled with this coming season. The general average of land said to have been laid down in potatoes is, in some instances, put at one-sixth, but for the reason I gave you, the dense population and large proportion of cottier and con-acre tenants, that proportion may be underrated. Of the land so planted, I feel all but certain, about four-fifths will not be tilled that way again for want of seed or other causes; wheat we have very little; that is mostly grown about Kilballyowen. Oats are never considered worth milling here except about Ennis. Barley we grow as good as others; but here and rye are scarcely known. The oats have been largely exported, and wisely, for they were only fit for feeding. The wheat and barley is being freely used by the people for food, and it unfortunately happens the land is so cold and wet that the former cannot be laid in the ground freely until spring, consequently there is great doubt whether enough seed would be left to cover the extra breadth of land, even supposing it would bear the above as crops. Now we have rich bog for rye, and gravelly soil for bere. Potatoes, as a green crop, has prepared it for such; this with turnips, parsnips, and the remnant of the potatoes would fill up, but the rye and bere-seed are not here. Application was made by Colonel Vandeleur, the Chairman of this Committee, requesting information as to the price of the seed about to be imported by the Government; no reply could be given then, as the invoices, &c., had not arrived. If you consider our position here, I am sure you will see the importance of having every information on that subject communicated as early as possible. I have talked on the subject with good practical men, and they all are of opinion it is most important. They also state, these crops (rye and bere) would be a full fortnight at least earlier than the others. Another important consideration, my object is to find what the Committees will do, or can do in the way of purchasing and distributing the seed in good time, in case it should prove necessary to retail that from the stores. I should like to see it offered at a tempting price under stringent regulation to insure its being put in the ground. The Circular on this subject has caused a great deal of talk and some uncertainty; it is most desirable that an early and clear understanding should be given, in case they are dis-

posed to avail themselves fully, and work. I have written freely as you requested, and shall be very happy if you can pick out anything that is useful; my anxiety is to show the people that their quiet conduct is appreciated, and to counteract an impudent fellow's speech, "That if they had been more troublesome they would have better care taken of them:" he was well put down by Colonel Vandeleur.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Captain MANN.

Treasury, November 21, 1846.

PRAY accept my thanks for your prompt attention to my request about the quern.

We have sent Sir Randolph Routh all the rye seed we have been able to procure in this country, and in the neighbouring parts of the continent of Europe, and any more that we might be able to get from more distant quarters would be too late to be sown this year.

Bere, however, is a spring crop, and we have, therefore, ample time to make our preparations as far as that is concerned.

But has it not occurred to you and Colonel Vandeleur, that as bere is merely an inferior sort of barley, which has become adapted to a poor soil and a severe climate, you might, by adopting it in the south of Ireland, be unnecessarily having recourse to an inferior article, and that good common barley would be better suited to your soil and climate than bere, besides being more productive and profitable.

Sir R. Routh has, ere this, received a detailed invoice of the rye and bere seed; and if you have not yet got the information you want, you should write to him again for it.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Castle, November 17, 1846.

I SEND you enclosed an application from Mr. Mansell, of Limerick, relative to flax seed. Will you have the goodness to enable me to answer it.

I send also extract of a letter from Deputy Assistant Commissary-General Campbell, copy of which I send to Colonel Jones.

ENCLOSURE.

Mr. MANSSELL to Sir R. ROUTH.

Terrist, Limerick, November 14, 1846.

THE Flax Improvement Society, at my request, have sent one of their agents here, and many, both of my tenants and of those of the neighbouring proprietors, intend to sow it next year.

None but American seed, which is very bad, is imported out of Limerick; and in order to grow flax successfully, we ought to have either Riga or Dutch seed. The former is usually the best, but this year the Dutch seed is peculiarly fine. I think that the Government would confer a great benefit upon this part of Ireland if they would assist our efforts this year, by importing at Limerick some of the best flax seed; and perhaps it may be found not inconsistent with their rules to assist so useful an object in its infancy.

EXTRACT of a LETTER from Deputy Assistant Commissary-General CAMPBELL.

Longford, November 14, 1846.

I am happy to say that though prices are still high, and even risen to-day, yet the markets are better supplied, and employment on roads, &c. becomes pretty general; to show, however, the indolence of the people, they prefer idling on the Public Works at 8d. a-day to earning double that amount from farmers and others who require them. This I have had from most respectable persons, who said that neither man nor cart nor horse could be had for hire; and that the effect now and for the future, while they could look to Government employ, would be most demoralising and injurious. During my several visits to the country, I have seen the men employed in repairing roads idling scandalously; and where even they had overseers (not always to be seen), I fear their authority extended a very short way. Women are also employed on the roads in breaking stones at 4d. a day; an unseemly occupation, but there is with them a very gentle application of the hammer.

MR. TREVELYAN to SIR R. ROUTH.

November 19, 1846.

I SHALL be obliged to you to submit Mr. Mansell of Tervoe's application for flax seed to Mr. Labouchere, and if he approves of it, I will procure any quantity that may be required, for the purpose of introducing the cultivation at Limerick or elsewhere. But we must not interfere as regards those parts of Ireland in which the cultivation is already regularly pursued.

If it should be determined to assist in procuring the seed, you must give me every necessary particular with respect to the quantity in which, and the time at which, it will be required.

In the meantime, I have requested Mr. Erichsen to ascertain in what quantity and at what price the best Dutch seed is to be obtained.

TREASURY MINUTE.

November 17, 1846.

WRITE to the Secretary of the Admiralty, and with reference to the Report (which is to be returned herewith) addressed to him by the Captain Superintendent of the Royal Clarence Yard on the 13th inst., relative to the anticipated want of supplies of Indian corn to keep the mills at Gosport employed, transmit to be laid before the Lords of the Admiralty copy of a letter from Messrs. Erichsen and Co. of the 16th instant, showing the measures about to be taken for forwarding to the Royal Clarence Yard supplies of barley to be ground into meal.

Messrs. ERICHSEN and Co. to MR. TREVELYAN.

110, Fenchurch-street, London,
November 16, 1846.

WE have the honour to return the enclosed letter from Captain John Carter, Superintendent of the Royal Clarence Victualling Yard at Gosport, and to state that, as it is quite doubtful what quantities of Indian corn may arrive during the next three or four weeks for the supply of Portsmouth, we shall be ready on Monday next, or as soon as we may succeed in making some arrangement with the Directors of the Southampton Railway, to forward barley in bags at the rate of 500 quarters per week to the Royal Clarence Victualling Yard.

SIR R. ROUTH to MR. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, November 18, 1846.

I AM much gratified with the accounts you give me of your activity and success with the barley meal, and we are quite ready to receive any quantity at Dublin.

I am also not a little interested in your improvements on the portable mills, which will, I think, be of the greatest service to the country.

We shall have four of our inspecting officers on their route this week.

Assistant Commissary-General Bishop, County Cork.

Colonel Douglas, County Tipperary, and perhaps one trip round County Waterford.

Captain Reid, County Kerry, and that part of West and East Carbury as far as Skibbereen.

Colonel Archer, County Galway.

I am very much inclined to place Mr. Trimmer at Galway, so as to employ Mr. Millikin as an inspecting officer, but I want to see a little more of him first. I know your good opinion of Mr. Trimmer.

I send you enclosed a memorandum of my conversation with the Rev. Mr. Monahan, and I suspect that Mr. McDonnell must have been the gentleman who made the report. The barony of Costello either belongs to him or he is otherwise connected with its interests, and he wanted some six or seven depôts with paid constables, and my representation to him of the impossibility of such a measure was unsatisfactory to him.

I am very glad you are going to print Mr. Ball's Report, which I think will be very useful, and I should like to have about two dozen copies. I observe what you say of stations, and shall act accordingly.

I think you may fairly engage Commander Hill, and I return Lord Auckland's letter.

Mr. Labouchere is in favour of Mr. Mansell's application for flax seed. As a general principle, he thinks the interference of Government objectionable, but as opening a new source of industry on the West Coast in County Limerick, he thinks we ought to stretch a point.

[Memorandum.]

ENCLOSURE.

I BELIEVE the following is a correct version of my interview with the deputation from Achill Island.

The parish priest, the Rev. Mr. Monahan, with another gentleman, I believe his curate, waited on me, and at the same time Mr. M'Donnell, of Doon Castle, M. P. for the county of Mayo, a staunch repealer, but then unknown to me, accompanied them.

Mr. Monahan said he called for the assistance of Government to the poor of Achill Island at such prices as the poor could afford to pay.

I informed him that it was our intention to establish a sub-dépôt in that island towards the end of November, when our supplies might be expected to arrive, but that I could not promise him to sell at low prices; that we could not buy dear and sell cheap, and that any attempt on our part to do so would prevent any mercantile competition, which we were desirous of encouraging.

I believe the gentleman's answer was pretty nearly what the report says.

In my reply I acknowledged the fact that we did then, under other circumstances, exercise a control over the market which we could not now repeat.

The priest's answer is here also tolerably correct. My answers only are misrepresented.

I told him that we had a little more respect for his illustrious countryman Burke, than to despise the rules of political economy, where they really tended to their own advantage. But that as regarded his application he might rest assured that it would not be overlooked, that everything was in progress to give effect to it, and that all just care and attention would be given to the locality whose interests he represented.

The subsequent part of the editor's report on there being no real scarcity, which he substantiates by extracts from my letter, is only one side of the subject.

He does not consider that the grain then stacked in the country, which is the abundance described, is altogether insufficient to supply the loss of the potato, though at that moment it was very desirable to bring it into consumption to allow time for foreign arrivals. The farmers knowing the real scarcity, and afraid of being left without food by depending exclusively on these arrivals, were hoarding as much for their own security as for any prospect of gain.

Commissary-General HEWETSON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Limerick, November 18, 1846.

THERE is, as I believe I have before observed to you, an evident disinclination on the part of the factors and millers in Limerick to reduce the prices of meal. Mr. Russell demanded and obtained last week 17*l* per ton for Indian meal. You are aware the stock in this market was for a short time very limited, with an increasing demand, hence the augmented rate, but now that supplies are daily arriving in the ports of Falmouth, Liverpool, and Cork, as also to a lesser extent here, and no want of home produce, prices should come down. The Russells may be said to regulate the rate in this and adjoining counties of Clare, Tipperary, and the north-western portion of Kerry. I called on them on Monday morning, when they promised, from that date, both Indian and whole wheaten meal should be reduced to 16*l* again, and oatmeal to 20*l*, but even this is too high a figure for any length of time. Indian corn has been freely sold in Cork at 14*l* on board, and I am informed latterly a cargo was sold at 13*l*. It is a step for serious consideration, the opening or partially opening our dépôts; but really the Limerick prices, if held at the foregoing quotations much longer, should be brought down. I run up to Dublin in a few days to see Sir Randolph upon various points of service, and am most desirous to confer with him, on this, one of the most important; the Russells are doing a great deal, and it is our best policy to encourage and afford them every reasonable facility and protection, but I fear, if left altogether to the few houses in this city (theirs giving the tone) reductions will be very gradual in operation.

Sir Randolph, I understand, keeps you informed on all matters upon which I write to him worthy of your attention. In anticipation of the receipt of fresh supplies, I shall really be well pleased to see our present stock going into consumption. Indian meal does not, in this damp climate, improve by long keeping, though to this time, ours is in good order, as is also, though not very fresh, the biscuit; nevertheless I am desirous both should, as soon as other considerations will admit of it, be brought into use, through Relief Committees, for the people. The stock in this district, which comprehends the depôts at Limerick, Skibbereen, Cahirciveen, Dingle, Kilrush, "Madagascar," and Banagher, is:—

- 10,143 sacks of Indian meal of 20 stone each.
- 3,889 barrels of Indian meal of 14 stone each.
- 135 sacks of oatmeal of 20 stone each.
- 232 casks of oatmeal of 24 stone each.
- 3,994 bags of biscuit of 8 stone each.

The beneficial effects of the Treasury regulations touching the supply of food, and the firmness shown, so far, in resisting applications for opening our depôts is now evident, not only in the large importations advised from foreign countries, but in many parts, in the roused energies and active benevolence of the landed proprietors, clergy, gentry, Relief Committees, and others, which are bringing so much of the home, in aid of foreign produce, into home consumption. Nevertheless there are localities, and I am anxious the authorities in Dublin should consider such cases, where from absenteeism and the causes I have before reported, little or nothing is doing, and I would almost say, can be done; next month will bring them more prominently out, and we must be prepared with aid, should the more legitimate means of affording relief fail.

Sir Randolph's directions, under date the 16th instant, to inspecting officers will be most serviceable, not only in checking abuses, but in imparting valuable information upon which we can rely. See page 247.

2351 quarters Indian corn have just arrived in the Shannon for Russell.

SIR R. ROUTH to MR. TREVELYAN.

Dublin, November 19, 1846.

THREE of our Inspecting Officers, Assistant Commissary-General Bishop, County Cork; Colonel Douglas, Waterford and Tipperary; and Captain Reid, County Kerry, have their instructions, and leave Dublin on Saturday.

Mr. Le Mesurier proceeds on the same day to Banagher, and Mr. Trimmer goes down to Galway, and after a time will relieve Mr. Milliken, so as to allow him to take the County Galway as his tour of inspection, and perhaps, to attach County Clare to it hereafter. It is very desirable to reserve our Commissariat Officers for the West Coast, for the part of the country where we are specially pledged, so that they may perform two duties, of inspecting our depôts and accountants, as well as the Committees. Galway throughout will require a good deal of Commissariat attention.

Colonel Douglas appears to be all zeal and activity, and promises to be very useful.

Captain Reid is very anxious, but he may probably require a day or two more to understand his duties before he leaves.

I think Mr. Ball's Report will much facilitate their first efforts.

I shall attend to the alterations you send me. We keep the instructions in type.

Mr. Hewetson writes you about opening his depôts.

He will be here on Monday, and I shall better understand what he means, and write you accordingly.

I have the invoice of the rye. It will be difficult to divide to the satisfaction of so many applicants.

I am very much pleased with Mr. Trimmer, who is very promising and active.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

RETURN of the COMMUNICATIONS referred by T. N. REIDEMAN, Esq., Under Secretary for Ireland, to Commissary-General Sir RANDOLPH J. ROURN, from 9th to 11th November, both days inclusive. Also the Answer given to each class of application.

I.—APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
D 7699	Limerick	Kilmeedy and Castletown Committee represent extreme distress as existing in the district, and state, that delay in affording relief will be productive of much evil, &c.; that they received subscriptions during the past season of distress, by which they purchased supplies of food during the summer; these subscriptions are exhausted, and the high price of provisions renders private exertions unavailable, &c. <p>The Under Secretary inquires if this is a case for a donation in aid?</p> <p>Informed that in the past season the Committee received on subscriptions amounting to 315<i>l</i>. 10<i>s</i>., the large and sufficient grant of 240<i>l</i>., and that the accounts of the period are closed.</p> <p>The paper is returned to the Under Secretary.</p>
D 7716	Kerry	Thurbot, Ballylongford, Mulin, and Knockaner united districts. <p>The Committee state, that they have received separate subscriptions for each of these localities, and solicit grants.</p> <p>Informed that lists of the four subscriptions should be transmitted in the manner pointed out in the Instructions.</p>

II.—APPLICATIONS FOR DEPOTS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
D 7666	Limerick	Limerick, Viscount Gullinacra, Vice-Lieutenant of county and city of Limerick, asks for what purpose the Government stored Indian meal? Every ounce is so much taken out of the market, and so far sets injuriously to the public; states that if the stores are not now opened, it was useless expense creating them, &c., &c. <p>Informed that none of the depots can be opened until all shall be provided with sufficient supplies, that were the Government sales to be now commenced, there should be a concurrent purchase of supplies of Indian corn, to replace the quantity issued, which in the present limited extent of the importation, would have the effect of augmenting the prices, and creating an artificial scarcity in the import markets; that under these circumstances it is hoped that the Relief Committees will, through the influence of their members, promote an increase of the sales of home produce, to supply the local markets until the foreign corn shall arrive in sufficient quantity.</p>
D 7779	Limerick	Kilfinnee and Ardpatrick Committee forwarded a memorial, in which they set forth the insufficiency of food in the district, and pray for the opening of a depot to supply food at cost price. <p>See answer annexed.</p>
D 7748	Limerick	Killynna and Derna Committee memorial, showing that famine and sickness are fast spreading, &c., &c.; that death by famine will occur, and the rights of property be invaded, unless food can be supplied at a cheap rate to the poor, &c. <p>A copy of the answer addressed to the Kilfinnee Relief Committee, as applying equally to Killynna District, which adjoins it, is transmitted. See foregoing case (D 7779).</p>
Z 19385	Rooscommon . . .	Viscount Lorton suggests that wheaten or barley meal should be supplied at the four police barracks, which are situated contiguous to extensive works on the Shannon, &c. <p>Informed that it is not now intended to establish any depot east of the Shannon, except those at Longford and Banagher, which are, however, to be provided with supplies only for the western districts; that in drawing attention to a former communication to the cheapness of wheat and barley, as compared with the price of Indian corn, this was done with a view of inducing local bodies to provide supplies of home corn, in preference to foreign produce, until the importations should be more extensive.</p>

III.—APPLICATIONS FOR MEAL, FOOD, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
D 7533	Tipperary	Barriskane.—Correspondent states that the exertions of the Committee will shortly be rendered fruitless, if food, even at high prices, be not afforded; that corn could be had, but there is no way for grinding it, and prays for an issue of meal from Banagher stores, &c. <p>Informed that when the depot at Banagher shall be ready for issuing supplies, they can only be sold for districts west of the Shannon; that since the date of his communication, there have arrived considerable supplies of Indian corn to the merchants in Limerick.</p>

Return of Communications, &c.—continued.

IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
2 } 19068	General District . .	Sir Robert Kane forwards a demand on the Commission for inquiring into the potato disease, amounting to 3l. 0s. 6d., the cost of a potato pulper furnished by Messrs. Cotnam and Hallen, London, and he states, that it was sent over in reference to the potato disease, with the cognizance of the official authorities in London. The Under Secretary inquires whether there are any funds at the disposal of the Commissary-General applicable to this demand? Informed that there are not any funds out of which the Commissary-General can recommend payment of the expense; stated that all expenses of inquiry into the potato disease heretofore defrayed were included in the Under Secretary's disbursements.
2 } 19068	Waterford . . .	Waterford City.—Memorial of the guardians of the Poor Law Union suggests to His Excellency the Lord-Lieutenant, that experts should be stopped for six months; distillation suspended, and Irish produce purchased by Government, to supply extensive public granaries. Informed by the Chief Secretary, that the suggestions will receive the fullest consideration of Government. Paper noted at the Commissariat Relief Office, and returned to the Under Secretary.
D 7560	Tyrone	Parish of Upper Badoon.—Memorial of magistrates, &c., praying for a separate Committee, &c., &c., for this parish. This memorial, &c., is returned to the Under Secretary, with a letter received from the Lieutenant of the county, declining to make the changes suggested, and which letter is at the same time acknowledged; the parties are informed also that their memorial, &c., having been referred to the Lieutenant of the county, he has on inquiry considered it undesirable to make the changes proposed, and therefore the Relief District as originally constituted will remain unaltered.
D 6782	Rosecommon . . .	Town of Rosecommon.—Correspondent makes inquiries with reference to the formation of Relief Committees, &c., &c. A copy of the sanctioned instructions is enclosed, observing that the Lieutenant, or Vice-Lieutenant, may add to the ex-officio members of new Committees so many members of the late Committees as should appear to be desirable.
D 7819	Tyrone (Barony of Strahane).	Parish of Urney.—Correspondent requests that East and West Urney (situated in different counties) be formed into one Relief District, &c., &c. See answer annexed.

Commissariat Relief Office,
Dublin Castle, November 19, 1846.

ENCLOSURE.

Mr. STANLEY to the Rev. GEORGE WHELAN.

Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
November 11, 1846.

THE Memorial of the Relief Committee of Killynane having been referred to Commissary General Sir Randolph J. Routh, he desires to state that there will not be a Commissariat Depot at or near Killynane. The supply of food for that part of the country will be left to the efforts of the inhabitants to provide for their own wants, with the means which would enable them to purchase corn or meal at a depot, and which will no doubt be found to offer a sufficient inducement to dealers to provide supplies through the ample resources of the port of Limerick.

Should the Relief Committee form an additional Relief Fund to provide a supply of food for sale at market prices, a grant in aid may be obtained in the manner pointed out by the printed instructions.

Mr. STANLEY to the Rev. ROBERT HUME.

Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
November 10, 1846.

YOUR letter to the Under Secretary having been this day received by Commissary-General Sir Randolph J. Routh, he begs to state that the object which you have in view can only be effected through the Vice-Lieutenant of the county Donagall, Sir James Stewart, to whom he recommends that you should send a list of the Committees for Urney in Tyrone, with a statement of your Committee's arrangements, requesting that the same Committee, with any addition of ex-officio members locally necessary, may be named for Urney in Donagall, thereupon detaching that parish from Donaghmore, which it is competent to the Vice-Lieutenant to do, should he consider such an arrangement advisable. In any event the matter rests with him.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

RETURN of CORRESPONDENCE from 9th to 11th November, both days inclusive.

I.—APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7168	Limerick	Newcastle Committee forward a certified list of Subscriptions, amounting to 168 <i>l.</i> 5 <i>s.</i> , and solicit a grant. 84 <i>l.</i> is recommended.
7202	Tipperary	Roscrea Committee state, that they have collected subscriptions amounting to 192 <i>l.</i> , as a fund for the purchase of provisions, to be sold at first cost, and to provide gratuitous relief to some parties. Also state that they expect a proportionate grant from Government. Informed that unless the workhouse of the Union be full, gratuitous aid should not be given from the Relief Fund to even the infirm poor. It is recommended to the Roscrea Committee to consider whether employment of some kind may not be provided for all persons who shall directly receive assistance from the fund; as grants on subscriptions are only made on condition that the fund shall be applied conformably to the printed instructions. Also informed that if the Committee be prepared to adhere to the instructions, a grant will be recommended, on the list of the subscriptions being transmitted, in the manner pointed out by the Regulations, sections 26 and 27.
7133	Limerick	Ballyhane Committee represent great distress as existing, and again request the sum of 200 <i>l.</i> in aid of their exertions, &c. Informed that it is not now possible to make a decision in aid of any Relief Fund of the past period of distress; also, that the fund of the Ballyhane Committee, in aid of which they apply for 200 <i>l.</i> , appears to have been originally augmented by a Government grant of 60 <i>l.</i> , on subscriptions amounting to 60 <i>l.</i> 1 <i>l.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>
7120	Tipperary	Tipperary Committee inquire what sum Government will add to our local subscriptions now in course of collection? Informed that on receipt of a list of subscriptions in the manner pointed out by the Instructions, a grant in aid, amounting to about one-half, will be recommended on condition that the Relief Fund shall be expended conformably to the regulations of Government.
7359	Coek	Scholl Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions amounting to 46 <i>l.</i> , and solicit a grant. 33 <i>l.</i> is recommended.

II.—APPLICATIONS FOR DEPOTS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
6007	Carlow	Parish of Ruhrilly; correspondent requests to be informed when a depot will be established in this district; states that the want of food will produce fearful results, &c. Informed that the Commissariat cannot take any part in providing supplies of corn food for the county of Carlow. A copy of the Treasury Minute of 31st August last is transmitted, by which it will be observed that the Commissariat arrangements are to be limited to the western districts. A copy of instructions to Relief Committees is likewise transmitted, to which attention is directed; and an extension of the practice of employing Relief Funds in providing supplies of food is recommended, the Relief Committee not retailing the food themselves, but employing individuals of character to sell for them, at a price to be fixed by them, sufficient to cover all charges, including an allowance of 1 <i>s.</i> in the pound as recompense for storing and selling.
7200	Down	Condover district; memorial of the Committee praying for the establishment of a depot. Informed that their application will be duly considered.

III.—APPLICATIONS FOR MEAL, FOOD, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7120	Tipperary	Tipperary Committee request an issue of Indian meal from the Limerick depot, with a view to sell it at first cost. Informed that Relief Committees for districts outward of the Shannon cannot be supplied from the Commissariat depots when issues shall be commenced; also that Indian meal is now on sale in Limerick at as low prices as the Government supplies could be sold if the depots were at present open.
7234	Sligo	Belaghy; correspondent applies for a weekly supply of meal or flour for this town; as he is led to understand that any respectable person or persons applying for such a quantity would be authorised to obtain it by the Commissariat Relief Office. Informed that there is no such mode of affording relief as that to which reference is made, and that a copy of the Instructions to Relief Committees is forwarded for his information.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

III.—APPLICATIONS FOR MEAL, FOOD, &c.—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7031	Limerick (Barony of Coshlea).	Barony of Coshlea; extracts supplied by Board of Works from letter of Thomas Kearney, Esq., district officer of the Board, drawing attention to the distress in this barony, and urging the existence of an immediate necessity for supplying provisions, &c. Informed that the Commissariat arrangements for assisting in providing supplies of food will not extend to that district; that the supply will be left to local trade, the efforts of the landlords and subtenants to provide for their own wants through the ample resources of the port of Limerick, and the exertions in aid which can be made by Relief Committees.

IV.—COMMUNICATIONS WITH REFERENCE TO RYE, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7170	Sligo	Coalwin Committee require 70 bushels of rye and 12 bushels of bere, &c.
7176	Fermanagh	Lurg Committee request that seed rye, &c. may be placed at the disposal of farmers at cost price, otherwise it is feared that they cannot purchase it.
7180	Limerick	Ballypennane Committee ask if the seed rye, &c. already applied for will be supplied?
7202	Clare	Kilrush Committee inquire on what terms seed rye, &c. will be provided by Government? Informed that the terms on which seed rye can be sold, will be announced as soon as the invoices of the importations shall arrive; and that the arrangements for the distribution will then also be communicated; that the quantity obtained is, however, very limited, owing to the advanced period of the season; but that as here is a spring corn, a more ample supply of it may probably be procured before the time for sowing.
7270	Cavan	Cootehill Committee furnish a list of applications for seed rye, barley and bere, with the quantities required by each applicant. Acknowledged, stating that the quantity which can be supplied, and the cost price, will be announced shortly; observing that the quantity of rye will be limited, owing to the advanced period of the season, but that here being spring corn, may be hereafter supplied more largely.

V.—PUBLIC RELIEF WORKS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7163	Tyrone	Doneghedy Committee forward a list of labourers requiring employment, and inquire when works will be put forward.
7164	Kerry	Bally M'Elligott Committee memorial the Board of Works for additional road works.
7169	Tyrone	Strahane Committee apply for forms of labour lists.
7179	Mayo	Aughagower, &c. Committee forward resolution, pointing out the inadequacy of the works now in progress.
7182	Cork	Ardsfield Committee complain of delay in the payment of labourers on works; 14 days are now due.
7154	Carlow	Rathvilly Committee request forms of labour lists. Referred to the local officers of the Board of Works.
7220	Kilkenny	Knocktopher Committee apply for forms of labour lists. Referred to the local officers of Public Works.
7255	Queen's County . .	Mayborough East Committee suggest that steps for immediate employment be taken; that they have, for the first time, met in Committee, and regret an officer from Board of Works was not in attendance, &c. Informed that inquiries preliminary to the registry of applicants for employment may be made before an officer of Public Works shall attend any meeting of the Committee. Attention is directed to the Instructions generally.
7126	Kerry	Bally M'Elligott Committee forward suggestions in reference to construction, &c. of roads. Forwarded to Board of Works, and the parties informed.
7260	Queen's County . .	Ahleykeix; correspondent states he will supply wheel-barrow on Public Works. Forwarded to Board of Works, and parties informed accordingly.
7264	Londonderry . . .	Maghern Committee write in reference to registry of labourers. Referred to Board of Works, &c.
7231	Queen's County . .	Upperwood Committee inquire of holders of land, but without provisions of any kind; and having a horse and a cow, or two cows, can be registered as applicants for employment on Public Relief Works, &c. See Answer annexed.
7229	Kilkenny	Goeshridge Committee inquire when Public Works may be expected to be commenced, as the people are urgent in their demands for employment.

The Committee requested to refer to the Board of Works or their local officers, the Commissary-General not having cognizance of the arrangements for the Relief Works.

Returns of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

VI.—APPLICATIONS FOR BOOKS, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7175	Wicklow	Moyné Committee. Books sent.
7240	Meath	Barony of Upper Dece; three Committees for this barony. Books, &c. sent.
7226	Kildare	Committees of County. Books, &c. sent.
7235	Kilkenny	Castlecomer (Institutions) Committee. Books, &c. sent.
7227	Carlow	Return of Committee for county. Books, &c. sent.
7239	Wicklow	Tinselly Committee. Informed that books, &c. were forwarded on 10th ult.
7271	Mayo	Kilbally Committee. Informed that as soon as a notification by the Lieutenant of county of his sanction of this Committee is received, the books, &c. will be forwarded.
7257	Kilkenny	Four Committees for barony of Cranagh. Books, &c. sent.
7173	Kilkenny	Three Committees for barony of Knocktopher. Books, &c. sent.
7279	Meath	Baronies of Moyfinagh and of Upper Slane. Books, &c. sent.
7197	Mayo	Kilbally Committee. Informed that on a notification of the Lieutenant of county, that he has approved of this Committee. Books, &c., will be forwarded.
7189	Longford	Edgeworthstown Committee. Transmitted.
7190	Tipperary	Ballinscurey Committee. Books, &c. sent.
7172	Tipperary	Carpanville Committee request instructions. Ask, where a parish lies in two counties, can the entire parish be retained in the same Relief District?
7175	Wicklow	Moyné Committee.
7183	Cork	Ardfield Committee request stationery.
7187	Fermanagh	Killingham Committee.
7188	Wicklow	Gamley, &c. Committee.
7189	Longford	Edgeworthstown Committee.
7190	Tipperary	Clanbeg Committee.
7262	Tipperary	Roscrea Committee. Sent.
7238	Wicklow	Blacinton Committee apply for books, &c. The Vice-Lieutenant is requested to forward to the Commissariat Relief Office a notification of the appointment of Chairman and Secretary.
7194	Donegal	Drumholm and Rossiner Committee. Noted and sent.
7192	Donegal	Chommaney and Donagh Committee. Noted and sent.
7193	Donegal	Caldoff Committee. Noted and sent.
7191	Donegal	Meff Committee. Noted and sent.
7202	Queen's County	Baronies of Clondonough and Tinnelich. Noted and sent.
7190	Cork	Castilyone Committee. Sent.
7226	Cork	Danerole Committee. Sent and noted.
7188	Wicklow	Barony of Newcastle; parishes of Glanchy, Kilcommon, &c. Informed that as soon as a notification is made by the Lieutenant of county of his approval of this Committee, the books, &c. will be sent.
7187	Fermanagh	Killingham Committee. Informed when notification arrives of sanction of Lieutenant of county for this Committee, books, &c. will be transmitted.
7275	Cork	Almish Committee. Informed as above.
7285	Tyrone	Aughnashy Committee. Books, &c. sent 31st ultimo.

Books, papers, &c. to be forwarded where Committees are constituted in accordance with the Instructions.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

VII.—RETURN OF RELIEF COMMITTEES—As approved by Lieutenant of County.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7173	Kildenny	Jointly.—For the bureau of Knocknaph.
7190	Tipperrary	
7233	Galway	
		Glaubeg Committee. Names of members forwarded.
		Annagh.—Parishes of Cammer and Kilmoylan. Correspondent inquires if the Relief district has yet been sanctioned, and if the Committee, as named, is approved, &c.
		Informed that the Vice-Lieutenant has approved of the Committee proposed by correspondence on the 13th ultimo;—that he has named him as chairman, and left the appointment of secretary to the Committee, &c.
7286	Galway	Lakeary and Adrigole Committee request the addition of six gentlemen, &c. (as forwarded) to their number.
		Informed that the addition is approved of by the Vice-Lieutenant of the county.
7313	Galway; Barony of Bellynace.	Electoral division of Clonsilla Committee. Names of members, &c. submitted for sanction.
		Informed that the Vice-Lieutenant of the county has approved of the Committee proposed at the Petty Sessions of Williamstown for the electoral division of Clonsilla; but he requires the principal clergymen of each parish in the division to be included in the Committee.

VIII.—ACCOUNTS OF COMMITTEES.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7153	Limerick	Ballycathane Committee enclose a certified account of their expenditure, &c.
7237	Tipperrary	
		Kiladuff Committee state that they furnished their accounts in September last.—Circular sent.
7228	Limerick	Newcastle Committee state that, not having ceased Relief operations on the 15th of August, nor until 3rd of September, when the late Treasurer resigned, it is difficult to return their Expenditure Account as required to the 15th of August.
		A form of accounts is forwarded requesting it may be filled up, showing the financial transactions of the Newcastle Relief Committee to the close of the late Treasurer's responsibility, namely, 3rd September, as it appears not practicable to furnish a correct account to the 15th August.
7215	Clare	Kilkee and Tonnagey Committee forward answers to queries.
		Answered by Circular.
7242	Cork	Inniscarra Committee state that they have already furnished their accounts, but will do so again.
		Circulars.
7221	Mayo	Belmullet Committee state that they have already furnished their accounts, a copy of which they will furnish.
		Circulars.
7208	Wexford	New Ross Committee state that they have already furnished their accounts.
7277	Cork	Rathernac Committee state that they have already furnished their accounts.
7288	Louth	Drogheda Committee furnish answers to queries as an account of their expenditure.
		Circulars sent.

Head of Answers

That the replies to queries do not supersede the necessity for obtaining the "Account Current" on the forms supplied on the 27th ultimo.

IX.—MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7261	Cork	Innishannon Committee state, that in consequence of the Lieutenant of the county declining to sanction the reappointment of all the gentlemen presented to him to act on the Committee (excepting ex-officio members), the late Secretary and Treasurer, &c., have withdrawn and connected themselves with a new Relief Association; and in these circumstances they ask how they are to act in reference to the books and accounts remaining in their possession, &c., &c. ? also, how they are to obtain Government aid?
		Informed that application should be made to have the accounts, &c., given to the present

[IX.—MISCELLANEOUS—continued.]

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
		Committee, and that in the mean time a new set of books, papers, and notes will be supplied. That with respect to Government aid, it is to be applied for in the manner pointed out by the Instructions, Sections 26 and 27. That applicants for employment on the Public Works in Bandah district, can only obtain it on being registered by the Committee for Iorishannon district, as formed by the Lieutenant of the County.
7125	Cavan	Students Committee state that they will comply with the Regulations, and request to receive the donation of eight pounds recommended in aid of their subscriptions of sixteen pounds fifteen shillings and sixpence, set forth in their second subscription list. Informed that the further grant of eight pounds will be paid on application by letter to Deputy-Assistant Commissary-General Campbell, at Longford.
7124/ 7040	King's County . . .	Benagher District. Correspondent states that the late Relief Committee for this locality will not act under any circumstances with the Secretary appointed by the Lieutenant of the County for the present season, &c.; that the newly-appointed Secretary and the Lismagh Committee must have quite sufficient business in their own parish, and therefore could not possibly attend to the duties in Benagher and the parish of Rynagh, &c., &c. Informed that the formation of Relief Districts and Committees for King's County has been devolved by Government on the Lieutenant of County; that the arrangements made by him have no doubt been framed with a view of rendering the districts conformable to the Instructions of the Government, as nearly as local circumstances permitted; but that this letter will, however, be forwarded to him for his consideration. The Lieutenant of the County is requested to consider the letter from the Secretary of the late Benagher Relief Committee, and is referred to a letter addressed to that gentleman in reply. The Lieutenant of the County replies that he has named a chairman for the parishes of Rynagh and Lismagh, as also a secretary; that it appears to him that the Benagher Committee is sufficiently represented in the new Committee by the ex-officio members; that, however, he has proposed to add to the present Committee three subscribers of the largest sums to the Benagher Relief Fund of last season; that he has taken other steps to remove any misconception which may exist among the parties. Acknowledged, stating (as the information may assist in deciding on the claim of Benagher to a separate Committee) that on the 24th August last, the Relief Fund, then at the disposal of the late Committee, amounted to £1 2s. 8d.
7297	Galway	Oceanmore and Ballinacree Committee. Lord Wallaceport, Deputy-Lieutenant, forwards for approval to the Vice-Lieutenant the names, &c., of Relief Committee for this locality, which is headed in, sanctioned. Informed that the Vice-Lieutenant of County has notified to the Commissary-General his approval of the Committee for these parishes, provided the district to be taken in charge shall extend to the whole of each electoral division, and include the parish of Clont Galway, in the barony of Duakellin, the Committee, if necessary, appointing a Sub-Committee for part of the district.
6997	Galway	Extract of a letter from Major-General Sir Guy Campbell, to the effect, that much distress from want of food prevails at Maam and its vicinity; that he communicated with the only resident magistrate of this locality, who represented the mountain districts as being in great distress, and at great distances from flour stores and mills; that the poor people are living principally on cabbage leaves, &c. Suggests that a flour store be placed on Lough Corrib, a floating store, &c. Deposit. Mr. Bruce Blake, the magistrate referred to, has applied for a depot to be established in the district. A letter was written to him on the 7th instant.
7236	Galway	Ahascragh Committee. Correspondent forwards for the sanction of Government, &c., three lists of members of Committee, with one for Ahascragh parish, thus completing the Committees for the barony of Kilconnell, and requests the Vice-Lieutenant of County to insert the name of Lord Clonbrock as chairman in the list for Ahascragh, in the room of Charles Pigate, Esq., transferred to Killaughtan list. Headed in, sanctioned by the Vice-Lieutenant. The secretary of Ahascragh Committee is informed, that as this parish is in three baronies, it will be necessary that a separate account of applicants for employment shall be made for each of the three divisions of the parish; that two additional books are now therefore forwarded; that with respect to the appointment of chairman, the Vice-Lieutenant has appointed Lord Clonbrock; but that, in his Lordship's absence, the chairman is Mr. Walter M'Donnagh, and that no other person whatever has authority to take the chair.

Return of Correspondence—continued.

IX.—MISCELLANEOUS—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7198	Londonderry . . .	Aghadowney and Maracquin Committee inquire to what extent they may look for a donation in aid of local subscriptions, &c. <p>Attention is directed to an enclosed copy of Instructions, and of the Treasury Minute of 31st of August last, by which it will be observed, that donations are made in aid of local subscriptions in the proportion of one-third to one-half of the amount subscribed; and that all food provided by a Relief Fund so formed is to be sold at market prices; and stating that the Committee, by providing cheap kinds of food, purchased on favourable terms, may render much advantage to the poorer classes.</p>
7255	Wexford	Kilgibben. Rannacorthy Committee suggest, with reference to the registration of labourers for employment under the Board of Works, which requires the extent of each holding to be entered in statute acres, that cards be furnished containing a table of Irish and statute measure. <p>A table taken from Thom's Almanack is forwarded for their guidance in computing the extent of holdings according to statute measure.</p>
7174	Wexford	Ferna Committee state, that they have been obliged to lower the price of meat below market prices, and ask if this will disentitle them to a donation from Government on private subscriptions. <p>Informed that donations are only granted in aid of subscriptions on condition that the regulations for the guidance of Relief Committees shall be observed in applying the Relief Fund; and that one of these, as laid down by the Treasury Minute of the 31st of August last, is, that the food provided shall be sold at prices as nearly as possible the same as the market prices prevailing in the neighbourhood.</p>
7205	Waterford	Glenahairy Committee. Secretary inquires with reference to the salary to be allowed him, &c. <p>Informed that it is left to the discretion of Relief Committees to fix the recompense of their secretaries, as the amount must necessarily vary with local circumstances; and in most districts the duties are performed gratuitously, the gentlemen acting being allowed the assistance of a copying clerk when requisite; that whenever recompense is made must be given out of the Relief Funds at the disposal of the Committee, there being no other funds applicable to the purpose.</p>
7239	Kilkenny	Gortnabridge Committee request any other instructions as to their operations which the present pressure of distress requires. <p>Informed that the instructions point out the course to be taken by Relief Committees; that among the objects therein referred to, the formation of a Relief Fund for enlarging the supply of food, to be sold for the Committee on commission, is considered of much importance. That by purchasing cheap kinds of food on good terms, and having the supplies sold by individuals of character at prices fixed for them sufficient to repay the first cost with all charges, the fund may be successively reinvested, without loss, throughout the period of distress, and give the poorer classes the advantage of buying food at a fair price without discouraging traders.</p>
7185	Cork	Mallow Union. The managers of the Buttevant Fever Hospital, &c. inquire (as the accounts of the Fever Hospitals are about to be closed) what arrangements can be made with the Board of Guardians for the expense of maintaining additional fever patients admitted to the hospital, and if additional accommodation provided pursuant to an order from the Central Board of Health for Ireland in June last, &c.? <p>Informed that the meetings of the Central Board of Health ceased on the 15th of August last, but that it does not appear necessary for the managers of the Buttevant Fever Hospital, &c., to obtain any further directions with respect to the arrangements made in June last with the Board of Guardians of Mallow Union, for enlarging the hospital and extending medical relief, as no doubt the Board of Guardians will be prepared to pay whatever charges the Union may have thereby incurred, subject to the approval of the Poor Law Commissioners.</p>
6982	Limerick	Messrs. John R. Russell and Sons state, that the removal of corn from Clare and Ennis to their mills at Askeaton and elsewhere having been prevented for three weeks by a general combination of the country people near Clare, and that the detention of the corn by the people being notorious, must, if further permitted by the authorities, lead to a stoppage of all supplies to that quarter by this firm. Complain of the conduct of the Government resident magistrate. <p>A communication made to Messrs. Russell by the Commissariat-General.</p>

ENCLOSURE.

MR. STANLEY TO MR. HAMILTON.

*Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
November 10, 1846.*

HAVING laid your letter of the 9th instant before Commissary-General Sir Randolph J. Routh, I have received directions to state, in reply to the inquiry of the Upperwood Relief Committee, that the form of the registry of applicants for employment has been provided with a column for the extent of the landholdings of persons requiring relief; as in cases where the holdings are small the loss of potato crop may be so considerable, comparatively with the value of the whole produce, as to render many occupiers destitute of means of support. It appears, however, to be impossible for the Government to say whether occupiers who have a horse or a cow should be excluded on that account, as their loss of potatoes may still leave them dependent on public works, though not in the same degree as persons who have not a horse to sell, or the produce of a cow to assist them.

The 19th section of the Instructions appears to provide for the difficulty raised, by making the claim to employment dependent on the fact of its being essential to provide the requisite means of subsistence; and the cases referred to can only be dealt with safely by leaving them entirely to the discretion of the Relief Committee, subject to the rule cited.

When employment is given to persons holding land, care should be taken to prevent neglect of their farms.

TREASURY MINUTE.

November 24, 1846.

WRITE to Sir R. Routh, with reference to the accompanying extract from the abstract of his correspondence from the 9th to the 11th instant, and desire that he will call upon Commissary-General Hewetson to report whether he was aware of the circumstances adverted to therein, and if so, what measures were taken by him to bring the subject to the notice of the proper authorities, in order that suitable measures might be adopted to re-establish the safety of the transit of provisions, in pursuance of the course prescribed in the Treasury Minute dated 31st August last.

Also desire that Sir R. Routh will furnish my Lords with a copy of the answer made by him to Messrs. Russell's letter.

ENCLOSURE.

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
6912	Limerick	Messrs. Jas. R. Russell and Sons state that the removal of corn from Clare and Roske to their mills at Askenon and elsewhere, having been prevented for three weeks by a general combination of the country people near Clare, and that the detention of the corn by the people being notorious, must, if farther permitted by the Authorities, lead to a stoppage of all supplies to that quarter by this firm. Complaint of the conduct of the Government Resident Magistrate. A communication made to Messrs. Russell by the Commissary-General.

*Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
November 19, 1846.*

TREASURY MINUTE.

November 24, 1846.

WRITE to Sir R. Routh, with reference to the annexed notice of a letter from the Upperwood Relief Committee, inquiring whether holders of land having a horse and a cow or two cows can be registered as applicants for employment on Public Relief Works, and to the copy of his answer, both of which are taken from the abstract of his correspondence from the 9th to the 11th instant; that according to the 19th article of the Instructions for the guidance of Relief Committees, only persons "having no other resource or means of acquiring subsistence than employment on public works" are to be registered as applicants for employment on Relief Works.

Their Lordships consider it to be of great importance that this rule should be strictly enforced. They apprehend that the neglect, even of the ordinary cultivation of the land, reports of which have reached them from various quarters, is mainly attributable to persons being allowed to obtain an easy subsistence on the Relief Works who ought to be employed in carrying on the agricultural operations suited to the season, and they are of opinion that while employment is given on the Relief Works to such persons, no care that can be taken will prevent the neglect of their farms.

Their Lordships do not understand that this rule can, or ought to be applied to all persons holding land, as many persons holding small portions of land on which the crop of potatoes has failed, may, for the present, be amongst the most destitute part of the population, but they do consider it very necessary to prevent the abuse of persons being employed on Relief Works, who have the means of maintaining themselves from their own resources.

The application of the rule must necessarily, in each case, be left to the discretion of the Relief Committees and the Government Officers acting in communication with them, and Sir R. Routh will instruct all the inspecting officers acting under him to make particular inquiry whether the 19th article of the Instructions to Relief Committees is properly enforced, and if not, to call upon the Local Committees to revise the lists of persons entitled to employment on the Relief Works in the manner above directed.

Transmit a copy of this Minute to the Commissioners of Public Works for their information and guidance.

Also transmit a copy to the Secretary for Ireland, for the information of the Lord Lieutenant.

ENCLOSURE.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7231	Queen's County . .	Upperwood Committee inquire if holders of land, but without provisions of any kind, and having a horse or a cow, or two cows, can be registered as applicants for employment on Public Relief Works, &c.

MR. STANLEY TO MR. HAMILTON.

Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,

November 10, 1846.

HAVING laid your letter of the 9th instant before Commissary-General Sir Randolph J. Routh, I have received directions to state in reply to the inquiry of the Upperwood Relief Committee, that the form of the registry of applicants for employment has been provided with a column for the extent of the landholdings of persons requiring relief; as in cases where the holdings are small the loss of the potato crop may be so considerable, comparatively with the value of the whole produce, as to render many occupiers destitute of means of support. It appears, however, to be impossible for the Government to say whether occupiers who have a horse or a cow should be excluded on that account, as their loss of potatoes may still leave them dependent on Public Works, though not in the same degree as persons who have not a horse to sell, or the produce of a cow to assist them.

The 19th section of the Instructions appears to provide for the difficulty raised, by making the claim to employment dependent on the fact of its being essential to provide the requisite means of subsistence; and the cases referred to can only be dealt with safely by leaving them entirely to the discretion of the Relief Committee, subject to the rule cited.

When employment is given to persons holding land, care should be taken to prevent neglect of their farms.

SIR R. ROUTH TO MR. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, November 21, 1846.

THE Fast-day yesterday, on which all the public offices were closed, has quite interrupted my occupations, and my letter must be more concise than I intended. Colonel Archer takes Menth and Westmeath, and Longford. Captain Stopford arrived to-day, and he takes Wexford and Kilkenny. The early part of next week will see them at their stations. We are as busy as pos-

sible preparing for them the necessary information, but a few days will put it all in order.

Mr. Chapple has arrived, but not his models, which we anxiously expect. If we succeed in making a good and cheap quern, it will be of incalculable advantage.

When Mr. Hewetson comes up, we must look over those dépôts in Kerry, but even there the people are coming forward more than I anticipated; they begin to recognise that we are acting upon a *principle*, and this perception induces those that see it to work with us. I look forward with full confidence to the moment when their praise will exceed their abuse. I am satisfied it must be so, and that labouring as we do, with so much care and observation at every step, we must succeed.

I have a letter from Lord Montague, this time from himself, calling on us to open our dépôts. I cannot consent to open Limerick, except there be some meal which it may be prudent to issue. The only points where we may be more seriously called upon, is some of the sub-dépôts in Kerry, one or two days in the week, and Clifden and Belmullet, and Achil Island, but I shall begin to consider the question, as far as regards these points, in December. We can obtain no effort until the parties are submitted to a little pressure.

In the parts I have mentioned the potatoes are all gone. In Kerry there cannot be more than two to three months' corn, as it is chiefly a pastoral country, and they are consuming their corn.

I am quite pleased to find that Mr. Peabody has increased his quantity to 8,000 quarters. It shows that he has lost much of his apprehensions.

I have never, for a moment, experienced any alarm.

MR. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

November 24, 1846.

I AM glad to find, from your letter of the 21st instant, that we are quite of one mind about the course to be pursued in regard to the Limerick dépôt and its dependencies. If it had not been for the accident of our requiring Limerick as a *point d'appui* for our operations on the western coast, we should have had no dépôt there at all; and even as it is, we took pains to show that Limerick and the districts in its immediate neighbourhood were not our object, by establishing our principal store on board a ship near the mouth of the Shannon.

The case of some of the subordinate dépôts in Kerry is different: they come under the denomination of districts to which the ordinary corn trade has not yet extended: and these dépôts will have to be opened to the necessary extent at the proper time.

There could not have been a more inopportune occasion than this for bringing forward the proposal to open the Limerick dépôt. The corn vessels, which have begun to arrive at Cork in large numbers, for the most part only call for orders, and are intended to be sent on to wherever there is a good market for them. If we leave the Limerick market alone, there cannot be a doubt that a good proportion of them will go thither; but this is more than we can expect of the merchants, if we spoil their market on the one hand, and suffer the mob to plunder their goods on the other.

In a letter, printed at page 113 of the Correspondence relating to the operations of last season, Mr. Hewetson, speaking of the pressure upon us for making issues from the dépôts, said, "When once we begin, we must not halt." And the truth of this was soon after illustrated by what took place at his own dépôt, where, in order to maintain his issues, he was obliged to make large purchases on the spot contrary to his instructions, and he also proposed to draw largely upon the army and navy biscuit. You will remember the extraordinary exertions we were obliged to make, and the anxiety we suffered, in order to prevent the dépôts from being exhausted when once we began our issues, although we did not fairly open our depots until the beginning of June.

I have looked over the whole of the Correspondence of last season in order that I might be able to refer Mr. Hewetson to our former experience on this

most important point; and besides the extracts sent yesterday, I shall be obliged to you to call his attention to passages relating to the subject at the following pages of the Relief Correspondence—133, 144, 145, 146, 152, 153 (two passages), 165, 169 (two passages), 173, 174, 177, 178 (two passages), 179, 181, and 182.

In order to show you that the opinion is not held by me alone here, I will quote two paragraphs from a paper by the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

"Great complaints are made of not opening the depôts generally."

"It will be evident that the longer it can be postponed the better, provided there is no real danger of starvation. When once opened, they cannot be again closed, and the supply must not be limited, or the greatest discontent will be caused, and danger of outrage."

I shall be obliged to you to show this letter, and my letter on the same subject, of yesterday, to Mr. Hewitson, and if he should not come to Dublin I wish you to send copies to him. See page 291.

MR. N. CUMMINS to MR. TREVELVAN.

Cork, November 21, 1846.

SINCE I last had the honour of addressing you, arrivals of Indian corn to this port have been very large; prices have continued to recede, and the article may this day be purchased, *ex ship arrived*, by the cargo, at 12s. to 13s. per ton, and to arrive, cost, freight, and insurance, 10s. to 11s. These arrivals have caused a general dulness in our corn-market, and the tendency of every kind of grain food is decidedly downwards.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS referred by the Under Secretary for Ireland to Commissary-General SIR RANDOLPH J. ROUTH, from the 12th to 14th November, 1846, both days inclusive.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
D 7563	. . .	Suggestions, &c., on the cleansing of streets as a means of employment through Relief Committees, are submitted for consideration by the Philanthropic Society; also a Report on an improved plan of cleansing the streets of London, introduced by this society, &c. See Answer annexed.
D 7563	Cork, Barony of Kin-sles.	Inishannon District: Correspondent states that to meet, in some degree, the wants of the labouring classes and poor in this district, a "Voluntary Relief Association" has been formed, the managers consisting of the members of the late Relief Committee. The plan of relief is as follows:— To open a food depôt. To give no gratuitous relief. A list of the most destitute to be kept, &c. The amount sold to any one family per diem not to exceed 16½ lbs. of meal. This Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, and solicit a donation in aid.
<p>Informed that the application of the Inishannon Voluntary Relief Association having been referred to the Commissary-General, he desires to state, that he can only recommend a donation in aid of local subscriptions collected by, or placed at the disposal of, a Relief Committee constituted by the Lieutenant of the county; that although the subscriptions collected by the Voluntary Relief Association appear to be intended for purposes similar to those of the duly constituted Relief Committees, the rule laid down by the Treasury Minute of the 31st August last limits donations to the latter bodies, and directs their formation for the purpose of registering applicants for employment on the Public Works, as well as otherwise aiding in the Government measures of relief, objects in which the Voluntary Association cannot interfere; and unless its subscriptions be placed at the disposal of the District Committee, a grant cannot be made on them.</p>		
Z } 20204	. . .	A Communication dated at St. Ives, Cornwall, from the firm of Messrs. Warren and Co., recommends the purchase of pilchards for relief in Ireland, as being cheaper and better than red herrings.
<p>Informed that this suggestion will be noted for reference hereafter, should it become necessary to purchase cured fish. Also, that the food found most convenient for the labouring population hitherto subsisted on potatoes, being boiled meal, is not considered to be adapted for use with fish, and consequently the Scottish cured herrings are on sale here at so low a price as 15s. to 17s. the barrel.</p>		

COPY OF OBSERVATIONS on reference from the Under Secretary, D 7952.

As the cleansing of the streets in the cities and towns of Ireland is by law devolved (except in Dublin) to Municipal Corporations and Town Commissioners, the Relief Committee cannot give employment in this way, nor is it advisable that their Relief Funds should be applied to any purpose for which the localities may be legally assessed.

The cleansing of the Dublin streets being in charge of Government Commissioners, it might be well to refer the papers to them.

(Signed) R. J. R.

November 13, 1845.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

RETURN OF CORRESPONDENCE from 12th to 14th November, both days inclusive.

I.—APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS.		
No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7341	Mayo	Swinsford Relief Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 15 <i>l.</i> , and solicit a grant. 7 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> is recommended.
7340	Cavan	Barony of Tullygarvey, Committee of Upper Lash District. A subscription list as for this locality is forwarded, and a donation is also solicited. The subscription list is enclosed to the secretary of the sanctioned Committee for this barony, to be certified in the manner required by the printed instructions, and then transmitted again; observing that as the Vice-Lieutenant has reported only one Committee and one district for the barony of Tullygarvey, it is desirable to have explained whether the subscriptions which are stated to have been collected by the Upper Lash Relief Committee are to be expended by a sub-Committee, or by the general one for the barony.
7296	Tipperary	Garrick-on-Suir Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 23 <i>5<i>l.</i> 2<i>s.</i> 4<i>d.</i></i> , and solicit a grant. 11 <i>5<i>l.</i></i> is recommended.
7377	Waterford	Barony of Decies within-Drum. Villierstown Relief Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 117 <i>l.</i> 17 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> . 5 <i>5<i>l.</i></i> is recommended.
7316	Meath	Barony of Lane Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 43 <i>5<i>l.</i> 6<i>s.</i> 6<i>d.</i></i> , and solicit a grant. 21 <i>5<i>l.</i></i> is recommended.
6874	Armagh	Market Hill Committee forward resolution proposing that a subscription be entered into by the Committee for putting forward works of road improvement to be substituted for Public Works presented under the Act 9 and 10 Viet., c. 107, and they inquire if a donation by Government in aid of such subscription will be given. See Answer annexed.

II.—APPLICATIONS WITH REFERENCE TO DEPOTS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7119	Mayo	Swinsford Committee request the use of that part of the constabulary barrack which was used by the Commissariat as a depot during the past season may be allowed to them for a store in which meal provided with the Relief Fund shall be deposited and sold. Informed that their application cannot be acceded to, as the barrack does not belong to the Commissariat; also that it is recommended to the Committee to consider whether persons to whom the meal might be contrived for sale may not be found willing to undertake the storing and selling of it on commission, at prices to be fixed for them, sufficient to repay the first cost with all charges, including a commission allowance of 5 <i>l.</i> per cent; that by adopting this course, the Relief Fund vested in food may be kept unimpaired, and constantly turning in providing supplies.
6875	Roscommon	Kilgobbin Committee forward resolution praying that a sub-depot to Roscommon stores be established at the Ballagh constabulary station for the sale of meal, &c. Informed that it is not now intended to establish a constabulary depot at Ballagh; and the Committee are therefore requested to consider other means for enabling the laboring population of the district to purchase corn food there; also, that where sufficient funds could not be raised by subscriptions, loans have been placed under the management of Committees by landlords and other contributors, either by advancing the money, or joining in guarantee to local banks for the requisite amount; and the Committees then place the food for sale with individuals of character, allowing them a commission, &c.
7375	Kerry	Keenmore. Correspondent prays for the establishment of a depot, and states that 17,000 out of 18,000 inhabitants of the barony of Glenswought are of the poorest description, &c. Informed that the depots will not be opened in Kerry until the supplies shall be sufficient to sustain the issues when commenced.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

III.—APPLICATIONS FOR FOOD, MEAL, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
4870	Galway	Ballinallick Committee. Secretary forwards a copy of a letter from a landed proprietor to his Excellency, representing extreme distress in the district of Connemara, scarcity of provisions in markets, and that the district is 10 to 14 miles from Clifden; also hoping that large supplies will be sent to the Commissariat stores there. Deposit. Such supplies as can be given are forwarded to Clifden.
4858	Mayo	Claremorris Committee forward resolution representing extreme want in district, and praying that supplies of food be kept up in the local depot. Deposit, all that can be done at present being in operation in the district, and arrangements for the depôts being in active progress.

IV.—APPLICATIONS RESPECTING RYE, BERE, BARLEY.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7375	Roscommon	Ballingar Committee state some rye will be required, and request price, &c., per stone. Informed that the cost price and arrangements for the distribution of the supply obtained, will be announced as soon as the invoices of the importations shall be received; that the whole quantity is very small, owing to the lateness of the season; but as here is a spring corn, it is hoped that a more abundant supply of it can be obtained before the time for sowing.
7353	Limerick	Newpallas Committee forward resolution complaining of delay in supplying them with the bere seed, &c., required by them. Informed that the seed rye purchased by Government is in transit, and that the cost price and arrangements for distribution will be announced as soon as the invoices shall arrive; that the supply is very limited, owing to the advanced period of the season; but that as here is a spring corn, it may be expected to arrive in larger quantities at the proper time.
7016	Galway	Killaleigh Committee forward a return of the seed rye, bere, &c., and they state that they refuse tickets to those who neglect to prepare their land for seed. Informed that only a small supply of rye has been obtained, owing to the lateness of the season, and that the price and arrangements for its distribution will be announced as soon as the invoices arrive; that as here is a spring corn, it may be obtained in larger quantity before the time for sowing.
6883	Antrim	Ballymoney Committee inquire with respect to seed rye, &c. Informed that the supply to be now distributed is intended only for the western counties, to which the circular on the subject was forwarded.
7382	Limerick	Askeaton Committee enclose a second application for seed rye, &c., for district, &c., &c. Informed that the quantity of seed rye purchased by Government will very shortly arrive, and that the cost price and arrangements for its distribution will be announced when the invoices shall be received. That the supply obtained is very limited, owing to the advanced period of the season; but as here is a spring corn, it is expected that a larger quantity of it will be procured in due time.
6831	Limerick	Crough Committee inquire if payment on delivery of the seed rye, &c., will be required, its price per stone, &c.? Informed that the small quantity which could be obtained at this advanced period of the season, will be distributed very shortly, and that the price will be announced as soon as the invoices shall be received; that as here is a spring corn, a larger supply of it may be expected to be obtained before the season for sowing shall arrive.
6879	Longford	Newtownforbes Committee state, that no delay should be given in forwarding the supplies of seed rye, &c. Informed that the seed rye to be distributed will now be ready for sale very shortly, but the supply obtained is limited, owing to the advanced period of the season. That the price and arrangements for distribution will be announced as soon as the invoices shall be received; and as here is a spring corn, it is expected that a larger supply of it can be procured before the sowing season shall arrive.
6882	Tipperary	Nenagh Committee inquire where rye is to be obtained? Informed that the seed rye, &c., provided by Government, is not intended for any part of the county Tipperary.
7383	Cork	Skibbereen Committee request 2000 bushels of seed rye to be sent to Skibbereen depot, to make experiment of its sale by the Committee. Informed that the quantity of seed rye which has been obtained is very limited, owing to the advanced period of the season for sowing; but that on arrival of the invoices, the cost price and arrangements for distribution will be announced. That as here is a spring corn, it is expected that a larger supply will be obtained.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

V.—PUBLIC RELIEF WORKS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7181	Cavan	Tullyhanna Committee state, that they have declined making appointments of overseers of Public Works, which appointments the engineer for Tullyhanna requires them to make, request to be directed in this matter. Informed that this course is contrary to the intention of Government, as expressed in the 21st section of the printed Instructions, and that their former communication on this proposal has been forwarded to the Board of Works, with the view of having proper directions given.
6962	Wicklow	Ashfield Committee apply for forms of labour lists. Referred to the local officers of Public Works.
7352	Killenny	Knocktopher barony (2nd division), Committee request forms of labour lists. Requested to apply to the local officers of Public Works.
6572	Roscommon and Westmeath.	Castlerea and Ashmore districts; memorials of certain pensioners as to rates of pension, complaining that they have been refused employment on the Public Relief Works, &c., in these districts, are forwarded to the Commissary-General by Colonel Tulloch, Military Superintendent of Pensioners, as also by Captain Stewart, Staff Officer, &c., and requesting that these people may be considered proper objects for Relief Committees to register as labour candidates, with a view to their employment on Relief Works, &c. Colonel Tulloch is informed, that the Commissary-General defers communicating with Relief Committees for the object in view, until the Relief Works shall be more extensively in operation; as he apprehends that until then the Committees will be indisposed to recommend any persons for employment, except those of the most destitute class, who have now not any means whatever of subsisting, except employment as labourers. Copy of the letter to Colonel Tulloch is forwarded to Captain Stewart.
7391	Clare	Enslinham Committee request papers having reference to Relief Public Works. Letter forwarded to the Board of Works, of which the parties are informed.
7379	Cavan	Kingscourt correspondent forwards an application for an appointment as pay clerk. Forwarded to the Board of Works, and the applicant is informed.
6934	Tipperary	Rathnavogue Committee write,—“For God’s sake, if you have the power, cause the Works in that parish to be immediately commenced. The people are actually starving.” Extract forwarded to the Board of Works.
6925	Galway	Aughrim Committee apply for forms of labour lists. Parties referred to local officers of Board of Works.
7169	Tyrone	Strabane Committee inquire with respect to the registry of applicants for employment, as they have heard that returns according to the forms supplied, will not be received by local officers. Informed that this registry is in use throughout Ireland; that there is sufficient room for any additional information necessary for the Public Works lists, the forms of which are to be provided by the local officers of the Board of Works.
6809	Cork	Passage West Committee forward a list of persons requiring employment, &c. The list is returned, stating that the local officers of Public Works are to be supplied with such lists or forms which they will provide when the lists are required by them.
6680	Wicklow	Near Ballinglass.—Correspondent requests forms of lists for labourers requiring employment. The Board of Works is written to, requesting that a supply may be sent to the officer of Public Works near Ballinglass, if he should not have been already sufficiently provided with these forms.
7338	Roscommon	Athlone Committee state, that unless Public Works are immediately put forward, property, &c., will not be secure. Informed that the Commissary-General has not cognisance of the arrangements for the execution of the Public Relief Works, which rest exclusively with the Board of Works.
6876	Roscommon	Tulke.—Correspondent applies for employment on the Public Relief Work, &c., and states that he has claims for his support on 64th regiment, &c., &c. Informed that persons will not be employed on the Public Works unless recommended by the Relief Committee of the district in which they reside; and he is recommended to apply to the Committee whose district includes his parish, and also to apply with reference to his claim on the soldiers in the 64th regiment, to the commanding officer Lieutenant-Colonel Sueton.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

VI.—COMMUNICATIONS WITH REFERENCE TO ACCOUNTS OF COMMITTEES.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
6965	Galway	Kilkeran Committee forward an account of their expenditure. Acknowledged, stating that the account has been examined, and appears to be a very satisfactory statement.
6962	Wicklow Barony, Newcastle.	Ashford Committee state, that their replies to queries have been furnished, and considered by them equivalent to furnishing an account current. Informed that the answers to queries circulated in August do not supersede the necessity of furnishing the "Account Current."
7377	Waterford	Barony of Deedes-within-Drum.—Villiersstown Committee furnish their expenditure account for the past season of distress.
7320	Clare	Newmarket-on-Fergus Committee state, that their account of expenditure has been already transmitted. Circular sent.
7214	Tipperry	Terryglash.—Borrisokane Committee furnish their account of expenditure. Acknowledged.
6960	Tipperry	Ballingarry Committee request forms of "Account Current," &c. Forwarded.
6956	Galway	Moylough Committee state, that they transmitted through the Deputy Commissary-General, at Galway, their account of expenditure, ended 15th August last, &c.

Informed that the account furnished in September last, by the Moylough Committee, was on the 25th of that month sent to the Deputy Commissary-General at Galway, with reference to a statement in it relating to stocks; and as it has been sent by him to the Committee, it should now be forwarded to the Commissariat Relief Office, or one substituted for it, so be prepared on the form supplied.

VII.—DISTRICTS WHERE COMMITTEES HAVE BEEN FORMED, AND TO WHICH BOOKS, PAPERS, &c., HAVE BEEN SUPPLIED.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7290	Wicklow	Correspondent (Vice-Lieutenant of county) states that he has forwarded a list of Committees, fourteen in number, constituted for the county, and that he now forwards five others. Informed that as all the Committees named in the lists supplied have been provided with books, &c., the lists are forwarded for his inspection, on which it will be observed, that the first list contains only references to ten Committees, and that it is apprehended that all the districts may not be included in the two lists, as the first list is said to name fourteen districts. The lists are requested to be returned, adding any districts formed, which are not now named in them.
7360	Queen's County	Ballinshells Committee. Books, &c., sent.
7310	Wicklow	Kilboole and Lower Newcastle Committee. Informed that the books, &c., will be sent, on a notification being made of his sanction of the Committee by the lieutenant of the county.
7338	Tipperry	Golden Committee. Noted, and books, &c., sent.
7214	Tyrone	Louthstown Committee (Petty Sessions District). District noted, and books, &c., sent.
7429	Monaghan	Barony of Tara Committee.—Names of Chairman and Secretary furnished. Noted.
7373	Wicklow	Rathdown Committee request books, &c. Forwarded.
7407	Dublin	Kingsdown and Dalkey Committee. Books, &c., forwarded.
7376	Dublin	Barony of Rathdown Four Committees. Books, &c., sent.
7183	Cork	Ardfeld Committee request a supply of stationery. Informed that stationery required by Relief Committees is to be provided out of the Relief Funds formed in the manner pointed out by the Instructions.
7370	Donegal	Inch and Burt Committee. Books, &c., sent.
7326	Sligo	Committee of the Barony of Carberry. Books, &c., sent.
7390	Donegal	Bunteross Committee. Books, &c., sent.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

VII.—APPLICATIONS FOR BOOKS, &c.—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7316	Mayo	Ballykeena Committee. Books, &c., sent.
7317	Mayo	Swineford Committee. Sent.
7364	Donegal	Mevoagh Committee. Books, &c., sent.
6934	Tipperary	Rathnagroe Committee. Books, &c., sent.
6925	Galway	Aughrim Committee apply for stationery. Informed that stationery is to be provided by the Committee out of the Relief Fund.
7361	Mayo	Ballyvary Committee. Books, &c., sent.
7302	Kilkenny	City.—Correspondent states, that the mayor of this city having re-assembled the late Relief Committee, and signified his purpose of acting as Chairman, &c., the requisite books, &c., are requested. A copy of names of the members of Committee approved by the Lieutenant of the county is forwarded to correspondent.
7380	Wicklow	The Vice-Lieutenant of county forwards a return of Committees at present appointed in the county. Noted, books, &c., sent.
7393	Tyrose	Lowthestrone Committee returned. Books, &c., sent.
7406	Kilkenny	City.—Committee request Forms of "Account Current." Sent.
7369	Tipperary	Drom and Inch Committee. Committee noted, and books, &c., sent.
7314	Tipperary	Kilmere Committee. Noted, and books, &c., forwarded.
7394	Monaghan; Barony of Farney.	Carlickmacraes Committee. Noted, and books sent.
7390	Fermanagh	Lisnaskea Committee. Books, &c., sent.
7275	Londonderry	Newswallinavady Committee. Books, &c., sent.
7397	Kildare	Raddestown Committee. Correspondent states that he is by circumstances prevented from acting as secretary of this Committee, and inquires to whom the books, &c., forwarded to him are to be disposed of? Informed that they are to be handed over to Mr. Connor, chairman of the Relief Committee for Raddestown district.
7406	Galway	Killesnoe, &c., District.—Correspondent writes to the Vice-Lieutenant of County Galway praying his sanction for the re-assembling of the late Committee, &c., for this parish, and represents great distress; requests books, &c. A letter from the Vice-Lieutenant in reply is forwarded, in which he approves of a Relief Committee for Killesnoe, &c., and the necessary books and papers are forwarded.
6956	Galway	Mayfoagh Committee. Books, &c., sent.
7169	Tyrose	Strabane Committee inquire how postage and stationery are to be paid. Informed that there is no other source for the payment of the contingent expenses of the Committee than the Relief Fund, to be formed in the manner pointed out by the Instructions.
7316	Wicklow	Newtown, Mount Kennedy.—Correspondent requests books, &c., may be sent to him as Secretary of the Relief Committee of Derrylagory and Calary, Barony of North Ballinacor. Informed that the books, &c., have been forwarded to the gentleman returned by the Vice-Lieutenant of the county, a secretary for Roundwood District Committee.

VIII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7331	Donegal	Lettermacward Committee.—Secretary requests that his claim for 25 <i>l.</i> for six months, for performing the duties of Secretary to this Committee, as also for 15 <i>l.</i> , the amount of expenses incurred by himself for extraordinary journeys and extra expenses of two members of the Committee, be recommended for approval to the Commissary-General.

Informed that any remuneration to be made for services as Secretary must be fixed by the Relief Committee, to whom his claim should be submitted, as well as the 15*l.* for expenses incurred in manner pointed out.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

VIII.—MISCELLANEOUS—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
6877	Wexford	Ferns District (No. 2).—Committee inquire as to salaries, &c., of secretaries, &c. <p>Informed that there is not any fixed rate of salary for the Secretaries of Relief Committees, owing to the diversity of duties and districts, and also as in many districts the duties are performed by members of the Committees without recompense, or any emolp, except for the assistance of a copying clerk, when occasionally requisite. That whatever payment is given must proceed from the Relief Fund of the Committee.</p>
6907	Sligo	Skreen, Dromard, and Templeboy Committee.—Complain that although legally constituted, they are questioned as to their authority in their applications for food to the Commissariat depot, a Committee called the Dromard Relief Committee having been notified to the Sligo Commissariat by Government, as sanctioned and approved for the locality, &c., much confusion and dissatisfaction is hereby created, &c. <p>Informed that on receipt recently by the Commissary-General of the List of Committees for the county of Sligo, appointed by the Lieutenant of the county, an amended list (including that for the parishes of Skreen, Dromard, and Templeboy, alluded to) was sent to Deputy Commissary-General Dobson for his guidance.</p>
7312	Galway	Woodford Committee state, in reference to a communication received by them from the Commissary-General, dated 27th October last, directing the apportioning of the Government donation of 60 <i>l.</i> to the respective subscriptions of 70 <i>l.</i> and 30 <i>l.</i> made by Sir J. Burke in aid of the Relief Funds for the Ballinakill and Woodford districts, thus, 42 <i>l.</i> to Ballinakill and 18 <i>l.</i> to Woodford, that they respectfully deny the existence of any power obliging them to transfer the 42 <i>l.</i> named to the Committee of Ballinakill, &c. <p>The transmission of a certified list of subscriptions for Woodford district, in the past season ended 15th August, is requested; a similar communication is made to the Ballinakill Committee.</p>
6962	Wicklow	Askef Committee state, that they are again subscribing, and when the lists are filled they hope Government will again grant a proportionate sum in aid. <p>Referred to the regulations in the Instructions, sections 25 to 27.</p>
7497	Dublin	Kingsdown and Dalkey Committee request to be informed what the next step to be taken by the Committee is, having obtained the sanction of the County Lieutenant, &c. <p>A copy of the Instructions to Committees is forwarded, by which it will be observed, that one of the first labours of this Committee will be the registry of the names and conditions of all persons in the district who are in want of relief by employment on Public Works; also stating, that as yet no list has been supplied of the Committees organized for the county of Dublin, and that it is only through information supplied by members of the Committees that the requisite books, &c., have been circulated.</p>
6570	Longford	Kilcomanock District.—The Board of Works forward a communication from this locality praying for a Committee to be formed in order that fresh subscriptions may be entered into to keep down prices of markets, &c. <p>Deposit, as the arrangements, which rest with Vice-Lieutenant of the county, are in progress.</p>
7539	Donegal	Lettensward District.—Memorial of inhabitants of this locality praying that the members of the Relief Committee for the past season may be continued. Forwarded to Vice-Lieutenant of county, stating that the parties are informed that the arrangements of Relief Districts for the county of Donegal rest wholly with him as Vice-Lieutenant. <p>The parties are accordingly informed.</p>
7381	Galway	Galway Committee request a copy of their letter of 31st ultimo, in reference to 300 <i>l.</i> contributed by the Galway Town Commissioners, as they have not any copy. <p>Sent.</p>
7378	Galway	Loughrea.—Correspondent inquires as to the payment of secretaries and other contingent expenses of Relief Committees. <p>Informed that there is no other source for these purposes than the Relief Fund formed by local subscriptions and the donations in aid granted by the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland.</p>
7389	Tyrone	Newtownward Committee inquire if any funds collected by voluntary contributions in any given electoral division can be solely applied to the relief of the destitute in that division. <p>Informed that if there be a subscription made for any defined portion of Newtownward Relief District, the Committee can restrict its application to that locality for such objects as the printed Instructions point out.</p>

ENCLOSURE.

Mr. STANLEY to Mr. BLACKER.

*Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
November 12, 1846.*

COMMISSARIAT-GENERAL Sir R. J. ROUTH begs to state, in reply to your inquiry, that a subscription of the kind proposed by the resolution of the Market Hill Committee, adopted on the 31st ultimo, is not one to which the Lord-Lieutenant can be recommended to add a donation, as being for Works of Land Improvement, to be substituted for Public Works, presented under the Act 9 and 10 Vict. c. 107. Were a donation given in such a case (as is proposed for subscriptions to be applied by Relief Committees in the manner pointed out by the Instructions to these bodies), the effect would be, to make the Government grant one-third of the expenses of the improvements.

TREASURY MINUTE ON the above.

November 27, 1846.

Write to Sir R. ROUTH with reference to the accompanying extract from the Summary of his Correspondence, between 12 and 14 instant, and observe that there is an apparent discrepancy between the answer given by him to the Newtown Stewart Relief Committee and the 3rd Article of the Instructions to Officers employed on Inspections, namely, that "All private subscriptions and Government donations are to be placed at the disposal of the Committees."

Their Lordships desire that Sir R. ROUTH will furnish any explanation on this subject which may appear to him to be required.

"Tyrone.—Newtown Stewart Committee inquire if any funds collected by voluntary contributions in any given electoral division can be solely applied to the relief of the destitute in that division:

"Informed that if there be a subscription made for any defined portion of Newtown Stewart Relief District, the Committee can restrict its application to that locality, for such objects as the printed Instructions point out."

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, November 23, 1846.

MR. BALL is now a regular Assistant Poor Law Commissioner; last year he was an Extra Assistant unattached, but now he has a district of Poor Law Unions under his charge, and could not be spared. These gentlemen receive 700*l.* a-year, and a guinea a-day for personal expenses while on actual service (which is, practically, all the year round), and the right of charging for travelling expenses. He could not charge that salary on his account while he was acting on a different department and receiving pay from that department; I therefore give up any idea of his being able or willing to accept the appointment in question.

I think it was in October that I received his Report, which is a summary of his private reports to the head of his department, who was, I believe, authorized by Sir James Graham to employ Mr. Ball on this service. The Schedules and Appendices will be enclosed to you by this night's post.

I have the bill of lading of the five models, but they are not yet arrived.

Mr. Hewetson came up by the mail of Saturday night, and goes down to-night. He only proposes to issue some of the meal, which he entertains some apprehensions of, to some of the Committees on the west coast of Clare;—

Kilkie,	Killane,
Carygaholt,	Killofin,
Kilmarduane,	

and a small quantity from the Banagher depot, which was ground there last August, and not kiln-dried, and this will be issued to a Committee at Mount Shannon, at no great distance.

Mr. Cummins writes me, under date of 21st, from Cork. He says there is quite a fleet of vessels, chiefly of maize, waiting for orders. Cargoes of good quality may be purchased at from 12*l.* to 13*l.*, and vessels to arrive, including cost, freight, and insurance, at 10*l.* to 11*l.* per ton. He adds, the prices of all

descriptions of grain food are tending downwards, particularly the coarser descriptions.

With regard to Mr. Mills, his qualifications appear to be very good; and when Randolph goes out on his inspection, he will certainly be very useful in the correspondence, as far as I can judge from the letters you enclose, and which I now return. I am obliged to dictate all my letters. I could not accomplish a tenth part of it in my own handwriting, and when Randolph is gone I have no one to replace him.

Will you have the goodness to let me have any mercantile reports, or statements of prices and expectations, which you may have access to on the arrival of the coming American packet, which we may expect at the end of this month.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, November 23, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the weekly return of the Commissariat depôts in Ireland, and also a statement of the amount of donations, and of the sums subscribed, up to the 21st instant.

ENCLOSURE.

WEEKLY STATE OF PROVISIONS, &c., in the several Depôts in IRELAND, on the Evening of Saturday, the 21st November, 1846.

DEPÔTS.	Indian Corn in Quarters of Eight Bushels each.			Indian Corn Meal.		Oatmeal.	Biscuit.
	In Port.	In Store.	With Millers.	In Port.	In Store.		
				Sacks 280 lbs.	Sacks 280 lbs.	Sacks 280 lbs.	Bags 112 lbs.
Limerick	2,190	39	..
Boulogne	776	..	..
Kilrush	541	..	..
"Madagascar"	1,388	384	1,654
Headbowlus	250	..	..
Shibberton	964	..	657
Dingle	1,483	..	183
Calcutta	250	..	1,499
Galway	770	..	..	3,147	9	10
Westport	630	24	63
Chilfen	29	..	..
Sago	1,857	..	..	..	1,349	..	137
Bellina	40	..	..	..	..
Longford	141	196	864
Castles	36	..	..
Bancroft	16	..	..
Dublin	1,456	876	590
Killybegs	2,942	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	4,199	770	240	..	19,626	1,518	8,567

RECAPITULATION of REMAINS on the 21st November, 1846.

5,309 quarters Indian corn, at 5 per ton, is equal to	1,041½ tons.
19,626 sacks Indian corn meal, each 280 lbs., equal to	2,453½ "
1,518 sacks oatmeal, each 280 lbs., equal to	189½ "
5,567 bags biscuit, each 112 lbs., equal to	278½ "

Total 3969½ tons.

Dublin Castle, November 23, 1846.

R. J. ROUTH, Commissary-General.

DONATIONS ISSUED under the Authority of his Excellency the LORD LIEUTENANT to RELIEF COMMITTEES in aid of SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Date.	Name of Committee.	Amount of Donations.			Amount of Subscriptions.		
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
	Amount brought forward . . .	3,384	5	0	6,997	3	3
November 13 .	Lane District, County of Meath . . .	210	0	0	436	6	6
" 14 .	Carrick-on-Suir District, County of Tipperary . . .	118	0	0	238	2	4
" 16 .	Swinsford District, County of Mayo . . .	7	10	0	15	0	0
" 16 .	Villiersdown District, County of Waterford . . .	58	0	0	117	17	6
" 18 .	Magurabridge District, County of Fermanagh . . .	19	10	0	39	10	4
" 18 .	Carrickbeg District, County of Waterford . . .	17	10	0	23	0	0
		3,808	15	0	7,776	19	11

Dublin Castle, November 21, 1846.

R. J. ROUTH, Commissary-General.

Dr. CORBETT to Lord JOHN RUSSELL.

Inishowen, County Cork, November 23, 1846.

A VOLUNTARY Relief Association, solely for the purpose of bringing food within the reach and means of the distressed poor in this district (which comprises three parishes), was formed last month, and subscriptions to the amount of about 120*l.* raised. The Association is entirely independent of a "Relief Committee," which also exists, but which has, since its formation, taken no step to issue provisions to the poor. An application was made to his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, praying some aid toward the benevolent object of the Association, and on its being referred to Commissary-General Sir R. J. Routh, he refused assistance. The Association therefore appeal to you, my Lord, with the hope that your Lordship will kindly recommend that their case be reconsidered, and a donation, however small, be afforded. I have been directed to forward the resolution to your Lordship which was this day adopted at a meeting of the Association, and also to beg most respectfully that, in the event of your Lordship feeling disinclined to interfere in the case, your Lordship would, from any fund at your disposal, bestow some grant in aid.

A large portion of the funds in the treasurer's hands of the Association has been contributed by the farmers, artisans, and labourers, in one shilling, half-crown, five shilling, and two shilling subscriptions, and this although the two former classes are completely excluded by the rules from any participation in the benefit.

ENCLOSURE.

At a Meeting of the Inishowen Voluntary Relief Association, held on Monday the 23rd instant,

Lieut.-Col. MEADE, of Belmont, Chairman,

It was moved by Richard Quin, Esq., Justice of the Peace, Firgrove, seconded by Thomas C. Cole, Esq., Woodmine, and unanimously resolved:—

That the Association deeply regret the expressed determination of the Commissary-General Sir R. J. Routh not to recommend a grant in aid of the funds placed at its disposal for the relief of the poor with food. The Association expected that the benevolent efforts of individuals for so desirable a purpose, in a time of extreme privation amongst the poor, would have been most warmly seconded by the Government without reference to the "Relief Committee," which, in this district, has done nothing to bring provisions within reach of the classes whose relief the Association solely contemplates. The Association therefore hope that the letter addressed to their secretary is not to be deemed final, and most earnestly solicit that their application may be reconsidered, and a grant in aid, however small, be afforded, for the disposal of which a due account shall be furnished the Commissariat, verified by the chairman (Col. Meade), the treasurer, and secretary.

That the above resolution be forwarded by the secretary to Sir R. J. Routh, Commissary-General, and the Government.

(Signed)

FRED. MEADE, Chairman,
RICH. CORBETT, M.D., Hon. Sec.

Inishowen, November 23, 1846.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

November 27, 1846.

Write to Dr. Corbett that my Lords regret that it is not in their power to sanction any grant of public money for relief purposes, except to committees organized and regulated by the Instructions which have been issued from the Commissariat Relief Office, under the sanction of his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant.

Transmit a copy of this letter, enclosure, and Minute to Sir R. Routh for his information.

MR. TREVELYAN TO SIR R. ROUTH.

November 23, 1846.

I AM happy to inform you that Captain Hill has accepted our offer of service, and he has begun to prepare himself by reading the different series.

We are very anxious that our inspecting officers should, from the first, have a good understanding with the inspecting officers and district engineers of the Board of Works, and the best way of attaining this object will be to direct our officers to take the earliest opportunity of personally conferring with the inspecting or other superior Officers of the Board of Works in each district, and comparing their respective instructions, in order that they may clearly understand what belongs to each, and when the occasion requires it, as, for instance, in dealing with a more than usually important meeting, they might both attend together and assist each other.

You have, no doubt, already furnished Colonel Jones with copies of our instructions to the Commissariat Inspecting Officers.

There is reason to fear, from the tenor of Mr. Hewetson's letter to me, that he has not been acting in the spirit of our proceedings. He appears to suppose that it depends entirely upon the inclinations of the dealers, and upon the degree in which they are under the influence of good or bad feelings, whether they raise or lower the price of grain; and he would seem never to have properly apprehended the fact that price depends upon the probable supply of an article as compared with the probable extent of the demand. At Cork, while the supply was insufficient, prices continued high, but they have given way before an abundant importation, and until similar causes operate at Limerick, prices will continue high, whatever appeals may be made to the feelings of the Messrs. Russell.

The question, therefore, is in what manner the greatest degree of encouragement can be given to the corn trade of Limerick, and judging from the example of Cork, as well as from our general experience, the best way of accomplishing this is not to interfere with the trade, except for the purpose of protecting it from spoliation. Is it likely that such a large importation would have taken place at Cork if the merchants had had before them the prospect of an active Government competition; and what better mode is there to induce the transfer of a portion of the abundance which prevails at Cork to supply the deficiency at Limerick, than to assure the merchants that if they order consignments, they will receive the full benefit of the current market price upon them.

The danger of opening our depôts, and of thus appearing to assume the responsibility of supplying the whole country without a possibility of our being able to maintain that supply, is quite a separate consideration; but it is one of the most grave importance. The best commentary I can make upon it will be to annex to this letter extracts from the correspondence on this subject relating to the last Relief Operations, and to beg of you to remember that we are now only in the month of *November*.

We wish to know how far exertions have been made to procure proper protection for the trade in corn in the neighbourhood of Limerick, in fulfilment of the pledge given in the Treasury Minute of the 31st of August, and by Lord John Russell in the House of Commons. If examples had been made some weeks ago of some of the parties concerned in these systematic outrages

real encouragement would have been given to the enterprising merchant, and prices would have been acted upon in a wholesome and permanent manner by encouraging importations.

SIR R. ROUTH TO MR. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, November 25, 1846.

I HAVE your letter of the 23rd. Mr. Hewetson was here on Sunday, and returned on Monday. His object in wishing to issue was to dispose of some portions of his meal, which he thought it dangerous to keep over; and we have a small quantity at Banagher in the same predicament, good now, but doubtful if held over much longer. That which Mr. Hewetson fears is at Kilrush, and was necessarily much exposed before we procured our present magazine at that post. He will sell at the trade price.

You will conclude that the Limerick depôt, consisting altogether of the remains of last year, requires to be watched, and any doubtful portions to be from time to time disposed of.

I have dispatched copy of the Treasury letter to Mr. Bishop. We have no had accounts of Spike Island; and I have no present idea of there being any distress to require the proposed Ordnance works exclusively for that object. We shall see what Mr. Bishop says.

Before I send you the 24 copies of the Instructions, I send you one with the alterations, requesting your attention to that proposed in the 6th Article. We have never exercised any control over loans further than to advise, as no donation is made on a loan; and being, therefore, private funds, we have not supposed ourselves authorised to deal with them. Will you be good enough to consider this point, and let me have your decision?

I brought the subject of Mr. Russell's complaint officially before the Lord Lieutenant, and I have received his reply, which I enclose; but the defence of Mr. Leyne (the stipendiary magistrate), on which his Excellency's decision appears to be grounded, having been omitted, I have applied for it, and a copy shall be sent to you as soon as I receive it, which will, I understand, be to-morrow.

I just hear that a vessel of Mr. Russell, of 70 tons, laden with Indian and oat meal, was wrecked in the Shannon at Ballybunnion. Her cargo would have been saved, but the people plundered her; and it is added (with what truth I cannot say) that the magistrate was afraid to interfere.

Mr. Chapple has got up his querns to-day. Three of them worked well, and three appeared to be a failure. I am to have several people from the country to look at them. The kind of stone which is fit for this operation is found in great quantities in the south of Ireland, particularly in county Kerry, and there they could be made very cheap; but the question is, how to set such a thing going in Ireland, a new improvement, where everything new is an object of suspicion. These kinds of mills are usually worked by the women; and I thought some of these too heavy, not for the grinding, but for their strength. We can hardly yet be considered as having had a fair trial; and I should like to have one of the Kerry querns to compare with them. I shall make you a careful report about them.

SIR R. ROUTH TO MR. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, November 26, 1846.

I RETURN you the letters and Lord Auckland's note. My advices from Dingle are very different from the information of the captain of the "Lacifer." I do not hear now of any immediate pressure, and the Committee is importing supplies. I have sent copies of your letters to Mr. Hewetson, who had left before they arrived.

I suspect the fall of price at Cork has been exaggerated.

I send you a proof sheet of a plan we have arranged for the inspecting officers to keep us informed of their proceedings, and we shall forward them to you. They will give a general idea of work done and in prospect.

I give to each officer a list of the Committees and the population, and other particulars of each parish, town, or village.

Our correspondence at first will be very heavy until they begin to acquire experience in their duties. We have already letters from Mr. Bishop and Colonel Douglas from their posts. Colonel Archer and Captain Reid have both left Dublin, and Captain Stopford leaves to-morrow morning. Mr. Millikin assumes his duty on the 1st.

We are looking out for the rye and bere and barley meal, and entertain some fears on account of the very stormy weather we have had. Nothing has yet arrived.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

November 27, 1846.

I AGREE with you that, as we have not been in the habit of interfering with loan funds, the words I suggested should be added to the sixth article of the Instructions to the Inspecting Officers had better be omitted.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

November 27, 1846.

BESIDES the 3000 barrels of barley meal I sent you by the Frith of Forth and Glasgow, I have now ordered 2000 barrels more to be sent from the Thames, in addition to the produce of our mills.

You are therefore about to receive supplies at Dublin to a very large extent, and it is desirable that you should prevent, as far as possible, public attention from being directed to the circumstance, and that you should be prepared to send them forward, as they arrive, to Longford and Banagher, from which the sub-depôts in the western district may be supplied as the occasion may require. I wish particularly to avoid a large accumulation of supplies at Dublin.

Mr. N. CUMMINS to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Cork, November 27, 1846.

I SHOULD not have thought it necessary so soon again to address you, but that the downward tendency in the price of maize in this market, of which I advised you in my respects of the 21st instant, has since received a decided check. Most of the vessels then in our port having taken flight to other markets, the price which stood for some days at 12*l.* to 13*l.*, may now be quoted at 14*l.* per ton.

Indian meal, 15*l.* 10*s.* to 16*l.*

The feature in our present position, which strikes me as most alarming, is the unexampled negligence of the small farmers in making any preparations for future crops: in many parts of this county, especially towards the west, the land is lying as if no crop was ever again to be sown.

Commissary-General HEWITSON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Limerick, November 27, 3 P.M., 1846.

It appears my letter of the 18th instant has caused you some alarm; whatever opinion I may have expressed therein, touching the opening or partial opening of our depôts, was merely for your information. Be assured my actions are strictly in the spirit of your proceedings, which, as therein observed, have been so eminently successful; my views as expressed were in a measure prospective, not immediate, and with no intentions whatever to grant present aid in food to other than remote localities, and which in all my letters to Sir Randolph is evident. You are aware I have recently seen him in Dublin, when he concurred with me in the expediency of offering supplies from the Kilrush depôt, and even Banagher, to a limited extent to a few of the neighbouring Committees, unable from their remote situations and other causes to procure food in sufficient quantities elsewhere, not, however, in quantity, or at a price which would in any way interfere with the

markets. I am, also, as observed to you, anxious about the meal; to the present it has kept sweet and good, but I must confess this anxiety weighs much with me, when touching upon this most important of all subjects, the opening of the depôts; could I divest myself of this feeling, which will, I hope prove groundless, I should be most desirous of reserving every pound of food we have in store, until some emergency shall arise to make it imperatively indispensable to issue.

A slight re-action took place in the Cork market on Monday, and the price of the corn got up to 13*l*. 10*s*. per ton, at which it sold freely; this was occasioned by several vessels waiting for orders, going off to Waterford and Sligo. Vessels seldom come to the Shannon for orders, or a market, it is too wild a coast; those that come here are direct consignments to the Limerick trade. My official report upon protection in the transit of grain goes to Dublin to-morrow: Messrs. Russell having placed a retail depôt in the village of Clare, at the head of the Fergus, there is no longer any interruption to the shipment of corn.

P.S. Present prices—Limerick, Clare, Kilrush, and Ennis:—

Indian meal, 16*l*. and 17*l*. per ton.

Whole wheaten do. 17*l*. per ton.

Oatmeal, 21*l*. per ton.

Quotations just received from Cork, say on the 26th instant:—

Indian corn, 14*l*. per ton.

Indian meal, 15*l*. 10*s*. per ton.

MESSRS. ERICHSEN to Mr. TREVELYAN.

110, Fenchurch Street,
London, November 27, 1846.

WE have the honour to state that after making due inquiries we find that flax-seed of fine quality is very scarce in England; its not being cultivated, prevents shipments to this country of really fine seed fit for sowing. In Ireland the case is different, and large quantities are sent to Belfast annually, direct from Riga; from Belfast which is the principal market, it is forwarded to the interior.

Flax-seed is also imported into Ireland from America, but it is inferior in quality to the Russian, and not generally liked.

The winter being now so much advanced, and the time for sowing in Ireland being February and March, it would be impossible at present, to draw timely supplies from Russia; we would, therefore, venture to suggest its being ordered from Holland, there to be purchased by competent persons and shipped direct to Ireland. Although not quite equal to the Riga seed, the Dutch is still of a very fine quality, being grown from the Riga seed, and when of the first year's growth from that seed, is much liked. Second and third growths are also produced for sowing, but they are not equal in quality to the first.

Some very fine Odessa flax-seed fit for sowing is expected in London, but the long voyage and the lateness of the season, render purchases of these shipments very precarious.

We have written to our friends in Holland, and daily expect a reply, with calculation of prices, &c., when we shall have the honour to transmit further particulars.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

December 1, 1846.

OVERLEAF you will find a report from Messrs. Labouchere and Company, on the subject of flax-seed, and I send two samples, one of Riga, and the other of Dutch, both of the first quality of their respective kinds.

Contrary, if I recollect right, to Mr. Maunsell's view, the Riga seed is the best, being regularly imported into Holland, and the Dutch growth of the first year from Riga seed, (or the "Son," as it is called) is the next best, of which kind is the Dutch seed now sent.

As the difference in price is greatly in favour of the Dutch, (the barrel of Riga seed at 24 florins, being only equal to half the hogshead of Dutch seed

at 34½) and as Dutch seed is what I was asked for with a direct preference of it to Russian, and as it is necessary to take some steps immediately, owing to the probability of the early closing of the navigation, I have ordered 600 bushels of Dutch seed to be sent to London, whence it may be easily transferred to the places on the western and southern coasts where it may be required.

If I have overshot the mark, pray tell me so in time for me to countermand the order in part.

I have been partly influenced in ordering a liberal quantity by observing that a movement is going on in the south as well as in the west of Ireland for the promotion of flax cultivation, which is certainly a very beneficial one for the people, owing to the quantity of labour it requires.

You very properly confined your undertaking as regards bere and rye-seed, to the west of Ireland, but in so peculiar a matter as flax-seed, you may perhaps relax your rule.

You will see in Messrs. Labouchere's letter, that notwithstanding all that is going on in Ireland about flax seed, the ordinary demand from that country has fallen off, which has led to its being cheaper than usual in Holland. What does this mean?

ENCLOSURE.

MESSRS. LABOUCHERE TO MESSRS. ERICSEN.

Rotterdam, November 27, 1846.

WE received yesterday your favour of the 21st instant, replying to which, we beg to inform you, that we think our home grown linseed will fully cope in quality with any other description, in proof of which, we forward to you by to-morrow's steamer, two samples of the same for comparison with two other samples of parcels imported here from Riga, with the relative prices now quoting for both sorts, from which you will observe that the latter would comparatively stand in much higher, the Riga barrels being considered to contain only half the quantity of the hogsheds shipped from hence. Of the latter, twelve are generally counted to the last, * which makes them equal to about seven bushels, and if a purchase be determined upon, we would advise its being made in hogsheds, as shipments are generally made to Ireland. Hardly any orders have yet been received from thence for flax-seed, and but for this circumstance, our prices would probably not have kept so low, as although our crop may be considered a good one, compared with the quantity of flax produced, the general production does not exceed a fair average. It must moreover be remarked, that a good deal will yet be required to meet our own wants, and the demand from Germany, and that from the prices of oil, the millers are also likely to become competitors for buying, so that we look upon the chances for the future range of prices, as being more in favour of an advance than otherwise.

We annex a *pro forma* invoice, in which we have taken the cost for superior quality at £35 for your information. Opportunities for shipping to Limerick offer very rarely; the rates of freight for Newry and Dublin, are all at present from 5s. 6d. to 6s. 6d. per hogshed with 5s. primeage. 1s. to 2s. more will probably be required for Limerick on a charter for 300 or 400 hogsheds.

Our prices of corn keep up with ready sales.

100 hogsheds=700 bushels at 8s. 7½d. per bushel—about 300l.

SIR R. ROUTH TO MR. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, November 27, 1846.

IN obedience to the commands of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, signified to me in your letter of the 3rd instant, No. 383, I have called upon Commissary-General Hewetson, to report whether he was aware of the circumstance complained of by Messrs. Russell, and what measures he adopted therein.

I have reason, however, to think that Messrs. Russell and Co. brought their complaint direct before me, and I lay before you, for the information of my Lords, copy of my letters to the Under-Secretary, with his reply thereto, and a copy of the defence made by Mr. Leyne, the presiding magistrate at Ennis, to whom the documents were referred.

I have not yet received Mr. Hewetson's reply, which I shall transmit to you as soon as it reaches me.

* Ten quarters.

ENCLOSURE.

SIR R. ROUTE to MR. REDINGTON.

Dublin Castle, November 11, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you, for the information of His Excellency the Lord-Lieutenant, copy of two letters from Messrs. T. N. Russell and Sons, of Limerick, submitting a complaint against the stipendiary magistrate stationed at Ennis, who, it would appear, declines to afford to them the assistance and protection which these gentlemen claim for the transit of their property, as promised to them in the Treasury Minute.

As the supply of this part of the country depends at the present moment very much on the exertions of these parties, and as their exertions are very extensive, and their prices, under the circumstances, not very unreasonable, I respectfully request the interposition of His Excellency's authority to cause inquiry to be made into the obstructions said to be raised in this matter.

MR. REDINGTON to SIR R. ROUTE.

Dublin Castle, November 23, 1846.

I AM directed to state that the Lord-Lieutenant having caused inquiries to be made into the complaint preferred by Messrs. Russell of Limerick, referred to in your letter of the 11th instant, against Mr. Leyne, R.M., at Ennis, sees no ground for attaching blame to him.

His Excellency has given full instructions relative to the escort of provisions, and if Messrs. Russell, who have hitherto made frequent demands for protection, decline to seek it, it would be unfair to hold the stipendiary magistrate responsible for the result. The unfortunate state of Clare, as well as other districts, having rendered it necessary to provide for the escort of corn and provisions in different parts of Ireland, His Excellency, having communicated with the military and constabulary authorities, has thought it right to frame certain regulations, under which the protection of either force can be obtained.

In order to prevent the troops being unduly harassed by this service, if called upon by every individual who may require them, the parties desirous of proceeding in the same direction have been required to make their journey at the same time, as it would obviously be impossible to provide escorts for each supply that any individual merchant may have to forward from his stores.

His Excellency is desirous to afford to the Messrs. Russell and those merchants who are engaged in the provision trade of this country every protection in conducting their operations; but he does not consider that any just ground for complaint has arisen in the present instance.

County of Clare.

WITH reference to the accompanying documents, I have to state that I not only have not refused to afford to Messrs. Russell and Sons, as well as the other merchants and traders of this town, any assistance and protection they may deem it advisable to claim for the safe transit of their property from hence to Clare village, or to any other part of the country, but that I frequently notified my perfect willingness to give them and the farmers every protection they may require; and so desirous have I been to carry this desirable object into effect that I had it published by the Roman Catholic clergymen, from the altar of the chapel in this town, that I was at all times ready to afford them every possible protection. With regard to the complaints made by Messrs. Russell and their managing clerk, I beg to state that the first intimation I had of the intention to ship their corn at the quay of Clare village was on Friday, the 6th instant, but at too late an hour to admit of the requisite arrangements being made for that purpose on that day. The next day, Saturday, was then fixed on, and having personally conferred with the officer in command of the troops, as required by a circular recently issued to the magistrates, the proper measures were agreed on between him and me; but, considering Saturday being a market-day here, and the town being densely crowded, that the police would be employed in patrolling the adjacent roads for the protection of the farmers and others bringing their agricultural produce to market, and that the popular excitement would be considerably augmented by conducting the carts through the town, it was deemed expedient by others and myself to defer, if practicable, the shipping of the grain until the following Monday. With this view I called on the clerk, but did not then see him. He came to my house at six o'clock that evening, accompanied by the Secretary of the Relief Committee, and on my explaining to him the expediency of postponing the shipment until next Monday morning, and putting him in possession of the circumstances which rendered such a step advisable, he at once fully concurred in the policy of the measure, and undertook to have a boat at the quay, at ten o'clock on Monday morning, to receive the corn. About seven o'clock on Saturday evening I received a communication from the Vice-Chairman of the Relief Committee, informing me that he had seen Mr. Russell's clerk, and that it was arranged that boats should be at the quay on Tuesday morning, for the purpose of the corn being shipped. This alteration of the day I conveyed to Major Eyre, and the necessary orders were issued by that officer for the military escort to be in attendance at ten o'clock on Tuesday morning, and what took place on that occasion has been detailed in my report of the 11th instant. As to my requiring the agent to provide any specific number of carts and horses, I did not do so; but I suggested to him the fitness of his having as many as he could get, as it was desirable

to have the boats loaded, if it could be effected, on that day. In proof of my anxious desire and readiness to give the transit of corn and other property every protection, I beg leave to refer to Messrs. Barnatynze and Co., to Messrs. Harding and Co., and to the merchants of this town, who will, I have no doubt, bear ample testimony to my being invariably willing to accede to their requisitions. The observations made by Messrs. Russell, as to their clerk being of the same religion with me, I do not understand, as I cannot see what a man's religion has to do with his public duty. With respect to their unfair and insulting allusion to my incapability, I shall only remark that I have been for many years in the military and civil service of my sovereign and country, and during the whole of that period there never has been, either directly or indirectly, cast upon me the slightest imputation of a want of capacity, energy, or fidelity, in the discharge of my duty. I have served under the different changes of Government, and by each of them my conduct has received unqualified approbation. I feel that I have not been an undeserving public servant, and it is too hard that my character should be carelessly assailed, and my feelings wounded, by Messrs. Russell and their clerk. Regarding their allusion to the rumour of my being removed to the city of Limerick, I know nothing whatever, neither have I made any application on the matter; but wherever my humble services may be required, his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant may be assured that I shall discharge the duties of my office with zeal, energy, and all the ability in my power. I beg to add, that it has been holden to be a cautious and prudent course for a magistrate to have a sworn information as to a contemplated breach of the public peace, or aggression on property; for should any fatal calamities occur in a collision between a military or civil power and the people, the magistrate will be called on for the authority under which he acted.

Ennis, November 14, 1846.

(Signed)

R. LATYNE, R.M.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

RETURN of CORRESPONDENCE from 16th to 18th November, 1846, both days inclusive.

L—APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7433	Westmeath . . .	Barony of Fore.—Castlepollard Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 159 <i>l.</i> 11 <i>s.</i> , and solicit a grant. 78 <i>l.</i> is recommended.
7431	Donegal, Barony of Boyleagh.	Inishkeel, Larcha, and Killybeg's Committee state, that the sum of 430 <i>l.</i> has been collected as a loan fund to assist in the purchase of food, as also a sinking fund, amounting to 108 <i>l.</i> , and request to be informed what amount of donation they may expect in aid. Informed that a grant cannot be recommended except in aid of local subscriptions, as free gifts, placed at the disposal of the Relief Committee; and that if, as is presumed, the fund of 430 <i>l.</i> is only lent by the contributors or subscribers, it is not one to which a Government grant can be added, however useful the object of it and deserving of encouragement.
7438	Cork	Rathmolyon, &c., Committee inquire if one-half the sum subscribed as a Relief Fund, and placed at their disposal for the sale of provisions under market price, will be given in aid by the Government. Informed that donations are given on local subscriptions, subject to the condition that the whole Relief Fund shall be applied conformably to the Regulations; one of which is, that the food provided shall be sold at such prices as may enable traders selling at the same rates to realize their reasonable profits.
7409	Galway	Barony of Ballinskine.—Bellinskil Committee forward a list of subscriptions, amounting to 48 <i>l.</i> , and solicit a grant. Informed that on transmitting the requisite certificate in the form given in the Instruction a grant will be recommended.
7406	Fermanagh . . .	Maguirebridge Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 39 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i> , and solicit a grant. 19 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> is recommended.
7431	Donegal	Barony of Bonagh Teelin.—Carrick Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 76 <i>l.</i> 16 <i>s.</i> , and solicit a grant. 38 <i>l.</i> is recommended.
7418	Waterford . . .	Carrickbeg Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 23 <i>l.</i> , and solicit a grant. 11 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> is recommended.
7430	Armagh	Market Hill Committee inquire if aid will be given to a subscription collected to purchase from dealers in meal at wholesale prices, and then supply it to the poor at reduced rates; observing, that these dealers will themselves supply the poor who are able to purchase at the retail prices. See Answer annexed.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

II.—APPLICATIONS WITH REFERENCE TO DEPOTS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7475	Clare	Milltown Malbay.—Correspondent states, that he has storage for 60 tons of meal, and can also find security for his services as agent in its sale if required. Informed that the storage will not be required.
6134	Sligo (Upper Half) Barony of Lefny.	Lefny Committee solicit an advance of 20 tons of Indian meal to be issued to them weekly, the proceeds to be regularly accounted for and paid to the Assistant Commissary-General at Sligo. Informed that the food in the Commissariat depots cannot be issued on credit; but that whatever subscriptions can be obtained for providing supplies of food (to be sold at prices sufficient to prevent any loss of the fund) will be augmented by grants in aid by the Lord Lieutenant.
6568	Meath	Naxan.—Correspondent proposes to let stores in Naxan. Informed that it is not intended to establish a Commissariat depot at Naxan.
7420	Dougal	Cross Roads Committee forward a memorial praying for the establishment of a depot in their district. Informed that this application will receive due consideration.

III.—APPLICATIONS WITH REFERENCE TO BERE, RYE, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7461	Cork	Millrove, Berhaven, Committee state that they will require a supply of barley; inquire terms, &c. Informed that until the time for spring sowing shall be near, no other seed corn will be provided than rye, as the one for sowing in winter.
7418	Rescommen	Boyle Committee inquire whether seed rye and wheat will be placed at their disposal at cost price. Informed that the supply obtained by Government for seed is but very limited, in consequence of the advanced period of the season, and that on its arrival, which is daily expected, the cost price and arrangements will be announced; also, that as here is a spring corn it is expected that a larger supply of it will be obtained in due time.
7466	Limerick	Ballyshane Committee inquire if their request for a supply of seed here will be complied with. Informed that seed best, which appears to be preferred in Ballyshane district, will not be supplied until the time for spring sowing shall arrive, here being a spring corn; also that the seed rye obtained is but a very limited supply, owing to the advanced period of the season, and that the cost price and arrangements for its distribution will, however, be announced as soon as the invoices shall arrive.

IV.—CORRESPONDENCE WITH REFERENCE TO PUBLIC RELIEF WORKS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7466	Armagh	Barony of Tíranny.—Correspondent inquires what works will be put forward in this barony. Forwarded to Board of Works.
7481	Meath	Kilnaganny, &c. Committee request forms of labour lists and tickets. Parties referred to the local officers of the Board of Works.

V.—APPLICATIONS WITH REFERENCE TO LOCAL COMMITTEES.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7464	Limerick	Sharnagolden Committee forward a resolution, purporting to sell their provisions in future at 3d. per stone under first cost, to destitute families consisting of more than six in number, but who have only one person employed on the Public Works, &c. Informed that the Government regulation requires the food provided with a Relief Fund, including a donation from the Lord Lieutenant, to be sold in every case at such a price as that traders selling the same kind of food, at the same rate, may realize a reasonable profit; that the rule admits of no exception, such as the Committee propose to make for very large families, where only one member is in employment; that selling under first cost in such cases would be similar in effect to paying the persons higher wages than are given to the other labourers. It is, therefore, suggested that when the wages of any labourers are not sufficient to buy so much as their families require of the food which the Committee may have provided, a cheaper description of diet should be used by them.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

V.—APPLICATIONS WITH REFERENCE TO LOCAL COMMITTEES—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7417	Cavan	Barony of Cennahon.—Maintenance Committee inquire as to the payment of secretary of their Committee—postage, stationery, &c.—Informed that the salary of the secretary of a Relief Committee and all contingent expenses are to be paid out of the Relief Fund, to be framed in the manner pointed out by the Instructions.
7467	Cavan	Virginia.—Correspondent inquires if perpetual curates are <i>ex officio</i> members of Relief Committees. Informed that the principal clergyman officiating in each parish is an <i>ex officio</i> member of the Relief Committee for the district including it, and that it would be advisable to communicate with the acting vice-lieutenant of the county, whose decision will be binding on the Committee.
7474	Donegal	Lettermacward and Templemore district.—The late secretary of the Committee, formed for this locality, inquires if he is to deliver up the books, &c., to the chairman; that he retains them till instructed by the Commissary-General; impresses upon him the advantages of not connecting Templemore with Lettermacward district; and of his right to be still continued as secretary; he states that the Indian Relief Fund trustees have furnished queries for replies, and he asks various questions in reference thereto, &c. &c. Informed that the Commissary-General will not interfere with the Relief Committees' arrangements referred to, and that as the appointment of secretary rests with the vice-lieutenant of the county, and as the Rev. Mr. Griffith is now secretary to the Committee for both Templemore and Lettermacward, the books should be handed over to him; that in reference to the information sought by the secretary of the Relief Fund trustees, the proper course is to place every application before the Committee, and be guided by their directions.
6579	Waterford	Glenahiry Committee represent the inadequacy of their funds to remunerate their secretary for his services, and state that they shall be deprived of his future usefulness should sufficient recompense be withheld from him, as the duties withdraw his attention from his own important avocations, &c. &c. Informed that, as there is no other source from which recompense can be made for the services of their secretary than the Relief Fund of the district, it would be advisable in future to allow him to employ occasionally a clerk to copy lists of labourers for Weeks, or other papers, the preparation of which would engross much of his time; and that it is presumed that persons for the purpose can be obtained when requisite at a moderate rate of recompense.
7416	Waterford, Barony of Uppertind.	St. Mary's Committee.—Secretary inquires whether it is likely that he will be allowed a salary. The duties, &c., are heavy. Informed that the secretaries of Relief Committees may receive payment for their services out of the Relief Funds of their districts, formed in the manner pointed out by the Instructions, which are the only sources for the purpose, and that where secretaries do not receive pay, the Committees may occasionally employ clerks to copy lists of labourers and other papers.
7508	Cork	Intishannon Committee inquire if their fund, formed of subscriptions collected, and his Excellency's donation in aid, can be apportioned to the several parishes of the district, to be administered by individual members of the Committee. Informed that the Relief Fund of Intishannon district may be appropriated to the parishes for which the subscriptions are collected, but that it is not considered advisable to place the same so appropriated at the disposal of individual members of the Relief Committee. Also, that the expenditure of Relief Funds should be avoided if possible, as they can in most cases be more usefully employed in providing supplies of food for sale.
7465	Fermanagh	Glenawley Committee.—Correspondent questions the right of certain persons to act as members of the Glenawley Committee, in consequence of their having been added after the original organization was made. Informed that the organization of Relief Committees rests entirely with the lieutenants of counties, and such deputy lieutenants as may act in this respect for the lieutenants, so that the Commissary-General cannot decide on any question as to the right which the persons referred to may have to act as members of the Glenawley Committee. This application is transmitted to the lieutenant of county, and his attention is drawn to the representation therein made.
6407	Kerry	Templemore Committee desire that their district be incorporated with the Glanarought district, and its business transferred to Keshmarr. The Committee recommended, if still feeling inconvenience from the arrangement made for Templemore, to apply to the Lieutenant of the County; as the power to change that arrangement rests solely with him.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

V.—APPLICATIONS WITH REFERENCE TO LOCAL COMMITTEES—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7411	Cavan	Cavan Committee forward a printed copy of certain regulations adopted by them upon various matters connected with applicants for employment, and request such suggestions may be made to them as the practice of other Commissions offers. Informed that the Commissary-General is not able to offer any suggestion from the practice of other Committees which might assist that of the Cavan Committee in the selection of persons for employment, and which he considers can only be safely done by adhering, as the Committee propose, to the rule in the sanctioned instructions, limiting employment to those in actual need of it.
7484	Donegal	Bunrana Committee inquire how stationery, &c., is to be obtained. Informed that the expense of providing stationery (with all other contingent charges to Relief Committees) must be defrayed out of the local relief fund, in the manner pointed out in the instructions to Committees.
7424	Meath	Clonard. Correspondent inquires if he has been appointed Secretary to the local Relief Committee, and what salary is to be allowed? Informed that he has been appointed Secretary to a Relief Committee for the parishes of Ballybeggon and Castlejordan, in the barony of Moyfeneath, by the Vice-Lieutenant of the County Meath; that the salary is left to the discretion of the Committee, and is payable out of the relief fund, to be formed in the manner pointed out by the printed instructions.
7434	Cavan, Barony Tullyshan	Kilnagagh (sub-district to Swinburn). Correspondent incloses the sanction of the Vice-Lieutenant for the organization of a Committee for this sub-district. Noted, and books, &c., also sent.
7445	Kilkenny	Kilnacow Committee request forms of account current, and state that it will be difficult to adhere to the form of the account. In transmitting blanks for accounts, informed that it is not imperative to adopt these forms should they not accord with the transactions of the Committee; that any forms showing the items of receipts and expenditure to the 15th August last will answer.
7454	Mayo	A list of Chairmen and Secretaries of the several Relief Committees of county is forwarded. Noted, and books, &c., forwarded, if not previously sent.
7455	Kildare	Lieutenant of County furnishes a revised list of names of Chairmen and Secretaries of local Committees in barony of South Naas. Noted.
7438 7518	Meath	Vice-Lieutenant of County furnishes list of names of Chairmen and Secretaries to Committees in baronies of Lower Narva-Lence and Upper Slane. Noted, and books, &c., if not already furnished, sent.

VI.—APPLICATIONS FOR BOOKS, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7428	Tyrene	Omagh Committee apply for a second registry book. Forwarded.
7432	Londonderry . .	Inishrush Committee. Books, &c., sent.
7448	Kildare	Robertstown Committee. Instructions and Treasury Minute forwarded.
7508	Down	Rostrevor Committee. Papers on drainage of land forwarded.
7479	Cork	Drinoleague, Skibbereen Committee. Noted; books, &c., forwarded.
7509	Tipperary . . .	Ballyporeen Committee. Noted, and books, &c., forwarded.
7478	Queen's County .	Stradbally Committee. Papers sent.
7430	Westmeath . . .	Kilbeggan Committee. Instructions forwarded.
7433	Cork	Iniscarra Committee. Informed, that on notification being made of the sanction of Lieutenant of County, the books, &c., will be forwarded.
7510	Dublin	Tallaght and Clonsilla Committee. Informed that books, &c., were sent by post to their Chairmen on 2nd instant.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

VI.—APPLICATIONS FOR BOOKS, &c.—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7431	Galway	Centra Committee. Books, &c., forwarded, and the Committee informed that they should immediately forward to the Lieutenant of County a list of their members, with a statement of the bounds of the district, including two parishes, and the whole of the electoral division in which each parish may be.
7507	Down	Clenallen Committee. Instructions, &c., forwarded.
7511	Donegal	Templemore and Lettermacward Committee request books, &c., may be forwarded. Informed that the books, &c., have been forwarded to Mr. John Rogers; and that if he is not now Secretary to a Relief Committee of Templemore and Lettermacward, application should be made to him for the books, &c., which he has received, and should at once hand over.
7506	Roscommon	Boyle Committee. Books, &c., forwarded.
7516	Galway	Oranmore Committee appoint sub-Committee, with sanction of Vice-Lieutenant of County, and apply for books, &c. Noted, and books, &c., forwarded.
7435	Sligo	Carbery Committee apply for books, &c., for divisions 1 and 2 of this barony. Forwarded.

VII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7422	Limerick	Tervee. Correspondent suggests the introduction of Riga and Dutch flax seed, and hopes Government will assist in having it imported into this part of Ireland.
7354/ 6411	Cork	Submitted by the Commissary-General to the Treasury. Cloyne and Churchtown Committee, referring to the recommendation of the Commissary-General in reply to their application for a grant in aid of 88 <i>l.</i> placed at their disposal, that their funds are to be employed in providing the cheapest kind of food, and sold at prices sufficient to prevent any loss, state that what the poor want is, that the prices of home food should be reduced to them to enable them to obtain it, and that Government alone have the power and means to do so. The Committee further state, that the people prefer paying 2 <i>s.</i> per stone for Indian corn meal to 1 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> for wheaten or barley-meal. Answered by stating that the question for consideration is, whether it be more advisable to provide with the relief fund, as the Commissary-General has recommended, the cheapest kind of food, and sell at prices sufficient to prevent any loss, or to let the fund be expended, as the Committee propose, in providing Indian meal, to be sold at prices much under first cost; that by the latter course the fund would be speedily exhausted, and the poor be left dependent on whatever supplies traders might provide; that by the former course, a supply of food can be maintained, through the successive application or reinvestment of the relief fund, during the period of scarcity, thus co-operating with the local traders in enlarging the stock of food, and not discouraging their exertions by selling under fair trade prices; that this is the course proposed by Government; that if it shall now be adapted by the Relief Committee, the Commissary-General will be enabled to recommend a grant in aid of the subscriptions set forth in the list which he has received.
7413	Galway	Bellinacloe. Inspecting Officer of Works requests an official list of the Committees of the county, as also a copy of the circular letter issued by His Excellency in October last, respecting the class of persons to be employed on public works. Informed, in forwarding the list of Committees for the county Galway, that the letter referred to has not been sent to the Commissariat Relief Office for distribution.
6406	Leitrim	Dromona. Correspondent suggests that the Jamestown Mills, the property of the Board of Works, be put into operation by the Commissary-General, and points the advantages which would result, &c. Deposit.
6563	Roscommon	Athleague, Cregga. Correspondent represents the prevalence in this locality of the practice of bakers selling light loaves of bread, &c., and he suggests that they should be compelled to sell the bread by weight. See answer annexed.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

COMMUNICATIONS referred by the UNDER SECRETARY for IRELAND to the COMMISSARY-GENERAL, from 15th to 18th of November, 1846, both days inclusive.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
D 8143	Fermanagh . .	Keshmilly Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions amounting to £31., and solicit a grant. 25s. is recommended.
H 18264	Wicklow . . .	Arklow.—Dr. Wright complains of the smallness of the allowance made to him by the Central Board of Health as Medical Officer under the Act 9 and 10 Vict., cap. 6, and prays for its augmentation, stating that he paid an apothecary 12s. for his services, &c., which leaves his salary but 2s. 6jd. per diem. Answered, by observing that the appointment of an apothecary was entirely an arrangement of correspondents own, made when the Board of Health proposed the appointment of a second medical officer, and that if the employment of an apothecary had been left from the beginning to the Poor Law Guardians, as they desired, he would not have had to make any compensation for his assistance.

MR. STANLEY to MR. KELLY.

*Commissariat Relief Office,
Dublin Castle, November 17th, 1846.*

REFERRING to your letter respecting the sale of bread, Commissary-General Sir Randolph J. Routh begs to state, that the law requires bread to be sold by weight, but does not fix on any specific weight for the loaves, which may therefore be of any size the bakers think proper; they may, however, be required to weigh each loaf, roll, &c. (not being fancy bread), when selling.

Your proper course is to apply to the magistrates in petty sessions.

MR. STANLEY to MR. BLACKER.

*Commissariat Relief Office,
Dublin Castle, November 17th, 1846.*

COMMISSARY-GENERAL Sir Randolph J. Routh begs to return the following reply to the inquiry made by your letter of the 14th instant, this day received.

The rule laid down by the Treasury Minute of the 31st of August last, for regulating the sale of food provided with Relief Funds to which the Government shall have given donations, is made without reference to the advantages of traders, and only from a consideration of what is best calculated for the public good in the present exigency of the country.

As the high price of food indicates scarcity, and provides a partial remedy, by enforcing economy in consumption, the Government cannot be recommended to supply means of assisting in a more rapid use of food than would occur in the actual circumstances of society; and, therefore, on this ground alone, the policy of the rule objected to is fully supported, for which there is an additional motive in the advantage afforded by having the Relief Funds, when used for providing food, maintained undiminished through the period of distress, and kept turning as capital in collecting successive supplies.

By these funds the labouring population may be supplied with food purchased on better terms than those on which ordinary dealers may have hitherto made their purchases; or food may be provided not generally on sale. Mixtures of meal may be adopted. Committees may also promote the use of various kinds of vegetable diet. In fact, a number of expedients may be resorted to with advantage, while the Relief Funds are preserved for the purposes; but if expended in giving food for less than it is purchased by the Committees, only a temporary relief is afforded—a quantity of food is consumed which, in the ordinary course, would have lasted a longer time—and, ultimately, the persons thus supplied must resort to the retail traders, who had been previously discouraged from making any exertion to extend their business.

SIR R. ROUTH to MR. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, November 28, 1846.

I SENT Colonel Jones the extract, as you desired, of your letter of 23rd November, and he has applied to me for eighty copies of it to circulate amongst all his officers, &c., and I shall therefore print it, and send him the number required, and furnish them in like manner to our officers.

Mr. Chapple (Mr. Cabbitt's foreman) left us yesterday, and this is the conclusion we came to:—

No. 2. Too coarse in the cut. It is intended for Indian corn, but the meal produced is too coarse.

No. 3. Approved, but requiring to be hooped.

No. 4. The diameter is too great, making it too laborious.

It is recommended that No. 2 and No. 4 should be reduced to the same diameter as No. 3, and all to be hooped and to have the lever screw.

It is impossible for me to say with any accuracy what number may be required. The prices of grinding have risen 50 per cent., and in some situations more. It is an object of great importance to enable the public to avoid this great expense. In Sligo they are charging 30s. per ton; in other places more. I calculate that these mills would cost under 12, perhaps 15s., and I think they would find purchasers at this rate. I should like to send a supply to Westport, Clifden, and Belmullet, and county Donegal, and also to Longford and Banagher for sale, and a few to Limerick. Perhaps 100 of each would not be too much, as I do not propose to send them to Kerry, where there would be a prejudice in favour of their querns, and a few sent to Limerick would, if approved, find their way there. Perhaps it would be prudent to send a circular to the Commissariat posts before we finally decided on the number.

I annex for your information a letter from Colonel Douglas, and I think, to avoid a double correspondence, that I shall forward to you, as received, all these private letters, reserving those which have a more official form, and sending to you copies only; but when the Diary is in full use, it will give a concise view of what is going on, and what is intended, and the private and official letters will be developments of the Diary. If you will favour me with your ideas on this subject, that we may put it in the manner you desire, I shall be obliged to you.

I am now seriously preparing, and which will certainly be ready next week, a little pamphlet on cheap food, containing all the receipts we have been able to collect, and which I trust will be useful.

We shall send it to all the Committees, and I shall transmit to you as many copies as you require.

I think you will like Colonel Douglas's letter; and I shall be disappointed if he does not prove an active, intelligent officer.

The Lieutenants of counties are very much pleased with the appointments.

The "London," with barley meal, has just been reported. It will be sent off on Monday to Longford.

I observe, with pleasure, your further purchases, but without date of arrival: I suppose next summer.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, November 28, 1846.

JUST as I was closing my letters the Cork mail has arrived, and brought me the enclosed letter from Mr. Bishop, which I lay before you.

I have also a few lines from Mr. Cummins, quoting Indian corn at 14*l.*, and Indian corn meal at 15*l.* 10*s.* to 16*l.*

Mr. Cummins adds, that they learn from all parts of the country, especially from the west, that no preparation is being made for a future crop.

He adds, that the demand for steel hand-mills by the class of small farmers is extremely great; several parties generally contributing to the purchase of one for their joint use.

This information encourages our speculation in the stone hand-mills; and I think it cannot fail of being useful.

ENCLOSURE.

From Mr. BISHOP to Sir R. ROUTH.

Cork, November 27, 1846.

ON my return from Cove last evening, I found your official of the 25th instant, relative to the desired inquiry as to the necessity of providing employment for destitute persons in the neighbourhood of Haulbowline. Finding that the "executive" of the Cove Relief Committee were at the Court-house in Cork this morning, I deemed it useless returning to Cove to-day. I have arranged to meet the Committee there to-morrow morning. I am disposed to think, from the observations I made yesterday at Cove and in that neighbourhood, that the distress will not be found so imperative as to call for the additional Government work suggested. I

shall, however, spare no pains to obtain the best information, and hope to be enabled to report to you on Sunday.

Lord Randon has appointed to see me on Monday, and to furnish me with a list of the Committees formed in this county; and as I sleep at Castle Barnard, I propose starting from thence to commence my visits to the Committees.

I had a long interview yesterday with Admiral Pigot at Cove; his disposition to afford us every assistance at his disposal is unceasing.

Indian corn has risen to 14*l.* per ton, and meal to 15*l.* 10*s.* This rise is owing to the number of corn-laden vessels which have left Cork within the last few days in search of a better market.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, November 28, 1846.

Dated Nov. 3.
" 12.

WITH reference to your letters noted in the margin, I have the honour to report, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the arrival of the following officers, viz.:—

Lieut.-Colonel Douglas.

Captain Stopford, R.N.

Captain Reid.

Deputy Assistant Commissary-General Trimmer.

Deputy Assistant Commissary-General Le Mesurier.

Lieut.-Colonel Douglas has proceeded to Clonmel in charge of Counties Tipperary and Waterford.

Captain Stopford has proceeded to New Ross in charge of Counties Wexford and Kilkenny.

Captain Reid has proceeded to Killarney, in charge of County Kerry and West Carberry, County Cork.

Deputy Assistant Commissary-General Trimmer has proceeded to Galway, where he will relieve Assistant Commissary-General Millikin on 1st December.

Deputy Assistant Commissary-General Le Mesurier has assumed the charge at Banagher.

Assistant Commissary-General Bishop has assumed the charge of inspecting officer of County Cork, with his head quarters at Cork.

Lieut.-Colonel Archer has assumed the same duty for Counties Longford, Westmeath, and Meath, with his head quarters at Mullingar, and

Assistant Commissary-General Millikin will undertake the same office for County Galway on the 1st December, with his head quarters for the present at Galway.

Commissariat-Clerk CUMMINS to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Killibegs, November 28, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to inform you, that I have closed for a store here at the rate of 5*l.* 10*s.* per month, and that I have made all arrangements for commencing the discharge of the "Bossidar" (from Trieste with 501 tons of Indian corn) on Monday morning.

The store now taken cannot hold more than about 200 tons, and there is only one more (of any size) in the town: this belongs to the estate of the late Mr. Murray; but as yet I have been unable to obtain a tender of it.

Mr. Dobree informs me that I may expect the arrival of two large cargoes almost immediately; and, as the "Andromeda" can only take meal in sacks, I fear we shall be sadly off for lofts for cooling the corn.

I am directed to ship 100 tons to Burtonport, and 100 tons to Dunfanaghy from the "Bossidar."

My travels through Donegal have as yet been limited; but I am happy to report that the people here do not appear to be in the same state of destitution as those in parts of the county Mayo; I speak of the latter place, as I have lately left Westport, and during my stay in that district, my duties called me to almost every part of the county. The islands on the coast will, I fear, require very great attention during the ensuing six or eight months.

There are five Relief Committees in my district, and all work unanimously, with the exception of the Killibegs Committee. The latter seem to have some party differences, which, until they are got over, quite prevent their being of any real service (as a body) to the poor.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

November 30, 1846.

I HAVE desired Mr. Cubitt's foreman to have three specimens of the hand-mill, No. 3, prepared as approved by you, fitted with a hoop and lever screw, which last Mr. Chapple says he will have cast in iron, in order to secure uniformity, and when we have got these models ready, we will send a circular to all the manufacturers of such articles, and call for tenders.

I thought it better to have more than one specimen prepared, both for the sake of establishing a check, and because we may have to send models to quarries at a distance.

I have written to Mr. Labouchere without the delay of a single post, to endeavour to secure you and your assistants better accommodation, which, independently of your personal comfort, I consider to be of real public importance. The crowd in my room is so great, that I have had another smaller room made behind it.

I entirely approve of the diary proposed for the inspecting officers, but it can only be looked upon as furnishing a general outline of their proceedings, and an index to the more detailed information contained in their private and public letters, copies of which we rely upon your sending us at the earliest practicable period after they are received.

Your new pamphlet on cheap food will be translated into Gaelic for the use of the Scotch highlanders and islanders as soon as it comes out.

Deputy Commissary-General Osborn's son is on our list of candidates for Treasury clerkships, but we do not wish to send any person to Ireland who does not possess qualifications which peculiarly adapt him for the service.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, November 30, 1846.

WE never land supplies in Dublin unless compelled to do so by want of transport into the interior. We usually unload the articles at the contractor's stores, from whence they are loaded and forwarded, if he can receive them, or has boats ready in any given period to convey them.

The great difficulty we have to contend with is the abuse of the lists of labourers, as made out by the Committees. There is such a passion for jobbing through every grade in Ireland, that it seems indigenuous. I think, however, if our officers are active, we shall effect a reform, but it is too gradual.

In reply to the extracts of the Blue Book and your letters, Mr. Hewetson says that he is quite anxious to keep the depots closed, but that he is not a little uneasy as to the keeping of the meal. There is a little in Banagher, and that at Kilrush, which requires now to be issued, and we shall watch the rest. I have received the quern from Captain Mann, which is a very rude contrivance, and does not grind at all; the most it can do is to crush.

I observe the task-work is chiefly breaking stones. It requires a certain talent to be able to measure out task-work of a higher class.

Deputy Commissary-General IBBETSON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Lanzaretto, Malta, November 2, 1846.

I THINK it right to inform you that two days previously to my leaving Argostoli, I received from Deputy Commissary-General Major copy of your official letter, dated 6th October, No. 11, respecting the purchase of grain, the same to be ground by the Naval Department, and sent to Ireland. Mr. Major suggested the propriety of my purchasing what Indian corn I could meet with on the spot in vessels already laden, and forwarding it on to Malta at once. I immediately went to the most respectable merchant for information as to the state of the corn market. He told me at once that there was then no grain beyond the quantity necessary for the consumption of the island, as a large quantity of Indian corn and barley had recently been bought up by speculators at a high price, evidently for Ireland. This merchant referred me to a broker, whom he had employed for many years, who told me the same story. He has a house at Corfu, of which I apprized Mr. Eppes, to whom Mr. Major had also written, and sent a copy of your official letter, No. 11. I presume, however, that you may have written to Mr. Eppes on this subject.

Deputy Commissary-General IBBETSON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Malta, November 14, 1846.

I REG to acknowledge the receipt of your private letter of the 14th ultimo, accompanied by three copies of a printed paper on the subject of providing "cheap food with home corn" in Ireland. I have communicated that part of your letter which relates to the grinding of the grain to Sir Lucius Curtis. I send you a statement of all the offers made to supply grain, including those which Mr. Major had accepted, prior to giving up the charge of the department. This statement I propose to forward to you from time to time, showing our progress. As the demand for Indian corn is, I presume, now so generally known, I expect we shall shortly have large offers. This, I hope, will have the effect of reducing the prices, which, you will observe, have increased considerably since the first offer was made. I was enabled to get a trifling reduction in the prices stated in offers Nos. 5 and 7. I am informed that a merchant here purchased 500 salms of Indian corn from Naples, at 38s. 4d. per salm. 1,100 salms of beans have been offered at 29s. per salm, but as there seems every prospect of obtaining Indian corn, I have declined the offer. Oats are hardly ever sent here, as not being required. You do not mention rye amongst the several articles of food specified. Is there any objection to it? I ask this question, in the event of any offers being made, although at present it is not known here, and we may not have any occasion for it, but it appears very *probable* that every article of food will be brought to this market: I observe that Mr. Major has already informed you that there is no other mode of kiln-drying corn here, but on the terraces of the houses, and the flagged terraces on the ground, where the corn is thrashed in the country. These terraces are heated by the sun in summer, and, of course, at this season of the year this operation cannot be performed. I trust that what Indian corn has been ground without being so dried will reach its destination in good order.

The naval steam-mill cannot as yet be said to have commenced working. Experiments have only been made of its powers, and it requires a little adjustment. It is calculated that this mill and the mule mills belonging to the Navy, will grind 100 salms in one day. I have thought it advisable to get the whole of our Commissariat mule mills (18 in number) put into proper repair, in case they may be required; four, however, only are out of order. I have sent to Sicily for 10 pairs of mill-stones, as the Naval Department cannot spare any.

I shall be much obliged by any observations you may have to make for my future guidance, and requesting you will be assured that I shall do my best to meet your wishes.

P.S. I have just been informed that this kiln-drying apparatus will be ready in about six weeks, and that the steam-mill will commence with our Indian corn to-morrow or next day.

ENCLOSURE.

MALTA.—STATEMENT showing the Offers of GRAIN made through a Broker to the COMMISSARIAT DEPARTMENT, and accepted between 17th October and 14th November, 1846.

No. of the Offer.	Date, 1846.	Description of Grain.	Quantity.	Price.	From what Country.	Time for Delivery.		Remarks.
						From	To	
1	Oct. 17	Indian corn	500 salms.	32 6 per salm.	Lorient	1846, Oct. 27	1846, Oct. 25	500 salms (Offer No. 1) delivered to Naval Department.
2	Oct. 19	"	800 "	31 0 "	"	Oct. 19	Nov. 30	100 salms (Offer No. 2) delivered to Naval Department.
3	Nov. 3	"	600 "	34 2 "	Naples	Nov. 3	Dec. 31	Heavily expected.
	Nov. 4	"	500 "	33 6 "	Salonica or Lorient	Nov. 4	Nov. 30	
5	Nov. 13	"	300 "	37 0 "	"	Nov. 13	1847, Jan. 1	
6	"	"	1000 "	35 0 "	Salonica or Lorient	"	"	
7	"	"	1000 "	37 0 "	Naples	"	"	
8	Nov. 14	"	1000 "	35 6 "	Lorient	"	Jan. 15	

Commissariat, Malta, November 14, 1846.

D. IBBETSON, D.C.G.

Deputy Commissary-General IBBETSON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Malta, November 18, 1846.

I BEG to inform you that I forwarded to you on the 15th instant, by the overland mail, a report of the quantity of Indian corn offered and accepted, which I am sorry to say has been very little.

No offer has since been made; and from what I hear, it would appear now that the wants for Ireland are so generally known, that Indian corn is shipped in large quantities at the several ports direct for England; so that if the holders of grain can find purchasers on the spot, and at the same time secure a quick and sure sale without risk or loss, it seems reasonable to suppose that they will not send it here under the uncertainty of its arriving in good order and condition, which is a part of our agreement in accepting offers made here. But it must be recollected that as one month has only elapsed since the receipt, on the 14th October, of your first letter of the 6th of that month, No. 11, ordering the purchase of grain, the merchants here have not had sufficient time to communicate and arrange with their agents at these ports, and at present we cannot expect much. In another week or two we shall be enabled to form an opinion of what can be done, and we still may entertain hopes that considerable offers may yet be made. Under existing circumstances there cannot be, in my opinion, any other or better course pursued to obtain these supplies, at least for the present, than through the intervention of an intelligent and experienced broker, who has for many years purchased grain for the navy, who is well acquainted with all the resources, and who is naturally interested in the undertaking.

I am informed that there is much difficulty in procuring freight at the different ports for this grain, and that vessels, laden with coals, &c., from England, return with Indian corn and other grain.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Deputy Commissary-General IBBETSON.

November 30, 1846.

I HAVE had the pleasure of receiving your private letters, dated the 2nd, 14th, and 18th instant, on the subject of your purchases of grain for the Irish service.

Your proceedings are, in every respect, satisfactory, and it therefore only remains for me to answer your question about rye.

As rye is not at present used in Ireland, and as it is doubtful whether it can be prepared in a state suited to be used in porridge or stirabout, the ordinary mode in which meal is cooked in Ireland, it is not considered advisable to buy any until we can see our way more clearly about it.

I shall be glad to receive information from you on the following points:—

1. Can rye be ground *single*, that is, coarsely ground, without extracting the bran, &c., in the mode usually adopted for grinding meal for "stirabout?"

2. Will rye meal, when so ground, make good porridge?

You can perhaps send us a specimen of the meal.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, November 30, 1846.

ADVERTING to your letter, No. 383, dated 23rd instant, I have the honour to lay before you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, extract of a Report from Commissary-General Hewetson, in relation to the affair of Messrs. Russell and Co.

It would appear that Mr. Leyne states that Messrs. Russell's application was made to him on the 6th, after 11 o'clock, A.M., the hour fixed for applications for escorts; that the next day was market-day, and Sunday intervening, the escort could not be granted until Monday.

In speaking to the Under-Secretary on the subject, he informed me that if Messrs. Russell thought themselves aggrieved, and were dissatisfied with his Excellency's judgment, it was open to them to make a further appeal, to which due attention would be given.

E. 2683.

E. 2729

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

December 4, 1846.

Write to Sir R. Routh that their Lordships entertain no doubt that the complaint which has been made by Messrs. Russell against Mr. Leyne, the stipendiary magistrate at Ennis, will be properly investigated and decided upon by his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant; but they desire to take this opportunity of impressing on Sir R. Routh's attention the great importance of every possible exertion being made by himself, and by the inspecting and other officers serving under him, to give full effect to the intentions of Her Majesty's Government, as expressed in the Minute of this Board, dated 31st August last, in regard to the protection to be afforded to supplies of food belonging to private dealers, whether in store or in transit; and for this purpose the attention of the proper authorities should be promptly called to any circumstances which may come to the knowledge of the inspecting or other officers acting under Sir R. Routh, which may appear to require the exercise of more than usual precaution.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, November 30, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the weekly return of the Commissariat depots in Ireland, and also a statement of the amount of donations, and of the sums subscribed, up to the 28th instant.

ENCLOSURE.

WEEKLY STATE OF PROVISIONS, &c., in the several DEPOTS in IRELAND, on the evening of Saturday, the 28th November, 1846.

Depôts.	Indian Corn in Quarters of Eight Bushels each.			Indian Corn Meal.		Outmeal.	Biscuit.
	In Port.	In Store.	With Militia.	In Port.	In Store.		
				Sacks 280 lbs.	Sacks 280 lbs.	Sacks 280 lbs.	Bags 112 lbs.
Limerick	7,190	29	..
Banagher	776	..	..
Kilrush	541	..	..
Madagascar	1,388	384	1,654
Harlowstone	250	..	..
Skibbereen	594	..	632
Dringle	1,483	..	183
Cahircavan	250	..	1,494
Galway	3,147	9	10
Westport	770	..	616	630	24	63
Clifden	29	..	..
Sligo	651	..	1,200	..	1,349	..	131
Killybegs	2,342	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ballina	240	..	..	..	..
Longford	141	196	864
Castleroa	16	..	..
Roscommon	16	..	..
Dublin	1,456	876	590
Total	2,999	770	1,440	616	19,625	1,518	5,557

RECAPITULATION of REMAINS on the 28th November, 1846.

5,209 quarters of Indian corn, at	5 per ton . . .	1,041½	tens.
20,242 sacks Indian corn meal, at	8 per ton . . .	2,530½	"
1,518 sacks of oatmeal, at	8 per ton . . .	189½	"
5,357 bags biscuit, at	29 per ton . . .	277½	"

Total . . . 4,039½ tens.

R. J. ROUTH, Commissary-General.

Dublin Castle, November 30, 1846.

DONATIONS ISSUED under Authority of his Excellency the LORD LIEUTENANT to RELIEF COMMITTEES in aid of SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Date.	Name of Committee.	Amount of Donation.			Amount of Subscription.		
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Nov. 21 .	Amount brought forward . .	3,808	15	0	7,776	19	11
" 21 .	Knockminny District, County of Fermanagh . .	25	0	0	53	0	0
" 21 .	Terha Carrick District, County of Donegal . .	38	0	0	28	16	0
" 21 .	Castlepollard District, County of Westmeath . .	78	0	0	159	11	0
" 24 .	Templederry District, County of Tipperary . .	29	0	0	58	3	6
" 24 .	Clashmore District, County of Waterford . .	35	0	0	70	0	0
" 25 .	Kilrush District, County of Clare	105	0	0	211	10	8
" 25 .	Inishkeel and Lower Killbegg, County of Donegal . .	59	0	0	116	0	0
" 25 .	Clonsilla District, County of Westmeath . .	96	0	0	192	12	0
" 26 .	Tullyhunc District, County of Cavan	50	0	0	100	5	6
" 27 .	Hollymont District, County of Mayo	85	0	0	172	10	0
" 27 .	Doonagh District, County of Clare	75	0	0	153	9	0
		4,483	15	0	9,142	17	7

Dublin Castle, November 28, 1846.

R. J. ROOTH, Commissary-General.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

RETURN of CORRESPONDENCE from 19th to 21st November, 1846, both days inclusive.

I.—APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7492	Roscommon . . .	Terragh, &c., Committee forward a list of subscriptions, amounting to 42l. 10s., and solicit a grant. A return of the receipts and expenditure of the Committee during the past season is likewise forwarded, by which it appears, that all the subscriptions and Government donations heretofore received by the Committee have been expended in gratuitous relief. <p>Inform that it will not be in the power of the Commissary-General to recommend a grant on the further subscriptions in the list now received, without first obtaining from the Committee a distinct assurance that in future the Relief Fund of the district shall be applied conformably to the printed Instructions for the guidance of Committees; that in case the Committee shall give this assurance, it will be desirable to receive with it a statement of the course proposed to be adopted. It is also notified, that it is recommended to Relief Committees to place all food provided by them with individuals of character, to be sold on commission, at prices which the Committees shall fix, sufficient to repay the first cost with all charges, and a commission allowance of 5l. per cent. for storing and selling.</p>
7498	King's County . .	Parsonstown Committee state that a considerable sum has been subscribed by gentlemen of this locality as a loan for the purchase of corn, &c., and inquire if they will be entitled to any proportion of any donations that may hereafter be given by Government in aid of their Relief Fund. <p>Inform that there cannot be a donation made in aid of a Loan Fund for providing food, however important and deserving of encouragement; and that the donations are limited to local subscriptions placed absolutely at the disposal of the Relief Committees, and to be used conformably with the printed Instructions.</p>
7501	Kerry	Killarney Committee inquire if selling Indian meal under the market price will discount them to the Government donation. It is 2s. 6d. per stone, and the Committee could sell it at a lower rate. <p>Inform that the condition on which donations are made, is a strict conformity to the Government regulations in applying the Relief Fund; one of which is, that all the food provided with the fund shall be sold at such prices as that traders, selling the same kind of food at the same rates, may realise reasonable profits.</p>
7415	Cavan	Stradone Committee apply for payment of the donation of 8l., recommended on their subscription of 16l. 15s. 6d. <p>Deposit, as the remittance goes forward immediately.</p>

II.—APPLICATIONS WITH REFERENCE TO DEPOTS, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
6290	Cork; Barony of West Muskerry.	Inchigleola Committee pray that a depot for the sale of meal be opened without delay for this parish. <p>Inform that the Commissariat arrangements for assisting</p>

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

II.—APPLICATIONS WITH REFERENCE TO DEPOTS, &c.—continued.		
No.	County.	Locality, &c.
6741	Tipperary . . .	local exertions in providing supplies of food for sale cannot be extended to any part of the county Cork, except the baronies of Bere and Bantry, and the western division of Carbery. Ulin and Cluggan Committee apply for issues of meal from the depot at Limerick. Informed that the depots cannot be opened until the supplies shall be sufficient to maintain the issues; but, that as the price to be charged by the Commissariat cannot be less than the current rates, the Committee would have no greater advantage in purchasing from the Commissariat than from traders; nevertheless, a full consideration will be given to the application.
6086	Wicklow	Balinglass Committee inquire whether Indian meal can be issued in account to a Relief Committee. Informed that the issues of the Commissariat can only be made on cash payments, and that even these are restricted to the western counties, the Government being pledged not to interfere with the trade supplies in the eastern division of Ireland. Attention is drawn to the consideration of a Loan Fund, as applicable in obtaining a supply of food for sale on commission in the district, through persons selected for the purpose by the Committee.
4636	Donegal	Malladerg Committee.—Chairman represents extreme distress in this locality owing to scarcity of provisions, &c., and prays for an extension of the Government arrangements for supplying the poorest districts, &c., with provisions. Deposit. The arrangements are in progress.
7172	Galway	Galway Committee apply for an order to the officer in charge of the Commissariat depot in Galway for the purpose of making exchange of essential Indian meal received from the depot by them, for good food, &c. A copy of certificate of the superintendent of the Relief Store is also forwarded—that said damaged meal had been issued to the Committee. The Committee also suggest that allowance may be made on a quantity vendible by them, &c. Informed that, under all the circumstances, the Commissary-General cannot interfere in the way proposed.

III.—APPLICATIONS WITH REFERENCE TO RYE, BEER, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
6560	Lekrim	Ballinamore.—Correspondent inquires when seed rye is to be paid for, and at what time it will be supplied. Informed that the seed rye (the invoices of which have now arrived) can only be issued on payment of the first cost price, which, with the arrangements for distribution, will be immediately communicated to Relief Committees in the western counties.
6764	Westmeath . . .	Rathowen Committee request forms of application for rye, bere, and barley. Informed that as the quantity obtained (the invoices of which have just arrived) is but very limited, owing to the advanced period of the season for sowing winter corn, its distribution cannot be extended to any other than the western counties, as originally proposed.
6553	Kerry	Castledward Committee inquire the cost price of seed rye, &c. Informed that the cost price of the seed rye purchased by Government, and now daily expected to arrive, will, with the arrangements for distribution, be immediately communicated to the Relief Committees.
6637	Galway	Killfinn, &c. Committee forward a return of the quantities of seed rye, &c., which they will require. Noted on abstract of returns.
6559	Lekrim	Monaghan Committee require seed rye to the amount of 804, and may be sent to Sligo. Noted on abstract of returns.
6630	Roscommon . . .	Taghmossell and Dysart Committee forward a return of the bere required by them, &c., and name Ballinacree as the place of consignment. Noted on abstract of returns.
6770	Galway	Killcorran and Athleague Committee forward a return of the quantity of seed rye required, and state that a considerable quantity of bere has been brought into the district, and is selling at reasonable rates. Noted on abstract of returns.
7123	Lekrim	Killabrid parish. Correspondent inquires, on the part of a number of small farmers, how they are to avail themselves of the offer of

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

III.—APPLICATIONS WITH REFERENCE TO RYE, BEER, &c.—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
		seed rye, &c., made by Government; and also if time will be given for payment. Inferred that a supply of seed rye is expected daily (but is delayed by its having been shipped in sailing vessels), and on arrival of the invoices, the cost price, and arrangements for its distribution, will be announced to the Relief Committee; but it will not, however, be issued on credit.
7500	Roscommon . . .	Boyle Committee remind the Commissary-General of their application for seed rye, and inquire when the demand will be supplied, as the season is advancing. Inferred that the arrival of the seed rye purchased by Government has been retarded by its having been shipped in sailing vessels, but is daily expected; that the cost price (with the arrangements for its distribution) will be shortly announced; also, that the supply is only very limited, owing to the lateness of the season; but that, as here is a spring corn, it may be expected to be obtained in larger quantity before the time for sowing.
7493	Galway	Galway Committee forward a return of the probable quantity of seed rye, &c., required, and suggest that it be placed in a dépôt in Galway. Answered as above.
7495	Roscommon . . .	Roscommon Committee state in reference to the promised supplies of seed rye, &c., a month ago, and as the sowing season is nearly passed, that the people begin to feel that they have been deceived, &c. Answered as above.

IV.—COMMUNICATIONS RELATIVE TO PUBLIC RELIEF WORKS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
6673	Kilkeeny	Iniskeel Committee, in a communication dated the 26th October last, request the Commissary-General to urge upon the Board of Works the absolute necessity of commencing some one of the Relief Works passed at the sessions of Gosmore on the 14th October, and state, that the cutting down of the hill entering the village of Iniskeel, for which a sum of 150 <i>l.</i> was granted by the Extraordinary Sessions and expended, together with 30 <i>l.</i> during the past season of distress by the Relief Committee, is a work requiring little consideration to proceed with the completion of its improvement, being a road of great traffic, &c., and remains in an almost impassable condition. Requested to state whether any of the Relief Works for the district have been commenced, particularly the completion of the improvement on the road from Newross through Iniskeel, described as having been left in nearly an impassable state.
6557	Galway	Clifden Committee state that they have written to the Board of Works on the evils of the system of task work, &c., and deem it necessary to bring it also under the notice of the Relief Committee in the hope of the system being modified, &c. Deposited, as relating exclusively to the Public Works, and as there appears to have been a communication on the subject made to the Board of Works by the Relief Committee.
6605	Clare	Killaloe Committee request forms of labour loan. Deposited, as the forms required are provided by the local officer of Public Works when calling for the lists.
6601	Limerick, Barony of Ownsebeg.	Cappanore Correspondent urges the necessity of immediately commencing the works presented for in this barony, &c., &c. Deposited, as relating exclusively to the Public Works.
7563 7163	Tyrone	Dunmenny Committee inquire when relief by Public Works will be afforded. Forwarded to Board of Works, and the parties informed, stating that the Commissary-General has not cognisance of the arrangements for executing the Relief Works.
7497	Mayo	Idle of Achill Correspondent complains of delay of the local pay-clerk in disbursing the wages due to persons on Relief Works. Forwarded to the Board of Works, and correspondent informed.
7502	Kerry	Castlemore district. Correspondent urges the necessity of immediate additional Relief Works, &c. Forwarded to Board of Works, and the party informed.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

IV.—COMMUNICATIONS RELATIVE TO PUBLIC RELIEF WORKS—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7949	Tipperary . . .	Lacken Committee complain of delay in payment of labourers' wages, &c., &c. Forwarded to Board of Works, and the party informed.
7542	Donegal . . .	Kilcar, Killybegs Committee request to be directed as to changes proposed by the inspecting officer for the county Donegal in the forms of the registers for labourers as supplied by the Commissary-General to Committees, and states that he complains of the information contained in these registers being insufficient to enable him to make issue of labour tickets, &c.
<p>This letter is forwarded to the Board of Works, requesting that Board to take into consideration the difficulty and expense, as well as the delay that would be caused by acting on the rule proposed to the Donegal Committees by the inspecting officer for that county, and stating that the Form of Lists which the officers of Public Works supply to Committees was never sent to the Commissariat Relief Office; also, that the Forms of Registry, which the Committees are required by the Government Instructions to prepare, are the same as were used in the past season, have been supplied to all Committees, and have consequently guided them in their inquiries; that it is now, therefore, too late to make a change, but it is only in Donegal that a change is called for. A Form of the Registry is likewise forwarded, observing, that it appears to have blanks for all the information that is necessary, except the age of each applicant, which, however, is not likely to be obtained with accuracy; and the Board is therefore requested to direct that lists be provided according to the registry already made.</p>		
6168	Kerry,	Castleland Committee apply for blank forms by making out the lists of applicants for employment. Deposit, as the forms required are supplied by the local officers of Public Works when calling for the lists.

V.—APPLICATIONS FOR BOOKS, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7589	Monaghan . . .	Carrickmacross Committee. Instructions and Treasury Minute forwarded.
7588	Tipperary, Barony of Middlethird.	Ballysheehan district.—The Relief Committee apply for books, &c. A circular is forwarded, stating that, on a notification that the Committee is sanctioned by the Lieutenant of county Tipperary, the requisite books, &c., will be supplied.
7450 7895	Donegal	Raphoe and Glenties Committee inquire if any fixed place of meeting has been appointed, and request a copy of the certified list of members of Committee. A copy of the list as requested is forwarded, and informed that their place of meeting is left to the selection of the Committee.
7546	Galway	Caltra Committee request a second registry-book for labourers, as the district is situated in two baronies. Sent.
6686	Wicklow	Ballinglax Committee request books, &c. Sent.

VI.—CORRESPONDENCE RELATIVE TO LOCAL COMMITTEES.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7608	Dublin	Blackrock Committee. Correspondent is informed, in reply to verbal inquiries made by him, that the Earl of Meath, as lieutenant of the county Dublin, has notified the appointment of a Relief Committee for Blackrock with Lord Clonoury as chairman, and to which he is appointed to act as secretary; also, that the Commissary-General draws attention of the Committee to the 25th, 26th, and 27th sections of the printed Instructions, which point out the mode of obtaining donations from Government, in aid of any local subscriptions that may be placed at the disposal of the Committee, provided they shall be applied conformably to the Regulations.
7567	Meath	Clonsilla Committee.—Correspondent, in acknowledging the receipt of books, &c., inquires in what capacity they were forwarded to him, and requests the names of chairman and secretary of Committee. Informed that the books, &c., have been issued for the Clonsilla Relief Committee, of which he is appointed secretary by the vice-lieutenant of the county Meath, who has named Frederick Longan, Esq., as chairman.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

VI.—CORRESPONDENCE RELATIVE TO LOCAL COMMITTEES—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
6653	King's County . . .	Croghan Committee state that they are selling meal at reduced prices, and request books, &c., for Committee. The Lieutenant of county is requested to state if it is his intention to organise a Committee for Croghan district (Philipsstown), in which there was one last year provided with a Relief Fund; stating that books, &c., have been applied for by secretary of the Committee.
6561	Roscommon . . .	Kilgaffe, &c., Committee request that the account of expenditure be called for. The accounts not having been received, the circular in reference to accounts current is forwarded.
6389	Kerry	Listowel and Fliste parishes.—Correspondent says that these parishes may be united in one Relief District. Informed that these parishes have been placed by the lieutenant of the county in separate Relief Districts (being in separate baronies), and that his Lordship's arrangements of the districts are final.
7496	Galway	Tusam district.—Chairman of the late Committee requests to be apprised of the present arrangements for this district. The vice-lieutenant of county Galway is written to, inclosing correspondent's letter, and observing that he has appointed a Committee for the portion of Tusam, in the barony of Clare, and that the secretary of the late Committee was requested to furnish a list of the parishes in the original districts, but has not done so. Correspondent is, at the same time, requested to apply to the vice-lieutenant of county in reference to Tusam district.
7545	Wicklow	Bellingham Committee inquire what fund is to be applied in defraying expenses of Committee. Informed that all expenses of Relief Committees are to be defrayed out of any Relief Fund that may be formed in the manner pointed out by the Instructions, there being no other source for the purpose.
7557	Galway	Aughasower and Islandedy Committee inquire as to the fund to pay contingent expenses of Committee. Informed as in the preceding case.
7519	Kilkenny	Castlecomer parish.—Acting lieutenant of county, in forwarding a return of the Committees for barony of Tassadaigh, states that application has been made to him by a clergyman of Clough to form a Committee for a part of the parish of Castlecomer, but declined doing so as each district in barony should consist of at least two parishes. Informed that the 4th section of the Instructions sanctioned by Government provides for the formation of districts, consisting of less than two parishes, where a Relief Fund may have been formed in the past season, as occurred in Clough parish alluded to; and requested to make such an arrangement, in forming the district to include that parish, as may seem to be best suited for the locality.
7494	Galway	Galway Committee.—Secretary notifies that the chairman of this Committee has resigned. Informed that the resignation of the chairman, as stated, should be notified to the vice-lieutenant of the county, with a view to the appointment of another chairman. Correspondent's letter is, at the same time, forwarded to the vice-lieutenant of county, requesting that he will be pleased to nominate a successor.

VII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7312 7453	Galway	Woodford Committee acknowledge letter of Commissary-General (13th instant), and, in compliance therewith, transmit a list of subscriptions of last season, taken from the Committee books; and state that it was in consideration of the poverty, &c., of the district, and not of the amount of local subscriptions, that Government granted a donation of 60 <i>l.</i> in the last season of distress. Informed, in reference to their letters of the 11th and 16th instant, also the communications made to them on 29th ultimo, that the donation of 60 <i>l.</i> , granted for the Ballinskil and Woodford Relief Districts, does not appear to have been made on subscription list, none having been received from either district until now; that as in the list now received the subscription of Sir John Burke, on which the donation was made, is only 30 <i>l.</i> , it is obvious that the whole donation of 60 <i>l.</i> was not made for Woodford; that under the circumstances the Commissary-General sees no reason for altering the appropriation already notified, by which 18 <i>l.</i> of the amount granted has been assigned to Woodford, and 42 <i>l.</i> to Ballinskil, for which Sir John Burke subscribed 70 <i>l.</i>

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

VII.—MISCELLANEOUS—continued.

No.	County.	Letter, &c.
7459	Galway	Bollnaskill Committee send, in compliance with communication made to them on 13th instant, a list of subscriptions paid in to their Relief Fund to 13th August last; also, at desire of the treasurer, the subscription list of Woodford district. Acknowledged drawing attention to a copy of a letter addressed to Woodford Committee, with respect to a grant of 60 <i>l</i> . made for the Relief Distincts of Bollnaskill and Woodford. See 7458, preceding case.
7309	Cork	Beaumont.—The treasurer of county forwards, for the consideration of the Commissary-General, letters of Mr. Colthurst, of Drapary Cash, recommending the construction of grist-mills, which he considers may be usefully assisted by Government funds. The letters are returned, observing that there are two weighty objections to numerous small water-mills; their interference with drainage operations, except where there are considerable waterfalls, and the necessity of water power at the period of the year when corn food would be in most demand; also stating, that the Commissary-General is not prepared to say whether water-mills should be considered Public Works of utility, which might be essential as improvements; as the regulations under which Relief Works are carried on do not come within his cognizance; but being fully aware of the want of sufficient mill power in the country, he has given attention to various kinds of hand-mills, both of iron and stone, and he has directed the preparation of models of stone-mills, to be worked by hand, recommended to him as durable, cheap, and capable of preparing considerable quantities of meal, to which he proposes to draw the attention of Relief Committees; that different models are expected to arrive about the 23rd instant, and a foreman machinist is now in Dublin to see whether mills can be constructed in Ireland on the models which shall be found most useful.
7527	Cavan	A member of Tullygarvey Committee suggests that seed-mills at a moderate price be distributed for sale, for the purpose of grinding either wheat or Indian corn. Informed that steel hand-mills are now on sale at prices varying from 3 <i>l</i> . to 5 <i>l</i> . by Messrs Gatchell, 87, Pill-lane, and Mr. John Maguire, 10, Dawson-street, in this city; and that model stone-mills, to be worked by hand, have been ordered.
6554	Cavan	Cavan Committee.—The acting chairman of the late and of the present Committee (and on the part of these Committees) solicits the interference of the Commissary-General in favour of their storekeeper and pay-clerk, as a candidate for the situation of pay-clerk under the Board of Works, &c. An extract, bearing upon the duties of the party alluded to, and of his unsuccessful application for employment as local pay-clerk to the Board of Works, although he was recommended in the strongest manner by the members of the two Committees, is forwarded to that Board for their information.
6604	Kilkenny	Johnstown Committee.—The secretary states that he intends applying to the Board of Works for employment as a pay-clerk, and that if the Commissary-General interferes in the appointment he is referred to a personal security, &c. An index map of barony is, at the same time, requested for the use of the Committee. Informed that the appointment of pay-clerks runs with the Board of Public Works, and that index maps of counties are not supplied to Relief Committees.
6638	Meath	Meayshy.—Correspondent suggests the importance of promoting the use of whole wheaten meal, bread, &c. Papers on the means of providing cheap food from home corn are forwarded, to which attention is drawn.
6592	Armagh	Market Hill Committee.—The chairman submits, that the sale of food purchased with voluntary subscriptions should be allowed to be sold under cost price, &c.; also, submits some observations relating to the Drainage Act. Deposit with another letter from correspondent, on which he has been fully answered with respect to the price at which food provided with a Relief Fund may be sold. The other parts of this communication, as relating to the Drainage Act, are not susceptible of any answer from the Commissariat Office.
6672	Kilkenny	Knocktopher (North).—Committee inquires if they can give gratuitous relief to fit objects for the Union poor-house. Informed that while there is room in the workhouse of the Union, the infirm poor should not receive gratuitous aid from the Relief Committee.
7469	Wexford	Courtown, Garry.—Lord Courtown requests that his relative, Captain Stupford, who has been appointed an inspecting officer of the Relief Committees, may be sent to the county Wexford, &c. Acknowledged, stating that an answer has been delayed in expectation of the arrival of Captain Stupford, but this not having yet occurred, the Commissary-General now begs to say that he will give the request due consideration.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

VII.—MISCELLANEOUS—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
1591	Waterford	<p>Villierstown Committee.—The chairman requests that the £6l., recommended by the Commissary-General in aid of Villierstown Relief Fund, may be transmitted directly to him, as their treasurer is ill; and states that the Committee will use every exertion for the future to carry out the directions of Government.</p> <p>Informed that, before the receipt of his Lordship's letter, the secretary of the Villierstown Relief Committee had been requested to transmit a receipt for the donation of £6l., and that on its arrival the amount will be forwarded as desired, in consequence of the treasurer's indisposition.</p>

Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
December 1, 1846.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, December 1, 1846.

I AM pressing on all the Committees the revision of the lists of labourers, and suggesting, where convenient, to refer them to the clerks of unions, to check them with the Poor Law assessments above 6d.

I am happy to say I leave my office this night at seven o'clock, without a single paper unanswered on my table. There is a great advantage in keeping everything up to the day.

We have three vessels arrived with barley meal. The "London," the "Norwich," and the "Agnes," unloading into canal-boats for Longford. No news of the rye.

Major HALIDAY to Mr. TREVELYAN.

*Clifden Holywood, County Down,
December 1, 1846.*

In the counties of Down and Antrim the loss of the potato crop is nearly total; the farmers have very few remaining anywhere, and at the tables of the gentry and wealthier classes they are scarcely to be seen; the few sound ones remaining are sold at an average of seven shillings per cwt. Where the fields were left generally undug, the people now find, in many places, a small supply of apparently sound and healthy potatoes, but very small, generally not larger than marbles, and these they retain for seed for next year. The quantity likely to be planted thus I should estimate at one sixth of the average breadth. The people, meantime, are living on oatmeal, turnips (the culture of which is fast extending), and Indian meal. The latter is very much used (generally as porridge) by all within a circle of six or seven miles round Belfast. In the distant part of Down, I found the country people not yet reconciled to it, and complaining that it required too much fuel, and was often bad. I procured a supply of the "papers" at the office in Dublin, and am about to send some over there.

In Belfast, and many parts of Antrim, the mills are busy, day and night, grinding the Indian corn, and many cargoes of it are expected, but the price is still very high, ranging to 13*l.* 10*s.* per ton. Several mills, constructed for flax-spinning last spring and summer, have been lately fitted with stones, and converted into corn-mills, and are all busy. In Down, the number of resident gentry will supply any existing distress, and there will be few if any Presentment Sessions required; but everywhere the people are impressed with a general expectation of high wages and easy work under the Board, and many send remonstrances and applications for them from that motive.

The northern section of the county Antrim is comparatively wild, with much mountain; and several baronies there will require presentments, in addition to the few already held; but with such a port as Belfast, and the minor ones of Larne, Glenarm, and Ballycastle, there can be no scarcity or difficulty as to food. The Belfast and Ballymena Railway employs at present fully 1200 men, at ten shillings per week wages, and the general wages of day-labourers are from six to seven. The lower half of Antrim is quite independent of relief.

Drainage will be general, but all the landlords are looking forward to considerable alterations in the "Million Act," which at present can scarcely anywhere, I am told, be taken advantage of.

One difficulty, not *publicly* alluded to, is the nature of Irish titles. The want of skill among the conveyancers in this country formerly, has left an immense number of properties with titles that might be cavilled at; and a very common tenure here, that "for lives renewable for ever" is encumbered with difficulties of its own. The extensive estates of the Marquis of Donegal, almost entirely held by leases of that nature from him, are all at present subject to attack, and one is actually at present fighting on a point which, if he carried, would break nearly all those leases. Till these are converted into fee farms, the proprietors will be much more backward in investing largely on improvements, and a doubt on a point of law prevents at present that conversion under an Act he obtained two years back.

I may mention, in reference to the possible necessity for replenishing the Scotch depots, that *wheaten* meal is in Belfast cheaper than oatmeal; wheaten being from 16s. to 16s. 6d. per cwt., oatmeal from 17s. 6d. to 18s. 6d.

In the preparation of Indian meal here, the practice of kiln-drying has not been observed, and the corn was often moistened before grinding. The newest and best mill is, however, provided with an extensive kiln and cooling rooms, and it will probably be generally adopted. In Tyrone and Armagh, I understand the Indian corn will, as the farmers say, "head the oatmeal clean out of the country."

The Union workhouses will not contain the numbers requiring relief in them before spring, although at present in the places remoter from large towns they are not near full.

At Naas I heard the farmers had been complaining of the difficulty of getting hands to sow their wheat, but the recent orders on that head from the Board of Works have, I trust, put a stop to that worst symptom of the mistaken channel into which labour seemed to be turning. I have been told some amusing instances of the modes of preparing for the Presentment Sessions by the priests in other parts of the country, but do not think it worth occupying your time with what is partly gossip, though from my informant's position I do not doubt the facts.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, December 1, 1846.

E. 2713.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo, No. 398, conveying to me the commands of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, to explain an apparent discrepancy between the answer given by me to the Newtown Stewart Relief Committee and the third article of the Instructions to Officers employed on Inspection.

I beg to acquaint you that, although the subscriptions are to be applied for the portion of the district in which they are to be raised (without which proviso they could not be collected), the application is to be made by the Committee. The funds will not be less at the disposal of the Committee if employed in providing food to be sold in the parish where raised, than they would be if similarly employed for the whole district.

It is on this principle we have acted throughout, and, to the best of my judgment, it has given activity and facility to the service.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, December 2, 1846.

THE last quotations from Cork are 14l. 10s. per ton Indian corn, and Indian meal 16l. to 16l. 10s.

It would appear in county Cork that the greater number of the small holders under the consacre system have abandoned their holdings generally, under an amicable arrangement with their landlords; and the land thus abandoned

remains, and is likely to remain, in an uncultivated state, and the late occupants appear to be in a state of apathy as to the results. I hear that the farmers, in many parts, do not contemplate raising a larger quantity of corn than heretofore. All this is very alarming for the next year; and Mr. Bishop states that 5000*l.* was deposited on the 28th November in the savings' bank in Cork, which has also a bad appearance, being evidence that the people are not employing their funds in the usual farming operations.

Do you think it might be advisable to offer a medal or a donation, though the first is preferable, for the largest quantity of potato land put under grain cultivation, and the best quality of wheat, barley, or rye produced in potato grounds. These medals have been very successful in promoting competition in Ireland.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

December 2, 1846.

THE accompanying is from Mr. James Adam Gordon, a large English and Scotch proprietor, and a practical agriculturist.

ENCLOSURE.

Mr. GORDON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

November 30, 1846.

BEAR, bigg, or French barley is the same. Bear has four rows on the ear, barley two. The corns of the bear are smaller, and the ear not so long. It ripens quicker than barley, and stands the winter, and may be sown as winter barley now for sheep food in the spring.

The license for making bear is different from, and lower than that for making barley. Barley weighs one pound per bushel heavier than bear. In Aberdeenshire, they grow nothing but bear. I tried it here for three years on three acres, and it was given up as not answering. The choice between the two seems to depend on the climate and soil. This confirms me in the belief that, if the climate and soil of Clare, or rather, where the climate and soil of any place or district is good, barley answers best; where early frost and indifferent soil are to be contended with, then bear.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

December 3, 1846.

I WAS present yesterday at a discussion at the Home Office with three clergymen of the Established Church from the south of Ireland, Messrs. Caulfield and Townsend from Skibbereen, and Mr. Beamish from Waterford.

They all complained that their respective local Committees did not include the practical, influential persons of property and respectability in the neighbourhood, in consequence of which, they have been obliged, as they alleged, either to form other Committees not recognized by our regulations, or to have recourse to individual charity.

A written statement was furnished of the state of extreme distress at Skibbereen, a copy of which I send herewith. Mr. Caulfield stated that 50 or 60 people were fed daily from the soup cauldron at his house, who would die if this means of support were discontinued; and they called attention to the numerous deaths in the workhouse, which they alleged were owing to persons coming in, as a last resource, in a state of extreme exhaustion.

No subscriptions have been raised by the local Committee, which appears to be in a state of suspension, except for the purpose of furnishing lists of labourers for the Public Works.

The wages on the Public Works were stated to be 8*d.* a-day, without task-work; and it was alleged that 8*d.* was quite insufficient to support a family at the present prices.

The fact of the farmers having sent their labourers to the Public Works, and neglected the cultivation of their farms, was fully admitted; and it was stated that many of them were preparing to emigrate. It was observed that, if

the labourers and small holders whose potatoes had failed, were struck off the lists at the Relief Works, they would get no employment, and must starve.

We shall be glad to have an early report from Capt. Reid on the state of Skibbereen and its neighbourhood.

The Committee should be exhorted to do their duty, and raise subscriptions, which would be added to by the Lord Lieutenant; and if the composition of the Committee is defective, measures should be taken to improve it.

The causes of the alleged suspension of the farming operations should also be strictly investigated, and the Relief Work lists should be carefully revised; and if there are any names on them which ought not to be there, they should be struck off.

Mr. Beamish's Committee in the county of Waterford was stated to have thrown off its dependence on the Baronial Committee, of which Lord Stewart De Decies is the chairman.

One of the grounds of this proceeding has reference to the composition of the Committee as above described, and is similarly capable of remedy.

The other ground was on a question of principle; the Committee goes upon the plan of cheapening food, which you object to; and as they act contrary to your regulations, they cannot ask for assistance from you.

I stated my conviction that the observance of the general rule of selling at a fair market price is indispensable, because, without it, dearth would become famine, and the creation of a class of dealers through whom the new corn food may be distributed to the people, would be impossible; but that I did not understand that the Committees were precluded from giving extraordinary relief in special cases. The reply to which was, that the case of all the labourers employed on the Relief Works was special, inasmuch as the wages they obtained were insufficient for their support at present prices.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, December 3, 1846.

I do not think you can have exceeded in ordering 600 bushels of flax seed. If there is to be any attempt at all, this cannot be too much. I write to Mr. Maunsell to-day.

We confined the rye to the west coast on account of the small quantity imported, and which has not yet arrived, and even there the demand is much greater than we can supply.

I begin to think it is better we should not interfere on another occasion with the importation of seed. It would be more effectual to offer a premium for the best crop of a given article.

I think that the flax-seed had better be sent to Dublin, and forwarded from hence by canal to Limerick, where the distribution should be made.

Deputy Commissary-General INKETSON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Malta, December 3, 1846.

I beg to enclose a statement of grain offered and accepted since the 24th ultimo, together with a memorandum showing all the offers of grain accepted from the commencement, the disposal of the same, and what remains to be received. The weather still continues very unfavourable, and the arrivals are delayed in consequence; I have been therefore, induced to accept the offers of barley to keep the mill at work. The operations of the steam-mill are suspended for a few days, in consequence of some little adjustment being required to the machinery. Sir Lucius Curtis has engaged a vessel to convey the 140 tons of Indian corn meal ready for shipment, and with a view that this meal should be sent off as soon as possible, I have accepted the offer of beans to complete the cargo, which may be more or less than 1000 salms. I have offered the admiral 700 biscuit casks which have long been in store here, and which we can spare without inconvenience. I suggested to the admiral, that the ovens in the new bakery might be made use of for the purpose of kiln-drying the Indian corn, but he is of opinion that they are too large for the

purpose, being 20 feet long, and the grain would be liable to be burnt, and charred, and no person could keep it stirred with any degree of accuracy. He informs me that the drying machine will be ready in three weeks.

An offer was made a few days ago by a merchant here for 5000 or 6000 salms of Indian corn at 42s., which I have thought it advisable to reject, on the principle of keeping down the prices, never having exceeded 37s.; and I likewise rejected an offer this morning of from 1500 to 2000 salms of Indian corn from the Levant at 38s. to be delivered by 31st of January. The 1100 salms of Indian corn, which I have improperly called an offer, and numbered 16 in my statement, was purchased as Austrian. About 1000 quarters of Egyptian wheat have been offered, but on examination they were found to be heated.

ENCLOSURE.

MALTA.

MEMORANDUM showing the OFFERS of GRAIN accepted from the Commencement, and the Disposal of the same.

	Indian Corn.	Barley.	Wheat.	Remarks.
Offers accepted between 17th October and 3rd December, 1845.	Salms. 15,300	Salms. 8,217	Salms. 1,000	
Delivered at the Naval steam-mills . .	1,081½	..	..	660 salms of this are ground into meal, and have produced about 140 tons.
Ditto Naval male-mills . . .	..	2,490	..	
Ditto Commissariat male-mills . .	..	287	..	
To fill up a vessel engaged by Sir Lucius Curtis to convey about 140 tons of Indian corn meal (produce of 660 salms) to Ireland.	..	..	1,000	
Remaining due, to be received . . .	14,118½	..	..	The period for delivering the whole of this Indian corn will expire on the 15th February next, as per statement.
	15,800	8,217	1,000	

Commissariat, Malta,
3rd December, 1845.

D. INDERSON,
Deputy-Commissary-General.

MALTA.

STATEMENT showing the OFFERS of GRAIN accepted by the Commissariat between 25th November and 3rd December, 1845.

No. of the Offer.	Date.	Description of Goods.	Quantity.	Price.	From what Country.	Time for Delivery.		Remarks.
						From	To	
15	1845. Nov. 15	Barley . . .	Salms. 727	per Salms. 18s. 6d.	Brussels . . .	As soon as possible .		Delivered at the Commissariat magazine. The cartage expenses are not included in the price.
16	.. 27	Indian corn. .	1,160	27s.	Levant	Do.	Do. . .	
17	.. 28	Do. . . .	500	25s.	Siberia or Levant .	1845. Nov. 28	1847. Feb. 15	Or such a quantity as is necessary to fill up a vessel engaged by Sir Lucius Curtis to convey Indian corn meal, the produce of 660 salms, to Ireland.
18	.. 28	Do. . . .	1,000	28s.	Egypt	As soon as possible .		
19	.. 28	Indian corn. .	1,600	37s.	Tenancy	Nov. 28	Jan. 31	

Commissariat, Malta,
3rd December, 1845.

D. INDERSON,
Deputy-Commissary-General.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Colonel M'GREGOR.

December 4, 1846.

IN continuation of my letter of yesterday, requesting you to furnish the Board of Works with daily extracts from the police reports relating to their operations, I shall be obliged to you to perform the same service in respect to the operations under the superintendence of Sir R. Routh,—the general rule to be observed, being, that everything which relates to the Relief Works should be sent to the Board of Works, and everything which relates to Local Relief Committees and Commissariat Depots, to Sir R. Routh.

Any extra expense that may be incurred in making these extracts will be defrayed out of relief funds when the service has come to a conclusion.

It is, of course, of great importance that the information should be furnished with the least possible delay as it is received by you.

Lieut.-Colonel DOUGLAS to Sir R. ROUTH.

Clonmel, November 26, 1846.

It is quite evident that sufficient labour is not engaged in agriculture. I wished to speak to the Committee of Clonmel on the subject to-day, but the proceedings terminated so abruptly, that I could not get an opening to do so. I did not omit, however, to speak to individual members upon the subject. I told them that it was very improvident and foolish to permit the people to throng to the Public Works; that the expense must fall upon *them*, the proprietors, in the end; that the proprietors would not be benefited by any Public Work I had yet seen; whereas, were they to expend privately on their land the sums for which they were now daily becoming responsible by presentments, they would be enriched instead of encumbered with a profitless outlay, which will fall upon them; and that if the present system were long persevered in they would find that they were gradually accomplishing the confiscation of their own lands. This appeared to be felt by them. Any thing would be better than the description of work now going on in some parts of the country I have passed through. I learn from many persons that the employment of labour on railways is looked to as a better thing; but these persons appear to forget that the railway employment does not come within the reach of all, and that it is impossible for a whole population to leave their homes and migrate to the railroad lines, and that it would be ruinous to their future welfare even if they did so, leaving the occupations of agriculture. The supply of food must absorb the due proportion of the people whose labour is required to feed the nation, or nearly so; and if the landed interest, farmers and proprietors, do not better themselves, and if all classes of the people above that of mere labourers, do not show sufficient moral courage to co-operate with the Relief Committees in endeavouring to throw back the labour of the country into its legitimate channel, agriculture and land improvement, however much they may now console themselves in fending off the present evil, the future will come upon them with a fearful reality. This I told the gentlemen on the breaking up of the Committee to-day. They received it well; and in this tone I shall address myself to them whenever I find a fitting occasion.

I proceed to Ardfinnan to-morrow, thence to Cahir, and back here; and so soon as I shall be able to receive accurate intelligence of the days of meeting of the Committees in the North Riding, I shall go there by the east of the county, return from Nenagh by the west, and then go to Dungarvan, and other places in Waterford, where I may think my presence most required. I see enough of the Relief Committees already to feel convinced that the inspecting officers are very much required to pay them a visit as soon as possible to set them right. I know not who are to be my co-adjutors, but I hope, seeing the lead they will have to take in some, perhaps in many cases, that the Treasury may be enabled to obtain the services of men of a certain age and standing.

Lieut.-Colonel DOUGLAS to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Clonmel, December 1, 1846.

THERE is nothing doing by private enterprise. The people are driven to the Public Works by want of employment elsewhere, and by the utter impossi-

bility of cultivating their own small holdings, unless assisted in doing so by a loan or a gift sufficient (of course this aid cannot be expected from Government) to keep them from starving in the meanwhile. The prospects for the coming year, as far as my observation has extended, are frightful; and the people of this country are not awake to the true bearings of the future question (or at any rate do not act upon it) which is, that it is a question of food and not of money, though money may meet the present difficulty whilst food is to be had.

I do not write this officially to Sir R. Routh, because this is too weighty a matter for me to presume to give an official opinion upon; but I do think that I may be permitted to tell you confidentially, that I think it might be wise for the Government to repeat their distinctly avowed intention of enforcing, to the uttermost farthing, the repayment by the land, &c. of all that is now being expended on the Public Works. I have never heard the hope or expectation expressed that, when all is over, the landlords will not be called upon to pay up, or I would at once denounce it; but I cannot but believe that the unwillingness which proprietors and farmers so generally manifest to keep down the rates by employing the people, is in reality based on this hope, and the sooner they are undeceived the better.

I have this moment been informed by a gentleman of the highest respectability, in whom I can trust, that the saving banks' deposits, which average 300*l.* weekly, were last week 600*l.*, and the query made by almost every farmer depositor is this, will the landlords know it?

I believe that the only course to pursue is to get the land to absorb as much as possible of the unemployed labour of the country; and that if this cannot be done directly by private enterprise, they, the poor, must still fall back on the land indirectly, and, alas! unproductively, and the overcharging the Public Works is without remedy.

I have only to add, that I have ever protested against the oft repeated assertion of the "extraordinary circumstances of the country demanding extraordinary remedies," such as those which would take the whole occupation, and the whole moral training of the people out of the hands of society at large, and throw it upon the Government.

MR. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

December 4, 1846.

WE owe it to Colonel Douglas that we have been enabled to make a good start in our Commissariat inspections, and he has from the first acted so fully in the spirit of the views and intentions of the Government, that I am having all his Reports, which I have received from you up to the present date printed, in order to serve as a guide to our other officers.

In order to meet the immediate emergency our officers should—

- Urge subscriptions, to be added to by donations;
- Urge the formation of loan funds;
- Urge the farmers at least to carry on the ordinary cultivation
- And point out to the landlords the indispensable necessity of their influencing them to do so.

Insist upon revising the lists of labourers for the Relief Works, and upon detailed information being furnished by the Relief Committees to enable them to do so.

In order to replace the country on a safe, self-supporting footing, they should—

- Urge the landed proprietors to improve and extend the cultivation, availing themselves, if necessary, of the liberal assistance offered to them by the Government, full details of which will shortly be communicated.

Captain Hill will be with you on Monday next, and I think he will prove a valuable acquisition to your force.

MR. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

December 5, 1846.

Corn cultivation cannot be successfully carried on with the present small holdings; therefore, to encourage grain cultivation, and a rotation of crops, is the same thing as to encourage the consolidation of farms.

Something may be done towards this end by a system of premiums such as you allude to; but, in order to give effect to them, it is absolutely necessary that we should act through organised bodies consisting of the country gentlemen and better sort of farmers of each neighbourhood.

Something may also be done by circulating correct information on what we should call in England and Scotland common agricultural subjects. This might be done by preparing and distributing printed directions, or by employing experienced persons to deliver popular lectures, or both.

In any case the nobility, gentry, and better sort of farmers, must be the principal agents, and the Government can only be auxiliary.

A general subscription in England seems to be required to supply the necessary deficiencies of our Government Relief.

We cannot, without the greatest difficulty and hazard, adapt our rules to meet special cases. If the Relief Committees were allowed to proceed on the principle of cheapening food, dearth would be turned into famine in three months, and the substitution of the permanent agency of private traders in the distribution of food would be indefinitely postponed.

It is at this point at which I think a subscription would be of so much use. Sums of money might, by means of it, be placed at the disposal of the Relief Committees to meet those cases which neither the Public Works nor the ordinary operations of the Committees in laying in stores of food, and selling them at the market price, can meet, and subscriptions would be the more readily obtained, from the knowledge that they would be appropriated under your superintendence, and that of the officers acting under you, and that a strict account would be required of them.

Pray tell me what you think.

What do you say to the whole, or a portion of the Ceylon subscription, being given to Skibbereen, where, judging from the number of deaths, the destitution must be frightful.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, December 4, 1846.

My little pamphlet is nearly ready: I shall have a proof to-morrow; but I am delayed by a trial of bread made of peas ground, and bran ground, which is very good; and an attempt to make bread,

One-half beet-root,
One-half flour,

the beet-root to be grated raw.

We have associated your friend Mr. Kennedy in our undertaking, and we are to have a sample to-morrow.

MR. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

December 5, 1846

I SHALL be obliged to you to desire the proper inspecting officer to furnish any information in his power on the subject of the following extract:—

"Kilkenny.—A woman and three children were found drowned near "Corbetstown, on the 29th ult. They were in a starving state a short time "before. The inference is, that this event was brought about by extreme "destitution.

"The police magistrate states that the condition of the people is heart-rending; that Mr. Wandesford, the proprietor of the extensive estate here-about, is absent, and has stopped his works, and the Public Works have not yet commenced; the misery and distress is consequently very great."

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, December 5, 1846.

THE Kilkenny Committee are exceeding their powers; but before I take any steps, I shall consult with Mr. Labouchere, and wait your reply. I should be adverse to any strong measures, and adopt simply negative ones, such as not recognising them, until they comply with the Regulations under which they are constituted.

I wrote to Mr. Bishop last night, sending him a copy of Mr. Stanley's letter to Lord Ross, on the subject of the soup, to which we made no objection; but only to its gratuitous issue, adding, however, that it was preferable to teach the poor to cook or prepare their food, and to supply them with the ingredients, than to issue it to them in a cooked form; that the one continued their state of dependence, and the other occupied them with an exertion in their own behalf.

I omitted to state that the Killarney Committee have never furnished an account of their expenditure of the last season.

Assistant Commissary-General BISHOP to Sir R. ROUTH.

Cork, December 5, 1846.

THE same class of grain crops as were produced last year are now in a state of progress, though, from the best information I can obtain, not to a greater extent than last year. There is some additional cultivation of turnips, but only by the better class of farmers, more for their stock than as an auxiliary of food.

Potatoes, if at all attempted, will be experimented upon to a very limited extent.

The grain, and other home supplies of this country, are rapidly disappearing.

It may be remarked with some interest, that a large proportion of the grain sold in the Cork corn-market during the past week has been purchased by country people and returned thither.

It is presumed from the comparative limited demands made just now upon many of the Relief Committees for the sale of Indian corn meal, that home produce must be consumed to some extent in the rural districts; and the demand for hand mills for the country (which are obtained in Cork of an excellent description for about the same prices as those quoted in Dublin) being very extensive, adds to the supposition.

The number of pigs sold in Cork this year has been unusually large (31,000; last year, 5790), but the quality and weight (the greater part being half-fed store pigs, which the country people have been unable to keep, in consequence of the loss of their customary food) quite inferior. This description of pork has been sold at 18s., while bacon pigs have brought 44s. per cwt. in the same market.

The consumption of bread stuffs in Cork and its vicinity at present is unprecedentedly large, and has been estimated at about 100 tons per day, while the stock in the hands of merchants is small, scarcely amounting to 400 tons in store.

As yet there has been a short delivery of wheat compared with previous years; this is doubtless caused by the consumption of the article by the farmers, as the food of themselves and families in lieu of the potato.

The deliveries of barley and oats over former years have been very large, but the supply is now falling short, the farmers in many cases grinding the grain for their own use.

The important article of Indian corn has latterly been the subject of extensive fluctuation, having within a few weeks oscillated from 18l. to 17l. per ton, according to the arrivals; the stock at present is nearly exhausted, and the last-named price has been this day paid.

Flour may be quoted at 15l. to 22l. per ton, according to quality, the coarser

description being most in demand. Oatmeal at 21*l.*; Indian corn meal at 18*l.* per ton; Oats 17*s.* to 18*s.* per barrel of 14 stone; and home wheat at 37*s.* to 40*s.* per barrel of 16 stone.

The shipments of flour and grain generally from Cork have been small, and much below former years.

It was generally believed that the sums deposited in the Savings' Banks this season were unusually large, but I find upon a careful reference to the transactions of the Cork bank that such is not the case. In the months of October and November, 1845, the deposits amounted to 21,059*l.*, and in the same months of this year they amount to 19,032*l.*

It is impossible to ascertain accurately what proportion of these sums come from country people, as no description is required in the bank entries; but even if the deposits from the country were large, it could not be received as an indication of prosperity, but rather of alarm, and of the apprehension generally entertained by the lower classes in Ireland this year, and perhaps to provide for emigration.

The deposits in the Cork Savings' Bank in the following years, ending 25th November in each year, are as follows:—

1844	£127,060
1845	123,026
1846	126,719

—and amount paid to depositors during the same period:—

1844	£108,215
1845	107,081
1846	119,800

The con-acre system, where it existed in the parts I have visited, has nearly disappeared. The small holders under this system do not evince much flexibility in adapting themselves to the urgency of their altered position; and in place of cheerfully applying themselves to the greater amount of steady labour necessary to produce a new class of food, and thus raise the standard of living, they abandon the land, and throw themselves upon relief works, as affording the most immediate means of temporary subsistence. However, the position of this class admits of a further consideration. Presuming they were disposed to recultivate their holdings, their *all*—namely the potato crop—having so totally failed them, they are wholly destitute of the present means of subsistence.

The lands thus abandoned remain in the hands of the landlord, without the appearance or prospect of tillage.

The limited experience I have had in the rural districts will not warrant my yet writing further on the character and habits of the peasantry.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, December 5, 1846.

I SEND you Captain Stopford's first Report; and in explanation of the question which he puts, I must state that the Enniscorthy Committee was the central committee or authority under which several committees acted for sub-districts, consisting generally of electoral divisions or parishes.

Whenever relief districts include two or more parishes or electoral divisions, a desire is felt to have the subscriptions collected in and kept apart for each parish or division, and this encourages the getting up of subscriptions applicable to their own limits, and under their own sub-committee, and extends relief through the country.

Commissary-General HEWETSON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Limerick, December 6, 1846.

Our fourth depot, on the south-west coast at Castletown Berehaven, will shortly be stocked, completing the line of coast from the point (Skibbereen) we propose to assist with supplies. Many of the Relief Committees in this and the neighbouring counties are exerting themselves in a praiseworthy manner to raise subscriptions and provide food for their respective localities, and, where it can be done, with the ready aid always given by Sir Hugh Pigot, Government

transport is furnished for its conveyance. Again, others straitened for funds, with few or no resident proprietors, too remote from a market, or from other causes, are badly off, and will shortly, without aid in some shape, be driven to great extremities in finding food for their people. There is also, even with Committees who have funds, much present difficulty in purchasing supplies; the demand being so great, cargoes to order are purchased and used up as fast as they arrive. Unfortunately, as yet the arrivals of Indian corn have not, in quantity, been anything like equal to the demand, and prices, already high, are consequently getting up. This cannot, we know, be controlled, and I fear some expressions, in my letters, of regret at such prices, have been construed into a supposition that I am not acting in accordance with the spirit of your views; but this, as I remarked in a previous communication, is far, very far, from the case.

My position, in the heart of the most destitute and wretched districts (proofs of which are every day brought before me) is a most difficult one. I have to appease, to explain, to remonstrate, and, finally, to give hope, under the expectation of approaching large importations, of cheering improvement. December, January, and February, when got over, will put us in a position, I hope, to do some real good; but these will be trying months, during which some continuous aid must be afforded from our depots, otherwise it is to be feared the people, already so prone to intimidation, will, more or less, break out into open violence.

It will not be the wretchedly destitute alone who will show themselves, but a set of people among the small farming classes and mechanics, ripe in these districts for any mischief. The resident country gentry are already becoming alarmed at the prospect before them. That such a demonstration will be promptly met and put down, with a severe example if necessary, there can be no sort of doubt, but their situation, and that of their families, exposed as they are in these remote districts, cannot be otherwise than alarming.

Of course you are in possession of the reports of the number of labourers employed on the Public Works. By Christmas it will be, I should say, half-a-million, for all descriptions of people are striving to get their share of what they call "Government money." Each day brings with it a greater desire on the part of the landed proprietors for reproductive, instead of unproductive, work;—and indeed the latter term is well applied—but not only is it unproductive, but tending much to the demoralization of the whole country. I trust the winter will be the extent of such employment.

Farm labour in some parts is improving, and with a tendency, I think, to progressive improvement. Wherever procurable in the hitherto abandoned potato fields, the people are collecting the small tubers, about the size of nuts, many of which will answer for seed; and I am given to understand there may be a good deal put into the ground in this way; indeed, the small farmers are at a loss what to sow, and, as you know, quite ignorant of the culture of any grain or vegetable they have not been used to. Flax will be tried in this county; Mr. Maunsell, of Tervoe, is exerting himself to bring it into use.

I am making occasional issues at Dingle and Cahirciveen depots. At Kilrush and Skibbereen (West Carbery) we shall also this week make issues in aid of Committees in the vicinity. In West Carbery the distress is quite appalling.

The "Audromache" (frigate store-ship) got on shore at Valentia; her rudder was unshipped, and has been sent to Cork to repair: no other damage, but great delay. The "Dee's" boilers, again out of order, will keep her 14 days unemployed.

P.S.

		£	£ s.
Limerick prices .	Indian meal	16	to 16 5
	Oatmeal	20	to 21 0
	Whole meal	16	to 17 0
Cork	Indian corn (supply scarce) .	16	
	Indian meal	17	
	Oatmeal	21	
Demand excessive	Whole meal	17	

The depots established by Messrs. Russell and others, at Kilrush, Ennis, Clare, Tarbert, Tralee, &c. &c., charge somewhat higher than the Limerick rates, said to cover expense of carriage; they, moreover, make no allowance to small

dealers desirous of purchasing to retail, which is very injurious to these localities, discouraging this class of small tradesmen. There is no doubt the millers and corn-factors wish to keep the business entirely in their own hands. Six vessels with Indian corn, to Messrs. Russell and others, are in the Shannon, some at the quay; prices, nevertheless, on the rise.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Castle, Dublin, December 7, 1846.

I SEND you the Tralee newspaper, giving the account of the proceedings of the Killarney Committee, which it will be necessary for you to read to understand the subject.

On further reflection, I have written to the Earl of Kenmare, having first shown my letter to Mr. Labouchere, who approved it, and I now send you the copy:—

ENCLOSURE.

Sir R. ROUTH to the Earl of KENMARE.

The Castle, Dublin, December 5, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you the copy of a resolution of the Killarney Relief Committee, in which they refuse to recognise Captain Reid, a gentleman appointed by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to be the Inspecting Officer of the Commissariat Department for the County Kerry, and under that appointment an *ex officio* member of the Committee.

The same Resolution refuses to recognise the Instructions issued under the sanction of his Excellency the Lord-Lieutenant, under which I presume the Relief Committee itself, having been formed by your Lordship, has been and is now acting.

The Resolution also denounces the Treasury Minute of the 31st August, though it does not appear that there was any question before them relating to this document.

If this Committee has been appointed under your Lordship's authority, I do not see upon what ground they could reject a member, constituted as such, equally with themselves; but if they are not to be viewed as an authorised Relief Committee assembled under the Instructions, they can only be considered as an association of gentlemen voluntarily collected together for the best of objects—the relief of the country; and in which, I believe, they have taken a prominent lead, most meritorious to themselves and most useful to their fellow-countrymen; and in this view there is no objection or remonstrance to be made against the course which they have pursued.

But it will probably appear to your Lordship that a private association is not the official organ through which the list of labourers on the Public Works should be scrutinised and made out; and if they are officially assembled, I think it must be clear to your Lordship that the officer appointed by the Treasury, under whose authority this great outlay is sanctioned and carried on, cannot be legitimately excluded from his share of a revision of these lists, and a scrutiny of the details of this vast expenditure.

I have, therefore, taken the liberty to address your Lordship, and should feel much flattered by your informing me of the course you propose to adopt; whether I am to understand that this Committee is a private association, or regularly constituted; and hoping that your Lordship will take such steps in the latter case as may ensure to Captain Reid that reasonable interposition in the councils of the Committee as may afford a just protection to the public interests.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, December 7, 1846.

THE vessel which sailed with the rye on the 12th ultimo has only arrived this evening—the "Prince of Wales."

With regard to a subscription made in England for charitable purposes in Ireland, it is a saying that private money should flow through private channels; but this is a very particular case, and I think it would be of great advantage to the same common cause that the public and private money should be distributed through the same channel. We have about 850 Committees, and they may amount to 1000. All these are in constant communication with me, and I have means of knowing the state of the country, which private gentlemen have not access to. Therefore, if the case comes before you, and you judge that I could be useful, you may rely on my readiness to act, and to render an account.

With regard to the Ceylon Fund, I think it might be divided between Skibbereen and Maam, in County Galway, near Cong, both deplorable.

I have ordered the Skibbereen dépôt to be opened two days in the week, and desired Mr. Hewetson to inquire if this would be enough.

We must also think of opening the depôts at Dingle and Cahirciveen one day in each week.

We have a depot forming in Castletown, Bantry Bay, which will be ready in about a week. The "Andromeda" went into Valencia Harbour, and ran aground, and broke her rudder, which has to be repaired from Cork. It delays as she is much wanted at Killibegs. I see the "Manchester," for Galway, has arrived.

SIR R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, December 7, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the weekly return of the Commissariat depôts in Ireland, and also a statement of the amount of donations, and of the sums subscribed up to the 5th instant.

53871. 1a. 6d.

ENCLOSURE.

WEEKLY STATE OF PROVISIONS, &c., in the several DEPÔTS in IRELAND, on the evening of Saturday, the 5th of December, 1846.

Depots.	Indian Corn in Quarters of Eight Bushels each.			Indian Corn Meal.		Oatmeal.	Biscuit.	Remarks.
				In Port. In Store.				
	In Port.	In Store.	With Millers.	Sacks, 280 lbs.	Sacks, 280 lbs.	Sacks, 280 lbs.	Bags, 112 lbs.	
Limerick	7,190	29	..	
Banagher	776	..	..
Kilrush	541	..	..
Madagascar	1,368	394	1,654	
Haulbowline	250	..	1,010	
Skibbereen	964	..	432	
Dingle	1,488	..	183	
Cahirciveen	230	..	1,473	
Galway	3,147	9	10	
Westport .	..	754	..	616	630	24	48	Issued to Depot Depot, 16 quarters Indian corn, 16 bags biscuit.
Cilben	11	..	..
Sligo .	..	78	1,798	..	453	..	137	To Killibegs, 30 tons Indian meal; to Donaghry, 112 tons Indian meal; and "Forward," of 120 tons, now waiting for Galway Port.
Bellin	240	..	..	..	..
Killybegs .	1,424	630	..	..	120	..	..
Longford	133	196	864	
Caderea	16	..	..
Roscommon	16	..	..
Dublin	1,546	876	500	In transit to Longford about 50 tons barley meal; arrived, "Agnes," with 479 barrels barley meal.
Donaghry	896	..	..	In transit from Sligo.
Total .	1,424	1,402	2,038	616	19,729	1,518	6,331	

RECAPITULATION OF REMAINS ON 5th December, 1846.

4,664 quarters of Indian corn, at 5 per ton . . .	972½ tons.
20,336 sacks of Indian corn meal, at 8 per ton . . .	2,542 "
1,518 sacks of oatmeal, at 8 per ton . . .	189½ "
6,331 bags biscuit, at 20 per ton . . .	325½ "
990 sacks barley meal in transit Dublin to Longford . . .	90 "

Total . . . 4,121½ tons.

Dublin, December 7, 1846.

R. J. ROUTH, Commissary-General.

DONATIONS ISSUED under the Authority of his Excellency the LORD LIEUTENANT to RELIEF COMMITTEES in aid of SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Date.	Name of Committee.	Amount of Donation.			Amount of Subscriptions.		
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
1846	Amount brought forward . . .	4,485	15	0	9,142	17	7
Nov. 28	Allen District, County of Kildare . . .	75	0	0	152	19	0
" 30	Bower and Clonserry, County of Kildare . . .	40	0	0	82	2	0
" 30	Brookborough District, County of Fermanagh . . .	250	0	0	500	0	0
Dec. 1	(Larne) and Lower Killybegs, County of Donegal . . .	6	6	0	12	15	0
" 1	Kildare District, County of Kildare . . .	160	0	0	334	0	0
" 1	Upper Larch District, County of Cavan . . .	16	10	0	33	5	6
" 2	Ballaskill Children, County of Galway . . .	25	0	0	50	10	0
" 2	Ballina District, County of Mayo . . .	150	0	0	300	19	0
" 4	Farney District, County of Monaghan . . .	175	0	0	353	13	0
		£.	5,387	11 0	10,963	1	1

R. J. ROUTH, Commissary-General.

Dublin Castle, December 7, 1846.

Colonel M^cGREGOR to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Constabulary Office, Dublin Castle,
December 7, 1846.

IN reply to your letter of the 4th, I may inform you that I think our present practice sufficiently secures the object you have in view with regard both to Colonel Jones and Sir R. Routh. As soon as we have designated our outrage reports in the morning, we forward them to Government, it being of importance that they should have the earliest possible intelligence of the state of the country.

But Mr. Redington says that extracts are taken, with as little delay as possible, of all matters relating to the Board of Works, and forwarded from the Chief Secretary's office to Lieutenant Colonel Jones; while, to save time, our original reports which refer in any way to the Commissariat, are sent across the Castle yard to Sir R. Routh, so that both of those officers ought, by such an arrangement, to receive all the information required in the course of the same day on which it is known in my office.

Mr. CROFTON to Lord JOHN RUSSELL.

Roebuck Castle, Stillorgan,
December 7, 1846.

I beg very respectfully to call your Lordship's attention to the very stringent rule lately adopted by the Commissary-General in Ireland, namely, that he will not recommend the Lord-Lieutenant to make any donation to Relief Committees, in aid of subscriptions, unless upon the understanding that no provisions are to be disposed of to the suffering poor by those Committees at a lower rate than five per cent. above wholesale prices.

Your Lordship is aware that the rate of wages paid to persons employed on the Public Works now being carried on throughout the country never exceeds, and is generally less, than the customary wages of the district; while the price of provisions, such as meal, flour, &c., is at least one-third higher than it was 12 months ago.

Potatoes being lost, the people are thrown for subsistence upon a description of food which formerly formed but a very small item in their consumption. The consequence of this is, that those who have large families, although earning full wages, are unable to purchase sufficient meal or flour to support them; while the old and sickly, not able to earn half wages, are almost in a state of starvation. I need scarcely here inform your Lordship that a man earning one shilling a-day in former years could purchase therewith (supposing he had none of his own growth) three stones of potatoes for the daily support of his family; while now, with the same sum, he cannot purchase even *half a stone* of Indian meal, the cheapest description of provision to be had now, and I will leave your Lordship to judge how far such a supply would go towards the support of a family.

To alleviate this wretchedness and misery, one of the chief objects of the Relief Committees, now in active operation in every district of the kingdom, was to collect subscriptions for the purchase of meal, &c., to be distributed to the necessitous poor, at and under wholesale price, the rate to vary according to the necessity of the case.

In the printed Instructions issued from the Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle, dated 8th October, 1846, it is stated that "Donations in aid of subscriptions will be made by his Excellency the Lord-Lieutenant, and placed at the disposal of the Committee." Not a word in those Instructions of selling at five per cent. above wholesale price; but shortly afterwards, when applications for the Lord-Lieutenant's donation were sent in by some Relief Committees, the Commissary-General made known the "five per cent." regulation which I have already alluded to.

Now, my Lord, is it not plain, that were this rule to be acted upon, the object of Relief Committees would be frustrated, and they might as well give up the subscription, and leave the poor man to the mercies of the huxters and meal-mongers. The poor might as well go at once to the provision-dealer as to the store of the Relief Committee.

To remonstrate with the Executive here would be useless, as they of course act under instruction from the Treasury; and I therefore am most desirous to bring the subject under your Lordship's consideration.

Your Lordship, I presume, is aware that Relief Committees have, under those circumstances, declined accepting the Lord-Lieutenant's donations in aid of subscriptions, as by so doing the charitable objects they had in view would be wholly defeated.

I would ask your Lordship to consider if it is generous on the part of the Government to enforce a rule which has the effect of throwing additional weight upon a class of men already suffering under the unexampled pressure of the times—I mean owners and occupiers of land—as it is among those the principal subscribers to relief funds are to be found. Does your Lordship consider that the enormous sums now being expended for the support of the poor upon works, too often useless and unprofitable, must be repaid by the owners and occupiers of land? Remember, my Lord, the only object Government can have in view, namely, the protection of the provision-dealer, is not gained by adhering to this rule; and even if it were, is, in such times as these, the protection of a few, and that few not in want, to be compared to the benefit that would be conferred on thousands, by giving them provisions at prices within their reach?

I pray your Lordship to consider these things, and if they possess any weight in your Lordship's mind, I trust you will direct fresh instructions to be issued to the Commissary-General in Ireland.

TREASURY MINUTE ON the above.

December 11, 1846.

Write to Mr. Crofton, that he is mistaken in supposing that the protection of the provision-dealer is the only object of the rule that the stores of food purchased by Relief Committees, by means of funds partly composed of Government donations, are not, except in individual cases of more than usual destitution, to be sold at less than wholesale cost price, with the addition of five per cent. to meet contingent expenses; for if this precaution were not taken, the funds of the Committees must soon be exhausted, and the consumption of the stock of provisions remaining in the country would proceed at a rate which would be productive of much greater distress hereafter.

Their Lordships, however, also consider the encouragement of the private trader to be an object of great public importance; because the people cannot permanently be supplied with food through the artificial machinery of the Relief Committees, and until dealers shall have been induced to undertake the collection and distribution of meal, and other kinds of food, on ordinary mercantile principles, this essential branch of social economy cannot be considered as being placed on a proper footing.

Transmit copy of Mr. Crofton's letter, and of the Minute thereon, to Sir R. Routh, for his information.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

RETURN of CORRESPONDENCE from 23rd to 25th November, 1846, both days inclusive.

I.—APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7611	Donegal	Isenhead Committee forwarded a list of subscriptions, amounting to 118 <i>l.</i> , and solicit a grant. 59 <i>l.</i> is recommended.
7672	Cork	* "Irishman's District Voluntary Relief Association" forward a resolution to the effect that they expected aid from the Commissary-General, and stating that the "Relief Committee has done nothing to bring provisions within reach of the distressed classes contemplated by the Association; therefore it is hoped that the letter of the Commissary-General, received in reply to a former application for aid, is not final, and solicit a reconsideration; observing, in conclusion, that for the past three weeks food has been daily dispensed to upwards of 750 individuals by the Association."
Informed that, as the fund appropriated for grants in aid of local subscriptions is limited by the Lords of the Treasury to Relief Committees constituted by the Lieutenants of counties, the Commissary-General is unable now to return a more favourable answer than has been already addressed to the Association.		
7544	Tipperary	Templederry Committee forward a certificate of the list of subscriptions amounting to 58 <i>l.</i> 8 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> , already forwarded to the Commissary-General, and request that no delay may be given to a grant in aid. 29 <i>l.</i> is recommended.
7543	Waterford	Clashmore Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 79 <i>l.</i> , and solicit a grant. 35 <i>l.</i> is recommended.
7612	Westmeath	Comestown Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 192 <i>l.</i> 12 <i>s.</i> , and solicit a donation. 96 <i>l.</i> is recommended.
7610	Clare	Kilrush Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 211 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> , and solicit a donation. 105 <i>l.</i> is recommended.
7645	Cavan	Tullybawn Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 108 <i>l.</i> 5 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> , and solicit a grant. 54 <i>l.</i> is recommended.

II.—APPLICATIONS WITH REFERENCE TO DEPOTS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
6583	Tipperary	Tipperary Committee ask if they can obtain notice of provisions from the Government depot at Limerick? Deposit, with a letter of subsequent date, on which an answer to the inquiry was given.
6837	Cork, Castletown, Berhaven	Molusker, Kilnashin. Correspondent prays for the establishment of a sub-depot in parish.
6878	Donegal	Deposit, as arrangements for the district are in progress. Inver Committee complain of the inconvenience suffered in sending to Sligo for meal and biscuit, and state that 10 tons of food per week would not exceed the call of the poor on them. Deposit, as arrangements for establishing a depot near the district are in progress.
6888	Mayo	Isle of Achill. Correspondent prays that a supply of meal may be sent to the Commissariat store on the island. Deposit, arrangements for supplying Achill being in progress.
7576	Galway	Cliffon Committee request 30 tons of meal, or to have a supply which is to be bought elsewhere forwarded by a steamer. Informed that Cliffon cannot at present be supplied with meal from the depot in the district; and that it is desirable to have the name of the port stated at which it is proposed to purchase the supplies requested to have conveyed by steamer.
7573	Londonderry	Coleraine, Aghakerry, and Macosquin Committee inquire whether, in cases of families consisting of a certain number, whose weekly earnings do not exceed a certain sum are sufficient to procure food for all, meal may be sold to them at a reduced price.

Informed that there is but one rate laid down by the Lords of the Treasury with respect to the sale of food provided with a relief fund, to which a donation shall be added by Government, namely, that the price shall be such as that traders selling the same kind of food at the same price may realize a reasonable profit. Also that if the price shall be too high for the wages payable in the district, the Commissary-General can only recommend that the cheapest kind of corn food be provided, or that vegetables and soup be used as in other localities, for lessening the cost of food.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

II.—APPLICATIONS WITH REFERENCE TO DEPOTS—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
6635	Mayo	Westport. The Marquis of Sligo represents the inability of traders in Westport to provide the quantity of food which must be imported to sustain the population dependent on that town for supplies, and also conveys the opinion which they entertain of being enabled to carry on their trade with greater security simultaneously with the operations of Government. Informed that a coincidence in the views of the Westport traders has led to arrangements for establishing a Commissariat depot in their town, for which supplies are in progress, but are retarded by the unfavourable state of the weather. Also, observing that the fall in prices consequent on the importations already made will now, it is hoped, convince the holders of home corn that they are injuring their own interests by deferring sales.
7295	Meath	Navan Committee point out the small amount of loss to their Relief Fund by the present arrangements for selling food under first cost, &c., and state that wheat meal is sold at a loss of 1s. per cwt., and bare meal at a loss of 8d. per cwt. Answered by observing that the loss mentioned (8d. to 1s. per cwt.) may be covered by a small addition to the cost of one week's supply for each family, so that the rule of the Government may be adopted without materially increasing the present sale price. The Committee are at the same time requested to consider that by affording this temporary relief a fund is being gradually exhausted, which, if requisite for maintaining a supply of food, ought to be preserved by selling at a reasonable profit price, as proposed by the Government; and while thus rendering present relief, keeping in view the necessity of providing for a future emergency.
7671	Wexford	Gorey Committee forward a copy of the rules adopted by them for enabling poor persons not in employment to buy food by giving them tickets, which are to be received by the Committee's vendors at the value printed on them. Informed that as this arrangement involves a gratuitous distribution of the Relief Fund, the devising of some task of work in return for the tickets issued is suggested for the consideration of the Committee.
6681	Kerry	Glanerought Committee. A Resolution adopted by this Committee is forwarded, asking for the establishment of a depot. Deposit, as the arrangements for the county are made.
7540	Clare	Scariff Union. The Poor Law Commissioners forward copies of correspondence between them and the Board of Guardians of Scariff Union, relating to the scarcity of oatmeal in that district, and the inability of the Guardians to purchase any, if a supply were within their reach. See answer annexed.
7554	King's	Parsonstown Committee. Lord Rosse states the Committee have decided on making the experiment of supplying the destitute with cooked food on the plan practised at Clonmel, &c., where a quart of soup or porridge is given gratis to each person, and a small loaf at first cost if required. See answer annexed.

III.—COMMUNICATIONS RELATIVE TO LOCAL COMMITTEES.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7565	Cavan	Serabhy Committee inquire how the secretaries of Committees are to be paid, &c. Informed that there is not any source whence salary can be drawn for the secretary of a Relief Committee, except the local fund to be formed in the manner pointed out by the instructions to Relief Committees.
7561	Queen's	Baronies of Callenagh and Portlough. Acting Lieutenant of county proposes certain changes in the relief districts of these baronies, which he proposes for the sanction of the Commissary-General. The acting lieutenant having called on the Commissary-General, was apprised that it is open to him to make such alterations as he may consider necessary for completing the arrangements.
7689	Meath	Vice-Lieutenant furnishes a return of the Committees for the baronies of Lower Slane, Ratoath, Lower Denet, &c. Noted, and books forwarded.
6813 6507	Tipperary	Parishes of Outeath and Monkstown. Correspondent states that these parishes are in different baronies, yet it is desirable that they should be in one and the same relief district; that should this be sanctioned, care should be taken to keep labourers on Public Works within their own baronies, &c.

It is suggested to correspondent that he apply to the Earl of Glengall with respect to

Return of Correspondence—continued.

III.—COMMUNICATIONS RELATIVE TO LOCAL COMMITTEES—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
		the arrangement he considers best in forming a relief district to include his parish, as the formation of relief districts and Committees in the county of Tipperary rests altogether with his Lordship. He is also referred to the inclosed copy of the sanctioned Instructions, by which it will be observed, that where parishes are in more than one barony, separate registries are to be made of applicants requiring employment.
6519	Tipperary	Deon Committee inquire whether they can include that part of Deon parish situated in county Limerick in their relief district, as was the case during the past season of distress, &c. Answered by stating, that should the vice-lieutenant of County Limerick assent to the arrangement, it can be done by his Lordship's appointing the existing Committee to act for the Limerick portion of the parish, with the proper ex-officio members of the barony; and in that case it will be necessary to keep a separate registry of the applicants for employment in each county, with a view to their being assigned to the Public Works of their respective baronies.
7553	Cavan	Drumblisson Committee inquire from what fund and at what rate their secretary is to be paid. Answered by stating that the salary of secretary to a Relief Committee, and all contingent expenses, are to be paid out of any Relief fund that may be formed, in the manner pointed out by the printed Instructions, there being no other source whence such expenses can be drawn.
7555	Fermanagh	Donagh, &c., Committee notify the resignation of their late secretary, and the appointment of another by Vice-lieutenant of county. Noted.
7556	Roscommon, Barony Athlone.	Kilbwa and Carrs Committee inquire how the secretaries of Relief Committees are to be paid, &c. Informed that there is not any source whence the salary of secretary to a Relief Committee can be drawn, except the Relief fund to be formed in the manner pointed out by the printed Instructions.
7627	Queen's	Barony of Clondoragh. The acting lieutenant of county furnish names of the chairman and present secretary of the Rathdowney Committee. Acknowledged and noted.
7630	Meath	Athboy Committee furnish an account current to the 15th August, 1846. Acknowledged. The papers are forwarded to Lieut.-Colonel Archer.
7651	Donegal	Kilcar and Glencolumbkille Committee. The Vice-lieutenant of County Donegal, on forwarding inclosures addressed to him by the chairman of this Committee, containing strong representations relative to the Roman Catholic curate of Kilcar having absented himself on the Committee whilst at its sitting, insisting on his claim to membership, &c., states that in forming the Relief Committees in the county he invariably nominated curates of all denominations on the Relief Committees, provided they officiated in a separate church, chapel of ease, or Roman Catholic chapel separate from the rector or parish priest; in the present case the curate in question was stated to him as having no separate house of worship. Informed that the Comm-serv-General has duly considered this case, and states in reply, that as the Roman Catholic curate referred to is not the principal officiating clergyman in any part of the district, and has not been nominated to represent his parish priest, he is not eligible to be a member of the Committee, or to be present at its meetings, unless invited to attend.
7680	Dublin	Rathdown Committee. Name of chairman and secretary of this Committee is forwarded by lieutenant of county. Noted. Books, &c., sent.
7681	Wicklow, Barony Rathdown.	Bry and Powerscourt Committees. Names of chairmen and secretaries of these Committees notified by Vice-lieutenant of county. Noted. Books, &c., sent.
7579	Carik	Iniscarra Committee. Names of members of Committee as mentioned by lieutenant of county, notified by secretary. Noted. Books, &c., sent.
7549	Kilkenny	Clough Committee. Acting lieutenant of county notifies the re-assembling of the late Committee, and requests books, &c. Noted. Books, &c., sent.
7634	Tipperary	Coahel Committee. List of members as approved by lieutenant of county is furnished by chairman. Books, &c., requested. Noted, and books, &c., sent.
7635	Galway	Caltra Committee, as approved by lieutenant of county, is returned, and the necessary books, &c., requested. Noted, and books sent.
7633	Galway, Barony Danksellin.	Dunmore Committee, notified by Vice-lieutenant of county; also, Killoan, &c., Committee, and necessary books, &c., requested. Noted. Books, &c., sent.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

IV.—COMMUNICATIONS RELATIVE TO RYE, BERE, BARLEY, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
4826	Donegal	<p>Templemore and Lettermanward Committee inquire how the calculations for determining the supply of seed rye, &c., which may be required in their district are to be computed.</p> <p>Informed that the supply obtained is daily expected to arrive, but is very limited, owing to the lateness of the season, and that the cost price and arrangements for distribution will be shortly announced. Also observing, that as here may be sown in spring, a larger supply of it will probably be obtained before that season.</p>
4820	Tipperary	<p>Cullin and Solohed Committee point out the advantages of allowing them to purchase the seed here necessary to sow ground, for which seed cannot otherwise be provided, &c.</p> <p>Informed that the quantity of seed here and rye which it has been practicable to obtain, and is now arriving, being very limited, its distribution cannot be extended to any other counties than those first named for the purpose, but that as here may be sown in spring, a larger supply will probably be obtained before that season.</p>
7550	Galway	<p>Clenagh and Innesalta Committee request that 120 stones of seed here may be transmitted without delay to them, to be consigned to Williamstown Harbour, Lough Derg.</p> <p>Informed that a small supply of here is now arriving, the cost price of which, with the arrangements for distribution will be immediately announced to the Relief Committees; that as here may also be sown in spring, a further supply will probably be obtained before that season.</p>
7506	Kerry	<p>Killbeggin Committee inquire the price of here, and request an order on the Cork depot for any quantity they may want.</p> <p>Informed that here and rye seed are now arriving, the cost price of which, with the arrangements for distribution, will be immediately announced to the Relief Committees.</p>
7552	Limerick	<p>Pall-green Committee state, that they not having been supplied with here barley in the proper season for sowing it, they now think it right to withdraw their application for a supply of that grain.</p> <p>Informed that seed here is now arriving which has been delayed by unfavourable weather, and that as this corn may be sown in spring, a further supply is expected to arrive before that season.</p>
7067	Galway	<p>Portumna Committee inquire if it is the intention of Government to forward to them the rye and here required by them.</p> <p>Informed that seed here and rye are now arriving which had been delayed by unfavourable weather, and the cost price of which, with the arrangements for distribution will be immediately announced to the Relief Committees. Also, that as here may also be sown in spring, a further supply is expected before that season.</p>
7590	Mayo	<p>Claremorris Committee inquire the terms of seed here, and in what way it is to be obtained.</p> <p>Informed that here seed is now arriving, the cost price of which, with the arrangements for distribution, will be immediately announced to the Relief Committees.</p>
6731	Leitrim	<p>Dromard, Mohil. Correspondent inquires on what terms seed rye, &c., will be supplied, and suggests, that it be given to tenants on the security of landlords until the crop is reaped.</p> <p>Informed that the seed rye now arriving will be sold at cost price, but cannot be issued on credit, and that the price and arrangements for distribution will be announced to the Relief Committees immediately.</p>

V.—APPLICATIONS FOR BOOKS, PAPERS, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7584	Wexford	<p>Glanmore Committee request copies of the chief secretary's letter.</p> <p>Informed that copies of the chief secretary's letter have not been supplied to the Commissariat Office for distribution, as relating to arrangements which are in charge of the department of Public Works.</p>
7694	The Board of Works.	<p>The Commissary-General requests the Board of Works will supply him with a list of the principal inspecting officers and engineers employed by the Board in each county in Ireland, with their head-quarters respectively; also, copies of the Board's last circular, relating to reproductive works.</p> <p>Received.</p>
7690	Cork	<p>The Lieutenant of county is written to requesting to have a list of the Relief Committees appointed in the County Cork, supplied to the Commissary-General, containing the name and address of the chairman and secretary of each Committee, for which the requisite forms are now forwarded; observing that the list is only required to include Committees, the sanction of whose appointment may not have been already notified, according to a statement annexed.</p> <p>Returned accordingly received.</p>

Returns of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

V.—APPLICATIONS FOR BOOKS, PAPERS, &c.—continued.		
No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7692	Tipperary	Lieutenant of county having been written to as above. Answered, by stating, that he cannot furnish the list requested, and suggested, for the purpose of obtaining a correct list, that an advertisement be inserted in the public papers. A circular was issued by the Commissary-General to Committees for the past session, in County Tipperary not already registered for the present session, inquiring whether they have been reassembled since the 15th August last by the Lieutenant or Vice-Lieutenant of county; in which case, he requests the name and address of the present chairman, with names of the parishes in the relief district. Paper forwarded to Colonel Douglas for his information.
7654	Kildare	Barony of Kilkea and Moone Committee request books, &c. Informed by circular, that on a notification being made, that the Lieutenant of county has sanctioned this Committee, the necessary books, &c., will be forwarded.
7677	Galway	Ballinskil and Woodford Committees request books, &c. Sent.
7676	Donegal	Kilmoreenan Committee request a second registry for persons seeking employment. Sent.
7572	Leath.	Drogheda Committee request Forms of Account, these already sent having been soiled. Sent.
7580	Dublin	Dulker, &c.—Committee request books, &c. Sent.
7658	Cork	Aghadown Committee request books, papers, &c. Answered by circular, stating, that on notification of the sanction of Lieutenant of county to the formation of this Committee being made, the papers, &c., requested will be forwarded.
7555	Mayo	Shrule Committee request copy of the townland census (1844). Acquainted that copies of the townland census are not supplied to the Commissary-General for distribution, and even if, it is understood, he now obtains; copies of the Census Tables for Parishes and Baronies may, it is believed, be obtained through Mr. Tison, 67, Abbey-street, Dublin, who is an agent for the sale of parliamentary papers.
7583	Clare	Kilfaloe Committee request copies of the chief secretary's letter, issued on the 5th of October, 1845. Informed that copies of Mr. Labouchere's letter have not been supplied to this office for distribution. As it relates to the Drainage Works, &c., the officers of the Public Works have full instructions on all the arrangements proposed.
7678	Kilkenny	Grange, M'Comb, and Cooleran Committee.—Acting Lieutenant of county forwards his sanction for this district Committee, and requests books, &c. Noted, and books, &c., sent.
7679	Donegal	Magheraboy Committee request a second registry for lists of labourers. Sent.
7626	Monaghan	Currickmore Committee request books, &c. Sent.

VI.—COMMUNICATIONS RELATIVE TO PUBLIC RELIEF WORKS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7568	King's	Benagher, &c., Committee.—Relief labour tickets requested. Informed that the work tickets are now issued by the local officers of Public Works.
7577	Londonderry . . .	Coleraine Committee state, that the labourers pending completion of the works of Board of Public Works have been employed, and money advanced to pay them. Will the delay of the Board be recognised? Forwarded to the Board of Works, the Commissary-General not having cognizance of the arrangements for the Relief Works, of which the parties are accordingly informed.
7548	Kerry	Bally M'Edget Committee urge the necessity of additional Relief Works. Forwarded to Board of Works, of which the parties are informed, stating that arrangements for the Relief Works rest with that Board.
7561	Cardow	Myshall Committee state, that the works going forward are inadequate to relieve the people. Forwarded to Board of Works, and the parties are informed, observing that arrangements for executing the works presented under the Relief Acts rest with that Board.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

VI.—COMMUNICATIONS RELATIVE TO PUBLIC RELIEF WORKS—continued.

N ^o .	County.	Locality, &c.
6836	Armagh . . .	Armagh Committee forward a resolution, recommending an early commencement of the Relief Works, for which presentments have been made. Informed, that if the Works have not been as yet opened, the Committee should communicate with the county inspecting officer of the Board of Works; and that if he shall not have received directions for the purpose, it would be then the proper course to apply directly to the Board of Works.
7666	Queen's . . .	Upperwoods Committee forward copies of resolutions respecting the non-payment of wages, for a fortnight previous to their adoption, to persons employed on the Relief Works of the district; also representing the insufficiency of the Works commenced to afford employment in the extent required. Forwarded to Board of Works for their consideration, of which the parties are informed.
7666	Wexford . . .	Newtownburi.—Correspondent calls for immediate Works. Forwarded to Board of Works, the Commissary-General not having any cognizance of the arrangements for providing employment, of which the party is informed.
7617	Queens . . .	Ashley.—A local carpenter proposes to supply the Board of Works with wheelbarrows at the prices fixed by that Board. Informed that his letter, sent by mistake to the Commissary-General, is forwarded to the Board of Works.
7673	Kilkenny . . .	Castlecomer Committee request forms of labour lists; and state, that they only await the requisition of the Board of Works to supply their list of applicants for employment. Informed that their letter is forwarded to the Board of Works, and that the lists of applicants are to be prepared on forms which the Board's local officers will provide. Forwarded accordingly to the Board of Works.
6740	Queen's; Barony Callinagh.	Ballyroan Committee represent the great want of employment amongst the distressed population in their division of the barony of Callinagh. Informed that should any presented works not have been commenced, which are necessary for employing the distressed population in the district mentioned, it would be desirable to communicate in the first instance with the local officers of the Board of Works, and afterwards, if necessary, with that Board.
6817	Galway; Barony Ballymoa.	Creggs Committee.—Chairman (Sir Joseph Burke) represents the people as in a most awful state of destitution, arising from want of employment, and refers to various presented works delayed, which creates clamour among the people; and states, that the mere appearance of Government surveyors, &c., would ease their minds, and induce their patience a few days longer, &c. With respect to the Public Works necessary for affording employment in the Committee's division of the barony of Ballymoa, it is suggested by the Commissary-General that the principal officer of the Board of Works in the county of Galway should be applied to, as he can name the works which are to be executed, and fix the time for commencing them.
6405	Sligo . . .	Inishmurray Island.—An extract from a letter written by a clergyman of this island addressed to one of the officers of the Board of Works, is forwarded from their office to the Commissary-General, representing the people as being in great distress, and as requiring a depot, for which part of the school-house may be given up for a store. Letter written, inquiring whether any presentment has been forwarded for Relief Works in Inishmurray; also, whether the island is included in the district of any Relief Committee, and stating that it is desirable to ascertain to whom the island belongs; also, whether any assistance has been received by correspondent in his exertions to have the population provided with supplies of food.
7568	King's . . .	Bangor, &c., Committee request a supply of labour tickets, also of stationery. Informed that the work tickets are now issued by the local officers of Public Works, and that stationery is to be provided by the Committees out of the Relief Funds formed in the manner pointed out by the Instructions.

VII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
6903	Wesford	Shelburne Committee inquire if a balance of about 500 <i>l.</i> remaining in the hands of the treasurer of the late Committee can be applied in purchasing food for the destitute; also, what power the Committee have over it. Deposit, in the papers (copies of Treasury Minute of 31st of August last, and the printed Instructions for the guidance of Committees) transmitted on the 29th ult. contain the information desired (D 6651).
7356	Kerry, Listowel . .	Turbot.—Memorial of a distressed widow, suddenly bereaved of her husband (a labourer on the Relief Public Works), is forwarded by her parish clergyman, praying for herself and children relief from the fund at the disposal of the Commissary-General. The clergyman alluded to is informed, that there is not any fund in charge of the Commissary-General for relief of widows or other persons in distress, and that the applications should be made to the guardians of the poor of Listowel Union, within which this poor woman appears to reside.
6621	Tipperary	Borrisokane.—Thomas George Shaney, Esq., a local justice of the peace, solicits a favourable consideration of his nephew's application for permanent employment in the Commissariat service, he having been employed as an assistant clerk in the Commissariat depot at Sligo. Answered by stating, that no permanent Commissariat appointments will be made for the measures of Irish relief now in progress, and that all the clerks engaged had previously gone through the probationary course of the establishment for the general service, or are merely employed temporarily, subject to discharge whenever their assistance becomes unnecessary.
6821	Cork	Sherbrooke Committee forward a copy of a resolution adopted by them, to have means devised by Government for relieving widows and orphans in the district, as the workhouse of the Union is full. Answered by stating, that on the contingency referred to, any Relief Fund formed by the Committee in the manner pointed out by the printed Instructions, becomes available for the support of the infirm poor.
6657	Cork	Ballinacorney.—Application is made for an employment in the Commissariat establishment by a person who has been in the excise department for 18 years, since he was at Lisbon. Answered by stating, that the temporary arrangements made for this country do not present any opening through which his services may be made available.
7262	Limerick	Limerick city.—Correspondent directs attention to the prevailing want of mill power, &c., and suggests that the people be supplied with, and taught the use of, hand mills, through Relief Committees, &c. Acquainted that some time since the Commissary-General ordered models of iron mills to be provided, and subsequently gave directions to have models of stone mills prepared, five different kinds of which are now arriving, and to which the attention of all Relief Committees will be drawn if they are found likely to answer the end proposed.
6738	Limerick	City.—Correspondent complains of the scarcity of flour and meal, and urges the use of hand mills to be supplied to Committees, &c. Answered as above (7262).
7690	Galway	Clifden Union.—The Poor Law Commissioners forward an extract from Minutes of Proceedings of the Board of Guardians of the Clifden Union, relating to an application made by Mr. Parker for accommodation for troops, and storage for corn in the workhouse; and they state that they have declined to give their consent to the appropriation of the workhouse in the manner proposed by the guardians. The Poor Law Commissioners are informed that the accommodation was applied for only in consequence of the guardians having failed as yet to make use of the workhouse in affording relief to the poor of their district; and that while there is a hope of enforcing an execution of their duty in this respect, any other occupation of the building, however conducive to public advantage, is not to be desired.
7629	Dublin City	Copies of this correspondence are forwarded to Mr. Parker. The Poor Law Commissioners inquire whether any, and what, Relief districts have been organized for the city of Dublin, or in the North and South Dublin Unions; also state, that it appears from the last returns that the workhouses which were originally intended for 2040 inmates are now full. Informed that Relief Committees are to be constituted, by direction of Government, only in counties of cities, or in baronies where Poor-law Sessions are required to be

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

VII.—MISCELLANEOUS—continued

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
		held under the Relief Works Act, by which statute the city of Dublin is expressly excepted, so that a Relief Committee will not be formed for it; and that in neither of the baronies into which the North Dublin Union extends has a Committee been yet rendered necessary by the holding of Presentment Sessions; but that in the South Union there are Committees for the barony of Upperross, one at Tallaght, of which Mr. John Leutsaighe, J.P., is chairman, and one for Rathmines, &c., of which Sir Robert Shaw is chairman.

ENCLOSURE.

Mr. STANLEY to Mr. MOORE.

*Commissariat Relief Office,
Dublin Castle, November 25, 1846.*

REFERRING to your letter of the 20th instant, with copies of correspondence between the Poor Law Commissioners and the Board of Guardians of Scariff Union, relating to the scarcity of oatmeal in that district, and the inability of the guardians to purchase any if a supply were within their reach, I am directed to state, for the information of the Poor Law Commissioners, that the food in charge of the Commissariat cannot, under any circumstances, be sold to Boards of Guardians or their contractors; and that the scarcity of oatmeal, now felt in Scariff Union, may be ascribed mainly to the same cause as the exhaustion of the guardians' funds, namely, the suspension of the collection of rates as well as rents, which has enabled the farmers to withhold large supplies of corn from public use, thereby creating much of the distress suffered by the labouring population from the high price of food.

Mr. STANLEY to the Earl of ROSS.

*Commissariat Relief Office,
Dublin Castle, November 24, 1846.*

Commissary-General Sir Randolph J. Routh has considered the proposal in your Lordship's letter of the 18th instant, to provide cooked food instead of meal, with the Relief Fund, and to sell the food at less than the cost, or distribute it gratuitously, as may be necessary.

Although this arrangement may not apparently interfere with traders, it would discourage them, by providing subsistence on terms which must preclude their intervention; and it would cause an expenditure of the Relief Fund, without any return in labour for useful objects. The Commissary-General could not, therefore, recommend a donation to be made in aid of subscriptions to be so applied.

He considers the proposal to provide cooked food one which prevents the advantage of promoting habits of domestic economy in the preparation of diet, by which subsistence may be made cheaper; but if it is introduced with gratuitous distributions of soup, &c., he apprehends that the occupiers of small divisions of land, and other classes of the labouring population, would reject it as pauper relief, suited only to persons living by mendicancy.

He requests the Committee will consider whether an arrangement may not be made to sell the food at prices sufficient to replace the Relief Fund; and, also, whether the ingredients may not be provided for sale, supplying the buyers with printed instructions for their preparation, and employing persons trained for the purpose, to instruct such persons as could not be guided by the printed directions.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS referred by T. N. REDINGTON, Esq., Under Secretary for Ireland, to Commissary-General Sir RANDOLPH J. ROUTH, from 23rd to 25th of November, 1846, both days inclusive; also, the answer given to each Application.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
D 6651	Anagh.	Ballybot Committee forward a resolution conveying queries of the Committee for replies, viz., if any relaxation of the rule contained in the Treasury Minute, as to the sale of meal by Committees at prices as nearly as possible to market prices of neighbourhood, can be sanctioned? Also if subscriptions were to be raised by the Committee and increased by the Government do-

Miscellaneous Communications referred by T. Redington, Esq., &c.—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
		nations, would they be authorized to use this fund in providing food to be sold by them under market prices, or in cases of extreme distress to be distributed by them gratuitously.
		Informed that the Commissary-General cannot recommend a donation to be made in aid of subscriptions for providing food, unless it shall be sold at the current prices; but that if the Union workhouse be <i>filled</i> , the <i>myriad</i> poor may receive gratuitous relief, on proof of actual incapability to perform any kind of work.
D 8309	Down	Downpatrick Committee inquire what amount of grant will be given by Government in aid of their Relief Fund? state that not having sought a grant on their subscriptions in the past season of distress, they should be now entitled to a larger amount than other Committees, &c.
		A copy of the Instructions to Relief Committees for their guidance is forwarded, and they are at the same time requested to have a return of the appointment of the Downpatrick Committee furnished to the Commissary-General by the Lieutenant of county, after which they are informed, on transmitting a list of the subscriptions collected since the 31st of August last, a grant in aid will be recommended.
D 8483	Galway	Clifden Committee forward copy of resolution, to which they call immediate attention, viz., that the state of the country is alarming owing to scarcity of food; that they were led to believe that an extensive depot would have been opened at Clifden; that the issue of a few staves of bad biscuit twice a-week only testifies the people, &c.
		Read; and as every arrangement is in progress, including the preparation of a barracks for the troops, which cannot be unknown to the Committee, no answer appears requisite. The letter is returned to the under secretary.
D 8350	Mayo	Ballina.—County cessant calls attention to three melancholy cases of death by starvation, and to the extreme destitution of the locality, and states that a few tons of food in charge of a Commissariat officer, if given out, would afford some relief.
		Paper returned to the under secretary, noting on it, that very large supplies are now being received by private individuals at Ballina, and that the town is full of supplies which are disposable; that neither at Ballina nor at Sligo is there any present demand on the Commissariat; and the department is employed in grinding and preparing for the depots in Donegal.
D 8337	Mayo	Shrule District.—Correspondent notifies his resignation as chairman of District Relief Committee, which he has communicated to lieutenant of county, who has nominated another.
		Noted.
Z 20128	Limerick.	City.—Correspondent forwards a drawing of a hand mill, with a written description of its use, power, &c.
		Deposit. Models of various kinds of hand mills have been already ordered.
D 6732	Cork	Castletown, Berhaven.—Inspecting Lieutenant of coast guards states to Inspector-General, that he fully concurs with the local Relief Committee as to the necessity of establishing a depot of provisions at Berhaven, and states, that if employment is not afforded as means of relief to numerous starving families, he is apprehensive as to the consequences.
		Deposit. Arrangements for this district are in progress.

Commissariat Relief Office,
 Dublin Castle, December 7th, 1846.

Deputy Commissary-General DOBREE to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Sligo, December 8, 1846.

SINCE I had the pleasure of addressing you last, the importations of Indian corn, wheat, and flour, &c., into Sligo, by the trade, have been considerable, and quite sufficient to justify the expectations I had expressed last month of not being called upon soon to re-open my depot for this part of the district. At Ballina, also at Kihala, and County Mayo, the importations, together with the home produce which there is being brought more freely into the market for consumption, have been adequate to the demand, and we have not been called upon for the last six weeks to make any issues in that locality. In the County Donegal there has been a carrying trade established from Derry, which I have encouraged as much as possible, by avoiding to interfere with it, but it will in

all probability fall off, owing partly to the difficulty of the roads at this season of the year, and I expect that a very brisk demand will be made shortly on our northern depôts; on the whole, I think that the measures I have adopted since my arrival in this district, to diminish the very great pressure on our then scanty resources, and to help the trade into its present very desirable position of activity and confidence, have been successful, and must be satisfactory to the Government. By the end of the week I shall have a depôt formed at Dunfanaghy, in the north of Donegal; at Burtonport and Gweedore Bay on the west, and at Killibegs on the south, with arrangements complete for replenishing them as their wants shall require, and as our consignments shall arrive.

I am sorry to state that the "Andromeda" has got aground in Valentia Harbour, and that her rudder has been sent round to Cork for repairs; we as yet experience no inconvenience from her detention, but I shall be very anxious to have her at her destination.

The "Foxhound" has just arrived with a cargo of Egyptian wheat; it has been attacked by the weevil, has barley mixed up with it, and is not without some dust and dirt; but on the whole it is considered a fair specimen of its kind, and will do for grinding into whole meal after some purifying process.

I regret repeating that the Public Works continue to be the principal source from whence the poor seek to maintain themselves; the agricultural labours of the season are almost quite neglected, the land is left choked up with weeds to take care of itself, and there is not a movement of any kind on the part of the landlords to commence reproductive works. The poor-houses and hospitals are full, where rates can be levied to maintain the inmates, which is not the case at Castlebar, and there is much sickness abroad. The individual distress around us is disheartening, and I always apprehend that there will soon be plenty without the means of purchasing it.

As far as the Commissariat arrangements are concerned, I can assure you that we are prepared with the means at our disposal for any emergency it will be in our power to reach. The price of Indian meal has risen this week in the market from 16*l.* to 17*l.* per ton, owing to the advices from Liverpool.

I might observe, that amongst the importations by the trade, are many lots of very inferior quality, or in a damaged condition.

Assistant Commissary-General MILLIKIN to Sir R. ROUTE.

Galway, December 8, 1846.

From the time I left Galway until I reached Clifden, I only saw two men at work on their land. At Outerard, there were about 800 men who were employed on the roads, waiting to be paid; I inquired the description of persons that were so employed, and was told they were nearly all farmers, or the sons of farmers, and that none of them would work on their land whilst they could get other employment. I have represented this to the Inspecting Officer of the Board of Works. Very little seed has been sown, and scarcely any of the ground been prepared for spring crops. We met a considerable number of carts loaded with meal and other supplies, and there did not appear that extreme want and destitution that I expected. The fisheries at Roundstone and Clifden have not yet commenced, as not a herring has made its appearance on the coast; they seldom appear before January. The depôts for the fisheries will have a most beneficial effect: they are a very different class of men that follow that business to any of the farmers or labourers; they keep themselves quite distinct, and are governed by laws and customs peculiar to themselves, and are a very superior race to any of the other lower classes; they complain greatly of the impositions they are subjected to in the purchase of lines, &c.

As none of the Relief Committees were to meet in that quarter until the end of this and beginning of next week, I shall have again to visit Clifden, &c., and will report more fully on the subjects you requested.

CIRCULAR to the SECRETARY of each RELIEF COMMITTEE.

*Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
December 8, 1846.*

SIR,

COMMISSARY-GENERAL SIR RANDOLPH J. ROUTH has received directions from Government to impress on each Relief Committee the importance of closely investigating the grounds on which employment on the Public Works shall be sought by each applicant.

Any want of attention to this essential preliminary duty necessarily leads to the admission of persons to the Public Works who do not require relief, or do require it less than other applicants, whom they exclude.

To admit all applicants would be productive of ruinous consequences, and is not necessary, as many persons who apply are known to have other resources. A scrutiny is, therefore, indispensable to keep down the amount of local taxation which the works will occasion; as well as to distribute the employment among the really necessitous classes.

Applicants who have not any land should not be admitted on the registry for employment, until it is clearly ascertained that they cannot get work in their usual pursuits; that they have been for some time unemployed; and have no other present source of maintenance.

Applicants who have land should not be registered, unless the Committee shall be satisfied that every person admitted is actually destitute of means of subsistence, and cannot obtain them otherwise than by employment on the Public Works.

The extent of land held by each applicant should be carefully ascertained; and, although there are cases in which holders of a larger quantity than has been ordinarily held for potato crop may be rendered destitute by some combination of unfortunate circumstances, still it is considered that the occupation of more land than may have been used for producing the yearly supply of potatoes must be held by the Committee as disqualifying the applicants from employment without satisfactory evidence of destitution, as well as proof of inability to procure subsistence unless employed on the Public Works.

Each Committee should apply to the Board of Guardians of the Union for permission to extract from the rate-book, or to receive from the clerk of the Union (*on making compensation out of the Relief Fund*) a list of the occupiers of land in each townland within the Relief District *from which applications for employment shall be made.*

It is considered that any person whose land may be valued on the rate-books at 6*l.* or upwards, is likely to possess means of providing for the maintenance of his family without resorting to the Relief Works; and the application of every such person should therefore be rejected at once, unless the most undoubted evidence of destitution shall be presented.

In fixing on "6*l.* or upwards" as an amount of value requiring rejection of the applicant, it is not intended that lower amounts should be regarded as entitling the occupiers of such lesser holdings to admission, without questioning the necessity for relief in such case. In every case, the most rigid scrutiny is necessary for public protection, and the Committee cannot shrink from the duty of making it.

The evidence of destitution which the Committee should require is not intended to be ordinary *vind vixit* testimony, but searching local investigation, made in Committee, as well as in the townlands.

I have, &c.,

W. STANLEY, *Secretary.*

MR. TREVELYAN to SIR R. ROUTH.

December 8, 1846.

We consider the most important duty with which our Inspecting Officers are charged, is their insisting upon local Committees, or a selected number of the members of them, going through, *in the presence of the Inspecting Officers*, the lists of persons recommended for employment on the Relief Works name by name, in the way in which it was done by Captain Wynne in

the county of Clare, when 3000 were struck off, and discussing the grounds for or against their being retained. It is only in this way that abuses can be brought out, and responsibility fixed.

Deputy Commissary-General KNOWLES to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Barbadoes, December 8, 1845.

I HAVE the pleasure to reply to your letter of the 26th October on the subject of the yam as an article of export to Great Britain, in the present state of general scarcity in that part of the world.

In returning to you the questions and answers enclosed to me in your letter, I beg leave to submit to you a copy of the same questions, and which have been replied to by one of our first-rate *practical* West India planters. It will be observed there is very considerable difference in some of the answers as compared with those you sent to me; but I have reason to believe the replies I now forward to you may be relied on.

The freight at present charged on sugar is 4*l.* per ton. Freight for yams might be obtained at a less rate if shipped in bulk, say 2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*, which would pay a ship nearly as well as 4*l.* on sugar.

The price of the vegetable may be estimated at about 6*s.* 3*d.* per 112 lbs.

I have no doubt that yams may be imported into Great Britain from the West Indies at about 9*l.* 5*s.* per ton, all expenses included, provided time was allowed for contracting for the article and for its cultivation.

Cuba, St. Domingo, and, perhaps, Porto Rico, seem to me to offer a better field for the exportation of yams into Great Britain than the West India Islands. Barbadoes falls lamentably short in the supply of its inhabitants with the most simple articles of food. The cultivation of the yam, the sweet potato, &c., is altogether secondary to the cultivation of the cane; and the imports into this island of Indian corn, corn-meal, and the several articles designated by the Americans "*bread stuffs*" are very considerable.

St. Vincent and other islands of the West Indies would be put into requisition were the Government to hold out a *contract* for the supply of yams; but I am of opinion, although the yam may be landed in Great Britain at about 1*d.* per lb., it would be found too costly. The object in view is, of course, a cheap and nutritious article of food. The price at which the yam may be landed in Great Britain may not be objected to, but I much question whether the vegetable, if assimilated in quantity to the Indian corn meal, would be found sufficiently solid and nutritious.

In the days of slavery, 3 lbs. of yam with a small allowance of salted fish, or salted meat, were allowed to each labourer; to this the poor creatures contrived to make some little addition from their own scanty means, and yet it is well known that, generally speaking, the blacks were ill conditioned.

For a hard-working man, an Irishman or an Englishman, 5 lbs. of this light vegetable are, I think, the very least that would satisfy them, and maintain their health and strength. The more patient Scotchman would, perhaps, do with something less.

I am afraid you will not consider this Report very satisfactory, nevertheless I have endeavoured to afford you the best information, and upon a subject involving so many serious considerations; above all, to guard against submitting anything that might possibly mislead you.

ENCLOSURE.

Questions.

What is the usual mode adopted for planting the yam?

The nature of the soil required, and the period of the year at which the yam should be put into the ground?

The process of preparing the yam for table, and how long it should be boiled?

Answers.

Almost similar to the mode pursued in planting potatoes in Europe; plants weighing about $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. are placed about 4 feet apart.

A light rich soil; the yam is planted in spring, say April or May.

To boil or roast; the latter is the usual mode here, but the former better suited to the labouring class. It should be boiled about an hour.

The period it requires to bring the yam to perfection, and when it may be taken from the ground?

Nine to ten months.

What quantity of yams would be considered equal to a bushel of Indian corn, unground?

120 lb. to 130 lb.

For what period would the yam be considered to retain its quality and be good wholesome food in a cold climate?

The yam, like the potato, keeps good until spring time; about nine months here.

At what rate per ton could yams be imported into England, including freight?

8*l.* or 10*l.* sterling.

What do you think of the yam as an article of export to Great Britain, in the present state of general scarcity in that part of the world?

The cost of the yam is so much greater than that of the potato, that it is doubtful whether it can ever be available as food for the labouring classes at home; and should it be found necessary to ship in barrels (which is very probable), the cost would be greatly increased.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, December 9, 1846.

THE account current of the Cashel Committee of last year shows a most improper application of their funds.

We were aware of it in part, and it gave rise to the 22nd Article of the Instructions to Committees.

Do you think I might venture over to London, and take my Christmas dinner at home. It would take me about five or six days, and I should arrange accordingly.

I think Colonel Douglas's letters show the difficulty of continuing the present system of Public Works, or of finding work to employ the people. The item now is 310,000 persons employed, and nine-tenths for unproductive work. It would not cost half the money to feed the same numbers gratuitously.

No doubt you think often and seriously of this question; but could not productive labour be better secured by lending proprietors money to improve their own estates. I know that this is open to many objections, but is there not some modification of which it may be susceptible.

It is a very important question, for I suspect the business of Public Works may any day be suddenly brought to a stand.

Colonel Jones proposes to abolish the tickets, giving lists to the overseers in lieu. Perhaps this is better; it is more simple, but it will not alter the present duty of Committees.

Commissary-General HEWETSON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Limerick, December 9, 1846.

I MERELY send the enclosure to show you that both navy and army are doing their best in carrying out the views of Her Majesty's Government in affording safe conveyances and protection in the transport of supplies for relief purposes; indeed, every available vessel on the station is employed, and the troops constantly giving escorts. Colonel Mansel, the Assistant Adjutant-General in this district, and three weeks in the chief command, furnishes me these reports, and I am in daily communication with him on one point or another connected with this service. Two more arrivals of Indian corn in the Shannon for the trade. Indian meal, 17*l.* per ton; demand rapidly increasing.

The people in the neighbourhood adjacent to the town of Cahirciveen are turbulent about task-work; from 200 to 300 came into this town two days ago, and told my storekeeper if the meal was not shortly given out they would take it. I have applied for a small military guard, that is, a detachment to be sent there for our protection, the constabulary only mustering eight men.

ENCLOSURE.

Major G. EGERTON to the MILITARY SECRETARY, Royal Hospital, Dublin.

Tralee, December 6, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to report, with reference to my letter of the 3rd instant, that the party of the 77th depôt, which proceeded on that day to escort Indian meal from the Bay of Castlemain to the private depôt at Milltown, returned to its quarters at Tralee this day. The whole quantity disembarked from her Majesty's steamer "Blazer," amounting to 53 tons, having been securely landed and lodged in the stores.

The evening of the 3rd was wholly consumed in landing the meal, under protection of the military, from the open boats into which it had to be transhipped from the steamer, which could not herself approach within three miles of the shore.

It was temporarily stored on the coast for the night by eight, P.M. when the military retired to their billets at Milltown, which they reached at a quarter past nine, leaving the constabulary in charge of the harbour.

The morning of the 4th proved very rainy, and as the meal, being in sacks, could not bear transporting in such weather, nothing could be done until noon, when the escort again proceeded to the landing-place at Calinaforey, distant three miles, and brought 30 tons into Milltown before dark. Yesterday the remaining 33 tons were also removed into Milltown.

Had the district afforded a sufficiency of carts, the whole might have been removed together, but although every exertion was used to obtain them, only 23 were procurable.

No resistance whatever was offered to the convey, nor any attempt made to pilfer the meal. All the orders relative to the employment of troops were strictly complied with. One or more magistrates were present throughout.

I was on the spot on the 4th, and concerted with the resident magistrates the necessary arrangements.

Considering the requisition for military aid, as transmitted with my letter of the 3rd, not sufficiently explicit in detail, I obtained from the magistrates who signed the document an amended one, which I take leave herewith to enclose, as a substitute for the one originally made.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Commissary-General HEWETSON.

December 12, 1846.

I HAVE had the pleasure of receiving your letters dated the 6th and 9th instant, the last enclosing a copy of Major Egerton's report from Tralee.

I entertain no doubt that you will act in the full spirit of the intentions of the Government, both as regards the protection of private traders and the confining the issues from our depôts to the cases in which it is really impossible for the local Committees to obtain supplies from any other quarter.

You are mistaken in supposing that I do not wish to hear direct from you all that occurs worthy of notice in your quarter, in addition to what I get from Sir R. Routh. He has not time to give me detailed information in the way I wish to have it, fresh from the spot.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

December 9, 1846.

THE monster evil with which we have to contend is the great and increasing press of the people upon the Relief Works, which, if it be not kept under proper control, will complete the demoralisation of the country, and end in a state of famine and disorganisation of society more dreadful than any we could, under other circumstances, have reason to apprehend.

You must, without delay, issue instructions to all your inspecting officers, not to leave any Committee with which they come into communication, until they

have themselves revised the list of labourers furnished by that Committee for the Relief Works; in doing which they should be assisted by as large a number as possible of the members of the Committee, and should call for such further information or advice from the neighbouring stipendiary magistrates, or constabulary, or any other independent sources, as they may consider necessary to enable them to arrive at the truth. One great point is to secure a full and open discussion of each case, for all are not likely to be interested in the same job, and from the conflict of opinion the truth will come out. The principal officer of the constabulary for the district ought, if possible, to be in attendance when the lists are being revised, in order that he may give or obtain any information that may be required by the inspecting officer; and I would suggest that you should communicate on this subject with Colonel McGregor, and request him to issue such an order as will secure to our inspecting officers the best assistance of the officers of the constabulary. Our inspecting officers ought, of course, to act in concert with the inspectors and other officers of the Board of Works, and they should, if possible, be sitting together when the lists are revised.

You justly observe, in your letter to Captain Stopford, that although no person who was rated for the Poor Law at more than 6*l.* is to be admitted to the Relief Works, it is by no means intended that all who are rated for less than 6*l.* are to be admitted. Those who are rated at less than 6*l.* are so far *eligible*, but in order to prove that they are proper objects of relief, it must be shown that they are *destitute, and have no other resource*. The inspecting officer should make it his first object to obtain a copy of the Poor Law rating for the Union, and keeping this before him, he should strike off at once those persons included in the relief lists, who are rated at more than 6*l.*, and should call for evidence of the destitution of the remainder, which evidence he should sift and test from independent sources, to any extent that may be necessary to satisfy himself of its truth.

MR. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

Treasury, December 10, 1846.

OVERLEAF you will find the information I requested Sir E. Coffin to furnish on the subject of bear or bigg, which appears to be a distinct species of barley, suited to northern latitudes.

I shall be obliged to you to communicate this extract from Sir E. Coffin's letter, and the extract from Mr. James Adam Gordon's letter to me on the same subject, which accompanied mine to you of the 2nd inst., to the Royal Agricultural Society of Ireland.

ENCLOSURE.

Sir E. COFFIN to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Treasury, December 6, 1846.

I HAVE received your letters of the 28th and 30th ult., and find that my enquiries on the subject of the former confirm my own previous understanding, which is that bear is not, as you suppose, "merely an inferior sort of barley which has become adapted to a poor soil and a severe climate," but is at least a permanent variety, if not a distinct species, very clearly marked by its external character, the rows of grain in the ear being otherwise disposed than in common barley. As a crop, it is undoubtedly of less value than common barley, its deficiency of saccharine matter rendering it less fit for malting; besides which, it yields, weight for weight, a smaller quantity of meal, but the meal is nevertheless considered to be equally wholesome and nutritious as an article of food, and in an unfavourable soil and climate, the plant is more prolific than common barley. Whether it possesses this last advantage in an equal proportion under more favourable conditions, I am unable to ascertain; but as the hardiness of the plant seems to be its chief recommendation, I do not imagine that any benefit can arise from introducing it where common barley is a thriving production.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

December 10, 1846.

It occurs to me, on second thoughts, that however desirable it might be that you should have an opportunity of personally conferring with the officers at present employed under the Board of Works, who are for the future to be employed under you as Inspectors, it might not be safe for some of them to leave their districts. Captain Wynne's undaunted spirit, for instance, alone seems to stand between the people of Clare and complete anarchy.

I have no doubt that you and Colonel Jones will have taken whatever is the most prudent resolution on this head.

It also occurs to me that the duty on which these officers are to be employed is so arduous that it would be advisable that they should, in some cases, have a second officer to consult with, and relieve them from a portion of the duties.

The second officer, for instance, may undertake the examination of the accounts of the Committees, which is a business by itself.

With reference to my remarks of yesterday about arms, you will remember that a person who can afford to buy a gun or a pistol is not, according to our rules, eligible for employment on the Relief Works; and before he can become eligible, he must sell his weapon, and convert it into food.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Castle, Dublin, December 10, 1846.

I HAVE seen Colonel Jones, and we meet to-morrow, and will talk over the proposal of your note.

Mr. O'Connell presses me to sell him the depot at Cahirciveen at a very "very cheap rate for his poor people, which would be no sacrifice to the Government worthy of consideration."

His poor people, however, have threatened to attack the depot, and ransack it, and crowded round it in immense masses.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

December 11, 1846.

It is extremely painful to me to give an opinion adverse to your having the gratification of taking your Christmas dinner at home, but the state of affairs in Ireland is so serious, and is becoming every day so much more critical, that I think you could not be absent from your post, even for five or six days, with safety. You have neither colleague nor deputy to take your place; and even supposing no event of consequence to happen during your absence, still, many persons would call, and many letters would arrive requiring an answer, and any delay that might occur would be made the most of in the present excited state of feeling. You would also be likely to be embarrassed by the accumulation of business at your return.

I hope to be able to send you, to-morrow or next day, two Treasury Minutes, explaining the terms on which money will be lent to proprietors for the improvement of their estates.

It is not intended, at present, to give any assistance to the fisheries, except at the three stations at which curing establishments are now being formed. We must first try the experiment on a manageable scale, and see the result.

The following passage occurs in Colonel Douglas's Report, dated Thurles, December the 5th:—

"There are several proprietors of the land, in this locality, whose chief possessions are in other parts, and who give their main attention to their own immediate neighbourhood. This is very unfortunate, but to those who urge,

"and these are many, that they cannot give because they get no rents, it may be
 "with justice replied, 'then you visit the sins of those who cannot pay you, on
 "those who owe you nothing.' But it will not do for me to tell them this, it
 "would not be in tune with the last paragraph of my instructions."

Colonel Douglas also mentioned in some of his Reports, that some resident proprietors, who ought to have subscribed to the funds of certain Local Committees, but had not done so, and he does not state that he had made any representation to them on the subject.

One of our earliest instructions was, that a list of landlords "who do not contribute" should be furnished, and we have invariably required that the owners of property in a Relief District, whether resident or non-resident, who do not come forward in proportion to their stake in the district, should be communicated with by our officers, wherever they may be, and the whole of the correspondence should be transmitted to this office.

If this course of proceeding was necessary before, it has become so now in a tenfold degree. The delusion of depending entirely on the Government to save the country in this extraordinary crisis of its affairs, instead of depending upon the hearty and united exertions of every man, woman, and child in it, according to their respective opportunities and capacities, has at last begun to appear in its true light, even to those who have hitherto been most blinded by it, and it behoves the Government and its officers to redouble their exertions to induce persons belonging to every class in society, and especially those who have most in their power, owing to the extent of their means and the influence of their example, to make the efforts and the sacrifices which the magnitude and gravity of the occasion require.

The concluding paragraph of our Instructions to our Inspecting Officers, to which Colonel Douglas alludes, inculcates moderation and courtesy of demeanour and manner towards persons of every rank, whatever may be the nature of the communication which our officers may have to make to them; but so far from precluding them from addressing themselves to high or low, on any point which might occur in the course of the execution of their duties, the course prescribed was intended to give effect to all they might have to say, by showing that it was accompanied with a feeling of kindness towards the parties addressed. As the motive of our proceedings is an anxious desire for the safety and welfare of all concerned, we ought not to belie ourselves, and injure the effect of what we say by unnecessary harshness of manner. This was all that was meant by the concluding paragraph of the Instructions.

The highest possible importance is attached here to placing our central system of inspection on the most efficient footing practicable. All the ablest officers acting under you and the Board of Works (excepting only those who have some peculiar qualification for some other duty, which would render it unadvisable to remove them from their present situations) should be selected for this most important function, and they should each have a second officer attached to them, and under their orders; and they should all remember, that although they will report through you to the Treasury, they will have to co-operate with, and support the proceedings of the officers of the Board of Works, quite as much as any other part of our general operations. They will be the inspecting officers for the whole system, to whatever authorities the executive details of different parts of that system may be intrusted.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

December 11, 1846.

I AM desired to request that you will instruct the proper inspecting officer to inquire into and report upon the state of destitution represented in the accompanying extract from the police reports, to prevail in the village of Duleek, in the county of Meath, and upon the measures which have been adopted by the Marchioness of Thomond and the other proprietors in the neighbourhood, to furnish relief.

If severe distress should now exist in the neighbourhood, or may with reason

be expected soon to prevail, representations should be made to the landlords and farmers of the urgent importance of their employing the able-bodied labourers in the cultivation and improvement of the land, and of their uniting for the formation of a Relief Committee, according to the rules which have been prescribed for that purpose.

Extract.

"MEATH.—Mr. Despard, stipendiary magistrate, represents the state of destitution in which the poor of several districts in this county are at present, as "of the most melancholy character, suffering not alone from want of food, but "want of fuel and clothing. In one village (Duleek), out of 54 families, comprising 232 individuals, only 8 men were employed, whose aggregate earning "was only 30s. per week; and there were 230 individuals on that morning, who "had only one meal in 24 hours. The resignation and fortitude of the people "is truly admirable; but he fears that unless some measures are taken, through "the interference of Government, to lessen the prices of food, and provide "employment, an outbreak must occur, the consequences of which are too "awful to contemplate, the peasantry being armed to a man."

Capt. KENNEDY to Lieut.-Col. JONES.

Meath, Kells, December 18, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to enclose a copy of a letter from Mr. Trevelyan, together with an "Abstract from Constabulary Reports," relative to the alleged destitution prevailing at Duleek, county Meath.

I have made entries on the spot, and find the representation of Mr. Despard, as detailed in the abstract, by no means overcharged.

I cannot learn that the Marchioness of Thomond has adopted any measures to alleviate this destitution. There is a Relief Committee established, to which her ladyship, I am informed, is not a contributor.

I think extensive employment could be profitably afforded by many of the neighbouring gentry and landholders to alleviate the existing distress.

The cultivation and improvement of the land in the neighbourhood is not undertaken to the extent it ought to be.

The existing state of destitution I thus account for: 1st. There is a tract of common land upon which are a number of "squatters," driven, no doubt, from off the surrounding grazing farms. 2nd. At the last Extraordinary Sessions for Duleek, all presentments for Public Works were rejected, for the purpose of carrying the proposed "railroad," which has not yet been undertaken, and the people are without any public employment.

I calculate about 200 persons require employment.

An Extraordinary Presentment Sessions is ordered for Duleek on the 24th December; and I would suggest that authority should be given, and directions issued to the engineer, to open one small work to afford immediate relief, without waiting the ordinary routine of approval.

I consider the case most urgent, no representation of which was ever made to me but through the letter I have the honour to enclose.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

December 11, 1846.

I SEND a copy of a letter from Mr. Erichsen and of the accompanying correspondence about the flax-seed. A considerable quantity of which you will see is being sent to us from Rotterdam by steamers, in order to save the frost.

To what point would you wish me to send such portion of the 600 tons of Indian corn meal now ready at Plymouth, as I can spare from Scotland?

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

Treasury, December 11, 1846.

I TRANSMIT a copy of a report from Mr. Erichsen, from which you will see that 800 quarters of bere have been secured for seed, and I shall now delay

any further purchases until I receive an answer from you to the inquiries in my previous letters, as to how far here is to be preferred to barley, and whether it would be safe, and for the public benefit, that the people should be encouraged to depend upon the Government for seed at all.

I annex an extract from a letter which I wrote yesterday to Sir Edward Coffin relating to this subject, and you will find a further reference to it in professor Lindley's letter to Sir E. Kane, a copy of which, I shall send you separately.

ENCLOSURE.

Messes. ERICHSEN to Mr. TREVELYAN.

110, Fenchurch Street, London.
December 10, 1846.

We have the honour to state that we have altogether procured from Scotland 800 quarters *beve* or *begg* for seed, namely:—

269	quarters <i>beve</i> ,	shipped per "Jane and Eliza" to Dublin,
232	" "	" per "Sydney and Jane" to Dublin,
300	" "	now shipping at Aberdeen,

by a sailing vessel, and will be transhipped from hence to Dublin immediately after arrival.

We stop purchasing more of this seed until we receive your further instructions. The time for sowing here is, we believe, the middle of February, we have, therefore, ample time for purchasing further quantities, should they be required.

Mr. PHELAN to Sir W. SOMERVILLE.

27, Nelson Street, Dublin,
December 11, 1846.

THE Cashel workhouse was intended to accommodate 700, which at any time would overfill it. I went through it on Monday, and found it to contain 878. Some of the rooms were so overcrowded that disease must almost inevitably be the result. On that day, and some days previously, 520 persons, mostly women and children, but several aged men, and not a few boys and girls, had got one pound of bread each adult, half a pound each young person. This they were at first permitted to eat on the premises, but now they are allowed to take it home. This 520 was exclusive of the 878.

On Tuesday I visited the Kilkenny workhouse. It was intended for 1800; it now contains 1891. Like the other, it is greatly overfilled, and must soon be the scene of disease. But in addition, 1612 persons got that day a meal of stirabout and milk, and on some days, as many as 1820 get the same. I am incapable of describing the appearance of those persons. It surpassed all the wretchedness I ever saw; with few exceptions, all these belonged to the Kilkenny electoral division; and, beside, more than half the paupers in the house were charged upon it, as is the case in Cashel.

The Guardians were informed that they act illegally in giving relief in this manner. They say that as the food is eaten in the houses, the practice is within the spirit of the Act; but whether legal or otherwise, those connected with the city and suburbs wish to continue it, even at this enormous expense to them, rather than allow this multitude to starve; for, they say, we cannot get subscriptions to feed them; and at all events, we by this plan throw the cost pretty equally on all. The Cashel electoral division Guardians say the same. I understand, that in other places, as Carlow, Cork, &c., this kind of out-door relief system is pursued; very few come from beyond the immediate locality for the food, so that the relief is confined to the poor of the city or town in which the workhouse is situated. Of course the Guardians and townspeople of these electoral divisions would not adopt the practice, and incur the enormous expense entailed by it, did they not feel that they are unable by any other means within their reach to prevent these people from starving.

I have a notion that, were it quite legal, this mode of giving food during such an emergency would be a good one. But, if temporarily legalised, there should be provision made to enable the other distant electoral divisions to adopt it. For instance, the poor of Nobber could not go daily to the Kells workhouse to get a meal; nor those of Slane or Tarn to Navan. An arrangement by which food

could be given at three or four points of a Union would therefore seem to be necessary—I mean if it be at all allowed; and I do not see how it can well be avoided. Take these two places; no greater exertions have been anywhere made, I am told, than at Kilkenny and Cashel, to give employment, yet here are numbers who cannot benefit by it.

I fear that, from the want of their usual rents, and from the increased taxation on their properties, as well as the greater expense of supporting labourers, servants, &c., many of the proprietary will not subscribe enough, or consent to purchase food for those for whom there will not be room in the workhouses. Some other mode therefore must be adopted, and from what I have seen and heard, ought to be soon adopted, or starvation and disorder must take place, and the Government will get discredit.

Mr. PHELAN to Sir W. SOMERVILLE.

27, Nelson Street, Dublin,

December 23, 1846.

In reference to the conversation I had with you on Monday last, respecting the giving of relief in the Kilkenny, and other workhouses, to parties who come there daily to get a meal, and who, on eating it, go back to their respective residences, I beg leave to make a few observations.

Experience has long convinced me that, until some sufficient test is applied, the public is never aware of the number of persons who, in scarce seasons, are much in want of the most common necessities of life. Kilkenny will exemplify this. After the Guardians filled the workhouse, those belonging to the Kilkenny electoral division, although they had already liberally admitted above 600 paupers to be charged on that division, induced the Board to agree to a resolution authorizing that a meal per day might be given to fit objects, to be eaten in the workhouse, and knowing that the cost must almost fall entirely on that division. At first, only a few hundred paupers availed themselves of it; but, although every precaution was used to see that none but very destitute objects obtained this meal, in a few days the number rapidly increased to 1820 per day, exclusive of the 1391 in the house. Had I not myself seen the parties, and conversed with the gentlemen who were superintending this relief, I might be credulous. But I am satisfied that those whom I saw get this meal must have been in want of it, and were such as, if there had been room in the workhouse, would have been admitted without hesitation.

All these 1820, with very few exceptions, belonged to the Kilkenny electoral division, proving the truth of my observation.

I have reason to believe that, in Thomastown, Castlecomer, Freshford, Ballyragget, Gowran, and Lonsbridge, and Knocktopher, places of some population in that Union, were the same facility of obtaining a meal per day afforded, as many, relatively with the population, would apply for it; I mean parties equally in want of it.

As necessity forced this practice on the Guardians in Kilkenny and elsewhere, it would seem to be the most convenient mode of preventing the starvation which appears to be occurring in many places. But as it was not contemplated by Parliament that this description of relief should be given, the Poor Law Commissioners have ordered it to be discontinued. Were it, however, permitted, or legalized, on the meeting of Parliament, it would only be necessary for the Commissioners to declare a house (which would merely contain room for a boiler, and for a table and some forms) in each of the principal towns of any Union (in which the workhouse became full) to be a part of the Union. At this house, the paupers of two or three contiguous electoral divisions could get a meal or two daily. In this manner, the practice could be extended to the chief portions of each Union, and no other part need be taxed for the expense incurred.

Of course, I do not suggest this as a mode of giving out-door relief (if it may be so called) permanently, but merely as the most immediate means of preventing starvation, and, I think, the most satisfactory to the community. Subscriptions will assist, but a class above that, which will go for this meal, will require all that can be collected by subscriptions, viz: decent room-keepers, unemployed tradesmen, decent servants out of employment, &c.

I beg you will excuse this hurried letter.

P.S.—From communications I have had, I find that there is already much disease in many of the workhouses, and every probability of its increasing. The above mode of giving relief would lessen the pressure on the central workhouse, the overcrowding of which is a main cause of sickness.

Sir R. ROUTH to INSPECTING OFFICERS.

The Castle, Dublin, December 11, 1846.

I HAVE received the Instructions of the Treasury to communicate to you their wish that you should not leave any Committee with which you come into communication until you have yourself revised in detail, name by name, the list of labourers furnished by the Committee for the Relief Works; in doing which you should be assisted by as large a number as possible of the members of the Committee, and should call for such further information or advice from the neighbouring stipendiary magistrates, or constabulary, or any other independent sources as you may consider necessary to enable you to arrive at the truth.

One great point is to secure a full and open discussion of each case, for all are not likely to be interested in the same job; and, from the conflict of opinion, the truth will come out.

The principal officer of the constabulary for the district ought, if possible, to be in attendance when the lists are being revised, in order that he may give or obtain any information that may be required by you: and Colonel McGregor will desire his officers to give the best information in their power, and all such attendance as they are able to do consistently with their own duties.

You should never lose sight of the necessity of acting in concert with the Inspectors and other officers of the Board of Works, and you should, if possible, be sitting together when the lists are revised.

I refer you to the annexed printed Circular, which has been forwarded to all the Committees, requesting you to bear in mind that, though those who are rated at less than 6*l.* are eligible, it must be proved that they are proper objects of relief, and that they are *destitute, and have no other resource.*

You should make it your first object to obtain a copy of the poor law rating for the Union, and, keeping this before you, you should, as explained in the Circular, strike off at once those persons included in the relief lists who are rated at more than 6*l.*, and should call for evidence of the destitution of the remainder, which evidence you will sift and test, from independent sources, to any extent that may be necessary to satisfy yourself of its truth.

You will endeavour to inquire what becomes of the large sums of money expended in Relief Works; and whenever it can be traced that persons on the works have employed their money in the purchase of arms, their names should be at once erased from the labour lists.

You will see in all the proceedings of Government the anxious desire to diminish and alleviate the great evil which is now afflicting Ireland; and it is your particular duty to see that the funds now employed so largely and so generously in this great object are strictly appropriated to it. And if we, as public officers, fail to use our best efforts to examine into and scrutinize, item by item, the justness of this expenditure, we shall share in the reproach of its misapplication.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, December 12, 1846.

I WILL suppose that we obtain an officer for each county, and I will go so far as to admit that they all do their duty, still there is something more to be done. So vast an expenditure, the spirit of intimidation abroad, even towards the officers of the Board of Works, and the increasing demand for employment, and, coupled with this, the neglect of farm operations, all these considerations make me fear that our best investigation of these matters, though indispensable in itself, is not enough for the emergency.

So long as the Board of Works offers general employment, there will be little private employment. The assistance of the Government seems to paralyze all individual effort. In the midst of much real there is more fictitious distress,

and so much abuse prevails, that if you check it in one channel, it presents itself in another.

If a date could be fixed after which the numbers to be employed would be limited, and those chosen from the most destitute, a large body of able, strong labourers would be thrown on farm and other operations. This might certainly lead to an outbreak, but I am much inclined to think that the fears of the farmers are the only inducement which will make them come forward, and that so long as they can abstain from interfering, they will. They have realized great prices, and they (at least many of them) pay no rent, and they are gainers by the public calamity.

The most unruly of those who seek employment are those who have the least title to it; but the appearance of power would strengthen the hands of Committees, and reassure those who fear to do their duty. It would encourage and give strength to the well disposed, and put down the insubordinate or seditious.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, December 12, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you the annexed Report from Commissary-General Hewetson, for the information of the Right Honourable My Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, submitting an account of an apprehended disturbance at Caherciveen, which had induced him to apply to the officer in command of the troops at Limerick for a detachment to proceed to that place, and which would have arrived yesterday evening. E. 2829

I had no reason to expect this appearance of aggression, as I had authorized a sale of 30 tons of meal to the Committee, and importation had been made from other sources.

In the meanwhile, I have directed that depot to be opened two days in each week, which, with the local exertion of the Committee, will, I think, be sufficient.

The depot at Skibbereen has been opened three days in the week, with a discretionary power to extend the sales if desired.

The peculiar circumstances, however, which marks the scarcity of this year is the want of accommodation in the poor-houses, 47 of which are, I understand, full, and as at the same time the subscriptions have been very limited, the Committees are not in the same situation to afford relief to the destitute poor who cannot be received in the workhouse.

It becomes a question, therefore, whether it may not be proper to increase the Government grant on subscriptions raised in localities so situated, and in particular instances, whether it would not be expedient to recur to the plan adopted last season of advancing a sum of 50*l.* or 100*l.*, in cases of great distress, to the Board of Works, to employ the destitute of such locality in such labour as they could give.

It appears to me that some anticipation of this nature must be considered to meet exigencies of this description, which, I fear, may be of frequent occurrence.

ENCLOSURE.

Commissary-General HEWETSON to Sir R. ROUTH,

Limerick, 9th December, 1846, 9 p.m.

WITH reference to my letter of this morning, No. 212, I have the honour to enclose a second report from Mr. Nash, dated Caherciveen, yesterday (half-past 1, p.m.), on the receipt of which I lost no time in communicating with Colonel Mansel, Assistant Adjutant-General, at present commanding the forces in this district; a copy of my letter to him I subjoin. A detachment of two officers and 55 men have been ordered to march immediately from Tralee, and will arrive at Caherciveen on Friday evening. It is to be regretted no magistrate should be on the spot, as the troops cannot act without one. Colonel Mansel has, however, directed sentries to be posted within the premises, and I have little doubt the presence of this force, with the aid of the constabulary, and such coast-guard as can be mustered, will be sufficient to prevent any further outrage. I have considered it prudent to write to the Caherciveen Relief Committee, pending the arrival of any supplies they may have ordered, that a further issue of 15 tons, proportionately in meal and biscuit will, if necessary, be issued to them for the use of the people.

You will perceive the necessity of a military force being permanently stationed at Cahereiveen for the protection of the reserve depôt, at least during the winter.

I should have despatched Assistant Commissary-General Inglis there this evening, but he is necessarily absent on a tour of duty to Tarbert and Kilrush. Mr. Nash is, however, a steady man, and will act with proper firmness.

Sir,

Commissariat, Limerick, Dec. 9, 1846, 6 P.M.

I HAVE the honour to enclose copies of two reports addressed to me by Mr. Thomas Nash, in charge of the Commissariat Reserve Depôt at Cahereiveen, dated the 7th and 8th instant. The latter is of a nature which you will readily perceive calls for immediate measures to be taken for the protection of Her Majesty's stores at that place by a military force, and as the constabulary at that station are in number altogether inadequate for that purpose, I request you will furnish from the nearest point within your command, such a military force to proceed forthwith to Cahereiveen, as you may deem the circumstances of the case require. I am most desirous, as this is the first attempt at outrage upon Her Majesty's Relief Depôts, that it should be promptly met in such a manner as will show these misguided people, that perseverance in such conduct will not be permitted. I acquaint the person in charge of the depôt by to-night's post, that he may look for early military protection. I shall also take other measures in connexion with the Cahereiveen Relief Committee to prevent, if possible, any further assemblages of the people with a view to the plunder of the depôt, which object it appears they have in view.

I have already reported upon this subject to Dublin, submitting the expediency of a detachment being for the present quartered in Cahereiveen, and you will doubtless receive a communication thereon from head-quarters. I have further reported by this night's post, that in a personal interview you had at once met my request, ordering a force instantly, to proceed to Cahereiveen from Tralee.

Colonel Mansel, K.H.,
in command of Limerick District.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) W. HEWITSON, Commissary-General.

Sir,

Cahereiveen Reserve Depôt, December 8, 1846.

I AM sorry to inform you, that the expectation expressed in my letter of yesterday, of there being no immediate attack on the store was not realised. In about two hours after I closed my letter a vast concourse of people amounting to nearly 1000, assembled outside the store, and after some time they began to break one of the windows with a pickaxe, they bent one of the iron bars and broke a pane of glass, which was all the harm they did, but it was by a deal of persuasion and fair promises that they could be got to desist from their purpose, and indeed I think all would be useless only that the Cahereiveen Committee took some meal and biscuit to distribute, which seemed to pacify them for the present.

The parish priest of this place, the Rev. Mr. Day, of Valencia, and Mr. Barry, did all they could to disperse them, but the mob did not mind what they said. There was no magistrate to be had, the only one that resides near this town (Mr. Primrose) being from home. The few police were in attendance, and of course would do all in their power to protect the property, but what could they do in the face of such a multitude? It was well all went off so quietly, as some of the people were heard to say, that if the police fired a shot every one of them would have been killed, which I have no doubt of, if they could, as the mob seemed very determined. One of the mob offered to strike the head-constable, when he attempted to prevent him from breaking the window. They were not the people that came to me in the morning. It appears they were from another part of the country.

I have only to repeat what I said yesterday, about sending a sufficient force immediately. Indeed, I fear we shall have bad work before it shall arrive, as the people are beginning to be very much excited in consequence of the high price of food, want of employment, &c. The meal that was selling at 1s. 10½d. per stone is all out. It is now 2s. 6d. per stone. The Relief Committee are now selling at 2s. 2d. per stone. The 15 tons* they are to get will stand but a short time. The people, indeed, would take it in two days if it could be served out to them.

The head-constable told me they would report the matter to Government.

Commissary-General Hewitson,
Limerick.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) THOMAS NASH.

Half-past One o'Clock.—Nothing particular has happened to-day up to the present. A good many people scattered about the town, but no sign of disturbance.—T. N.

* The 15 tons of meal is the quantity authorized to be issued to the Cahereiveen Relief Committee.—See my Report, No. 266, dated 16th ult.

The Sub-Inspector of the Constabulary at Cahereiveen, appears not to enjoy good health. He complained of illness when I visited that place in September last, and does not appear to have been present on this occasion.

(Signed) W. H.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

December 15, 1846.

Write to Sir R. Routh that their Lordships entirely approve of his proceedings, and those of Commissary-General Hewetson and Mr. Nash, as reported in this letter.

The protection of the Government depôts from plunder being essential to the public safety, their Lordships desire that Sir R. Routh will report what means are available on the spot at each of the depôts for affording prompt and effectual assistance in case they should be attacked, and that he will caution the Commissariat officers, or other persons in charge of them, to be upon their guard, and that he will inform them that their Lordships will take proper notice of their attention and devotion to the service on this important point, as well as of any dereliction of duty that may occur in respect to it.

Their Lordships approve of the sub-depôts in the remote districts being opened, on certain fixed days, for the supply of local Committees in those cases in which it is clearly impossible for them to obtain supplies in any other way, but it is indispensable, in order to prevent the whole country from depending upon the depôts, and to secure the assistance of the upper classes in administering the relief, that the plan which has been adopted in consequence of the experience obtained during the last relief season, of placing the local Committees between the Commissariat and the people, should be steadily persevered in, and that issues should be made direct to the consumers only in very extreme cases.

When, from the want of room in the poor-houses, or other circumstances, unequivocal proof is afforded of the existence of extreme destitution in any locality, their Lordships are of opinion that a larger proportional donation may be given to meet the subscriptions of the Relief Committees than has hitherto been allowed; and in any instance in which the necessity to take such a step is clearly established, Sir R. Routh might, with the sanction of the Lord-Lieutenant, recur, as recommended by him, to the plan adopted last season, of advancing a sum of 50*l.* or 100*l.* to the Board of Works to employ the destitute, in anticipation of a presentment under the Poor Relief Act.

Transmit a copy of Sir R. Routh's letter, and of its enclosures, and of this Minute, to Mr. Labouchere, for the information of the Lord-Lieutenant.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, December 12, 1846.

I HAVE the copy of Messrs. Erichsen's letter of the 9th instant which you transmitted to me, and, in reply to your question whether I wish the barley to be sent elsewhere than to Dublin, I beg to say that we can receive the quantity advised up to to-day at this port for the present supply at Longford and Banagher, and in order to keep it up; but this quantity now advised being delivered, I think it would be desirable to consign to other ports, a part to Cork to the charge of Lieutenant Westworth, for the Skibbereen and Castletown depôts, and afterwards to some of the depôts on the west coast, particularly Clifden and Belmullet.

Assistant Commissary-General BISHOP to Sir R. ROUTH.

Cork, December 12, 1846.

I do myself the honour of submitting the following report of my proceedings during the past week:—

The detail of the "prospective arrangements" for the last week was deviated from in consequence of a "Special Presentment Session" being held at Middleton on Monday, where it was expected efforts would be made to pass presentments for drainage under Mr. Labouchere's letter. I attended with the district engineer. The attempt was made, particularly by Mr. Burke Roche, M.P., who advocated the measure without success, though presentments were freely passed for roads and repairs—works of admitted inutility—to the extent of 14,000*l.*

On Tuesday, I proceeded to Macroom to attend a meeting of the Relief Committee appointed for the parishes of Macroom and Clondrohed. These parishes have a population of 3600 souls. The business of this Committee is

left chiefly to the management of the Rev. Mr. Swanzy, secretary and treasurer, and the Rev. Mr. Lee, P.P. All the members are *ex officio*. Their funds are nearly exhausted by the sale of food below cost price. The Committee urge that the present excessive high prices of provisions render it imperative upon them, as a measure of relief to the labourer with large families, and who have hitherto received but 8d. a-day on Relief Works, to sell at a reduced price, which has varied from 1s. 8d. to 2s. a stone; 800 families are allowed, under strict regulations, to purchase meal at this depot.

The "executive" of this Committee are very active, and devote much time and labour to the details. The Committee are about to establish a "soup shop," having received some assistance in aid of its formation from the "Sackville Street Society." On Wednesday I went to Kilmurray, but could not find any person connected with that Relief Committee, both chairman and secretary residing some miles from the parish. Very great distress prevails throughout the parish of Kilmurray, from whence I proceeded to Kilmichael; here again I was disappointed in meeting the Committee; the treasurer, who keeps the books, was absent from the district. I learnt from the secretary that the funds of the Committee were also nearly expended in selling food under cost price. The district is remote, and the labouring class in extreme distress. The Public Works are limited, and the number employed comprise but a small portion of the claimants. There is a "Huckster's" store in the district, where Indian meal is retailed at 2s. 4d. a-stone for cash; but a ruinous system of L.O.U. is practised between the huckster and the labourer, under which the latter now pays at the rate of 2s. 6d. a-stone for Indian corn meal!

From Kilmichael I proceeded through a barren, mountainous country to Inchigula, a still more remote and distressed district, containing about 6300 souls. Here I could only find the chairman of the Committee, who informed me that in consequence of the pressure of distress, and the very limited number yet employed upon the Public Works (only 200 out of 700 needy applicants), the Committee considered themselves imperatively called upon to sell food at a reduced price to the unemployed, which had exhausted their funds.

In consequence of the three last-named Committees having failed to reply to my notes requesting information as to their days of meeting, &c., I missed seeing them in Committee. I have therefore addressed letters to the chairman of each of these Committees urging them to a strict adherence with the instructions, and a most careful revision of their Labour List, and further calling their special attention to the alarming results which must accrue to the country if the cultivation of land is not more seriously attended to.

On Thursday I pursued my route through a continued rocky, mountainous country to Ballyvourney, to meet the Committee appointed for this parish, and the adjoining one of Kilnamartery, the two parishes containing a population of 7300 souls, the greater part in extreme poverty. This Committee is selling Indian corn meal at 2s. per stone to those most distressed. Their funds are exhausted; the loss on sales below cost since 15th of August amounts to 123l. They urge, that the distress being infinitely greater than last season, and that in the rural districts small facilities being afforded by the trader to meet or assist the wants, the labourer having to pay the huckster from 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d. a-stone, when he has hitherto earned but 8d. a-day as wages, the Committee could not avoid deviating from the Instructions.

The number of resident gentry in these rural districts is too limited to be, with the best intentions, of any essential service. Sir George Calthurst, though not a resident in this immediate neighbourhood, devotes much of his time and property, and has given the valuable example of an extensive model farm for the benefit of the agriculturists of Ballyvourney.

Great and positive distress exists in the districts I have last named, particularly in the parishes of Kilmichael and Inchigula. I personally visited many cabins, and was an eye-witness to unquestionable and painful destitution; the outward appearance and extreme debility of many of the labourers too forcibly prove that there is no deception.

I conversed with several gangs of labourers I met waiting by the road side for employment upon Relief Works, and endeavoured to urge upon them the evil results which must follow their forsaking agricultural pursuits. They appeared to be thoroughly apathetic to all idea of making such efforts for themselves, looking to Public Works as their only resource.

On Friday I went to Abinagh. The new Committee not having met since their nomination, I only saw the secretary and treasurer. I examined their books to the present time; food has been sold below cost, and the balance of the old account greatly reduced; the same reason is alleged as that advanced by other Committees. A promise is given that, as the labourer will now get better wages under the task-work system, the price of food will be raised in proportion.

I started from Abinagh for Mill Street, but when about half-way I was overtaken by a heavy fall of snow, which rendered the road so bad that I determined upon returning to Macroom, leaving Mill Street to be visited when I am at Ventruck.

On Saturday, after addressing letters to the several Committees I had visited, I returned to Cork, which place I reached late this evening.

The following observations are applicable to the whole of the barony of West Muskerry, comprising an area of 188,487 acres, and a population of 47,000.

A large portion of the labourers seeking employment on the Relief Works have either been discharged by the farmers, or have left agricultural labour of their own accord, complaining of the insufficiency of farm wages. The greater part have, however, been discharged, and thus compelled to seek for subsistence on the Relief Works. This, independent of other evils, has engendered a bad feeling in the labourer towards the farmer, which is openly avowed, and may, should the Relief Works fail to afford the necessary subsistence, be productive of disastrous results.

Considerable blame must be attached to the labourer for the total recklessness with which he has abandoned all personal efforts towards securing a future provision for himself and family.

The collection of manure has been wholly neglected!

His former potato luts have been abandoned, or taken possession of by the landlord.

The "cottier," or "con-acre" system is abolished, and he is now virtually a labourer in every sense of the word, and must be provided for as such.

At present he depends so exclusively upon Relief Works for the subsistence of himself and family, that any suspension of these works, even for one day, inflicts the greatest suffering.

Unfortunately there are but few resident proprietors in this barony, particularly in the southern and western parts, to promote by their influence and example any improvements tending to the amelioration of the labouring class, which might doubtless, by judicious encouragement, be recalled from their present paralyzed state.

All the poor I met during the week were orderly, and apparently well-disposed.

Having heard from many labourers their version of the cause for leaving agricultural employment, I conversed with several farmers of various classes. The small farmer states, that owing to the total loss of his own potato crop, he is obliged to consume so much of his grain, as food for his family and stock, as to deprive him of the means of either paying or subsisting the servants he formerly kept. The worst feature in the case of this class farmer is, that he is now actually consuming the seed which should be destined for the ensuing crop.

The larger class farmer states, that many of his labourers left him to seek Relief Works, because he could not afford to give them *all* money wages.

This class farmer will increase his grain crop materially next year by putting most of the abandoned potato grounds into grain; this, however, is not expected to add to the average crop, for the small class farmer will not have the seed, or means of obtaining it, to give him the chance of securing anything like an average crop.

The potato will be partially attempted again in this barony.

The cultivation of turnips is increasing, but carrots are not spoken of.

It is estimated that if the whole of the home grain now in the county of Cork was brought into consumption, it would not afford six weeks' subsistence for the population.

There are very large tracts in various parts of the barony to afford an unlimited extent of reproductive employment in drainage and subsoiling.

Some rich meadow land was pointed out to me at Ballyvourney, on Sir George Calthurst's property, which 90 years ago was rated at 3s. 6d. an acre; the land having undergone thorough drainage, now lets for 5l. an acre.

The fact of a large portion of the grain brought to market being purchased by country people for their home consumption, still continues in force.

But six cargoes of Indian corn have arrived at Cork during the last week, and prices still continue high, namely, 17l. for corn, and 18l. 10s. for Indian corn meal.

MR. TREVELYAN to SIR R. ROUTH.

December 12, 1846.

MR. O'CONNELL's proposition to buy the whole of our dépôt at Caherciveen, although perfectly well meant, is of course totally inadmissible, among others, for this plain reason, that we have made ourselves responsible for supplying the western coast as far as we are able, and if we hand over our supplies to others, to be dealt with as they think proper, it is impossible that we can meet this responsibility.

You must shape your proceedings so as to be able to assist to produce our estimate at the time mentioned by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and pray request Mr. Stickney to do the same.

MR. TREVELYAN to SIR R. ROUTH.

December 12, 1846.

If you have not already given directions to the Inspecting Officers for the county of Wexford to institute a searching investigation into the gross case of abuse which forms the subject of the accompanying letter from Mr. Burrowes to Colonel Jones, I shall be obliged to you to do so without any delay, and to report the result.

This is an instance of the advantage of your being furnished at once by Colonel Jones with copies of every document to which your attention, or that of your Inspecting Officers, ought to be called.

MR. N. CUMMINS to MR. TREVELYAN.

Cork, December 12, 1846.

My last communication was of 27th ultimo, since when each day has made more lamentably manifest the extent of the present calamity in this part of the country; in fact, I scarcely think that the alarming prospect can well be exaggerated. Prices of all corn food, which for a time seemed likely to recede, have again reached famine rates: Indian corn is only to be procured here in small parcels, at 16l. 10s. to 17l. per ton, the continuance of northerly winds having prevented arrivals.

I have made it my business, by the most careful inquiry, to ascertain, for the information of the Assistant Commissary-General in charge of the Relief Committees in this part, the amount of grain food at present held by the dealers in this city, and the entire stock of bread stuffs is short of 4000 tons, while the daily consumption within same district is, I believe, correctly estimated at 100 tons.

The supplies to our corn-market have greatly fallen off, the better sort of farmers having apparently resolved to hold, for their own use, any corn remaining in their possession. Those under 10 acres may be almost considered destitute; indeed, it is to be feared that the seed which should, under all circumstances, be held sacred, is being rapidly consumed by this class.

On the whole, I think it right to state to you my conviction that the entire stock of corn food at present existing in the county of Cork is not more than sufficient for the consumption of the next six weeks or two months. What supplies may reach us from other quarters I cannot attempt to anticipate, but unless the amount shall prove great indeed, the prospect, in my opinion, is appalling.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS referred to Commissary-General Sir RANOLD J. ROUTH, by T. N. REDINGTON, Esq., Under Secretary for Ireland, from 26th to 29th November, 1846, both days inclusive; also the Answer given to each.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
Z 21124	Kerry	Kilcheeny Committee inquire whether, after being re-constituted in accordance with the instructions of Government, it is open to them to add to the members. Informed that no addition can be made to a Relief Committee, except by the Lieutenant of county. Forwarded to Inspecting Officer of Committee for his information, with a request to take a note of the correspondence, and return the papers.
D 8646	Tyrone	Parish of Leekpatrick. Statement of the proceedings of a meeting of the parishioners is forwarded, by which it appears that a Relief Committee has been nominated, &c. The Chairman states at the same time that employment is necessary, and desires to know if Government will place at his disposal a fund for that object. A copy of the instructions for the formation and guidance of Relief Committees is forwarded for correspondent's information, by which it will be observed that when such Committees (constituted by the Lieutenant of county) shall collect subscriptions and forward a list in the manner pointed out, a donation is recommended. He is also referred to an enclosed copy of the Treasury Minute of the 31st of August last.
D 8614	Tyrone	Parish of Leekpatrick. Correspondent states that 150 <i>l.</i> has been subscribed by the parishioners to be expended in providing food for the poor at reduced prices, and solicits a grant in aid. Attention is drawn to the Treasury Minute, (enclosed is another letter,) which requires that all food provided with relief funds to which the Government may contribute, shall be sold at the current market prices; and observing that unless the Relief Committee shall undertake to comply with this regulation, it will not be in the Commissary-General's power to recommend a donation; but at the same time remarking that by purchasing a cheap description of food and placing it for sale with a person of character at a price to be fixed for him sufficient to repay the first cost, with all charges, including a commission allowance of 5 <i>l.</i> per cent., the Committee will then be enabled to a donation, and much good may be done by keeping up a supply of food in this manner within reach of the poorer classes.
D 8554	Clare	Doonass Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 153 <i>l.</i> 8 <i>s.</i> , and solicit a grant. 7 <i>l.</i> recommended.
D 8613	Clare	Doonass Committee request that 8 <i>l.</i> collected by them since the transmission of their list of subscriptions to the Commissary-General, may be taken into account by him in recommending a donation in aid. Informed that this letter was not received by the Commissary-General until after a donation had been recommended in aid of the subscriptions mentioned in the list first transmitted, and therefore it will be necessary to include the further subscriptions in an additional list to be hereafter forwarded.
D 8555	Kerry	Barony of Iveragh, Valentia. Copies of resolutions of baronial sessions, suggesting that supplies of food be sent direct from America to Valentia, and recommending the mooring of a depot- vessel in its harbours to receive those supplies; also praying for a grant to complete the proposed railway from Killybeg to Valentia, further soliciting a loan of 6000 <i>l.</i> to purchase seed here, rye and barley, are referred to the Commissary-General, and— Answered by stating that the arrangements of Government for assisting the owners and possessors of property in providing supplies of food for the population will, it is hoped, give satisfaction, when the time for carrying them into effect shall arrive; but with respect to a loan of 6,000 <i>l.</i> for enabling the farmers of the barony of Iveragh to purchase seed rye, here, and barley, that funds for such loans have not been placed at the disposal of the Government.
Z 21125	Tipperary	Newport District. Treasurer of the late Committee states that having resigned, he will not hold himself responsible for the application of the balance of the Relief Fund handed over to the present Committee, nor for any future subscriptions or grants; he forwards at the same time a final account, showing that on the 15th August last the balance on hand amounted to 297 <i>l.</i> 9 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> This letter is forwarded to the Inspecting Officer of Committees for the county.
H 21122	Wicklow	Arklow. The medical officer, appointed as such under the Act 9 Vict., cap. 6, for Arklow district, again requests that his services in this capacity will be sufficiently compensated. The Under Secretary inquires if the Commissary-General has made any communication to correspondent since the reference of his former application.

Miscellaneous Communications, &c.—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
Z 21113	Meath	Copies of letters addressed to this medical officer on the 6th and 10th November instant, are forwarded to the Under Secretary, observing that by them it will appear that his compensation has been lessened by his own act of employing an Apothecary, instead of accepting the aid of one provided by the Board of Poor Law Guardians.
		Ardriscan. Correspondent complains that he and two other Poor Law Guardians have been excluded from the Relief Committee for the present season, which he ascribes to religious animosity, &c.
D 8622	Kildare	Answered by stating that Poor Law Guardians are not as such now eligible to be members of Relief Committees, as they were in the past season. That the Chairman of the Union is the only member of the Board of Guardians who is at present an ex officio member of a Relief Committee.
		Electoral Division of Tanshew. Correspondent complains of the want which is felt of a Relief Committee for this division; that a Committee was nominated but remained inactive, not having magistrate to act with them, &c.; that the nearest magistrate resides in another barony.
Z 21026	Westmeath	Informed that the presence of the magistrate of the barony is not actually necessary to the proceedings of a Relief Committee, and therefore the Commissary-General recommends application to be made to the Duke of Leinster to constitute a Committee which will take charge of the electoral division separately or with any addition his Grace may consider advisable to make.
		Castleowenahilly Committee. Chairman recommends that an allowance of 5s. per week be paid by Government to the constable in charge of the food provided with the Committee's funds, which are inadequate to meet the expense.
		Informed that there is not any fund at the disposal of Government out of which the Commissary-General can recommend the allowance to be paid which the Committee propose, but he suggests to the Committee that for the sale of the food provided by the local Relief fund, the better course would be to place it for the purpose with an individual of character, fixing the price; and as this should not be such as to discourage the intervention of trade competition, he ought to include the first cost, with expenses of cartage, and a Commission allowance of 5l. per cent. for storing and selling.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

RETURN of the CORRESPONDENCE from 26th to 28th November, 1845, both days inclusive.

I.—APPLICATION FOR GRANTS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7669	Mayo	Hollymont Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 172l. 10s., and solicit a grant. 55l. recommended.
7726	Fennagh	Brookborough Committee duly certify Sir Arthur Brinsley Brooke's subscription of 500l. to their Relief Fund, and solicit a donation. 250l. recommended.
7696	Kildare	Allen Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 152l. 18s., and solicit a grant. 75l. recommended.
7734	Kilkeny	Rower and Cloonmery Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 52l. 2s., and solicit a grant. 40l. recommended.
7725	Armagh	Charlemont Committee inquire what steps they are to take to obtain a donation to aid of their Relief Funds, and state that when an industrious family cannot, at the present prices of food, earn enough to supply each adult member with 1 lb. of Indian meal, and each child with $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. per diem, they endeavour to supply the deficiency, &c. See Answer annexed.

II.—APPLICATION FOR DEPOTS, FOOD, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7731	Mayo	Conc Committee forward a resolution praying for the establishment of a meal depot. Informed that the resolution is under consideration.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

II.—APPLICATIONS FOR DEPOTS, FOOD, &c.—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7701	Dublin	Dalkey, &c., Committee, inquire whether there has been any late Treasury Minute issued since 31st August last, setting forth that provisions purchased by Relief Committees must be sold at a profit of 5 <i>l.</i> per cent. Informed that there is not a Treasury Minute containing the instructions referred to, but that, with the sanction of the Treasury, Relief Committees are recommended to place the food provided for sale with individuals of character, fixing a price to be charged sufficient to repay the first cost, with all expenses, and a commission allowance of 5 <i>l.</i> per cent. for storing and selling.
7704	King's	Birr, Correspondent (a member of Committee) states that he proposed to the Birr Committee to sell meal to the destitute twenty per cent. under cost price; but the majority of the Committee were opposed, in consideration of the Treasury Minute, and the instructions of Government; and requests a favourable consideration of his proposition. Informed that the Government instructions do not make any exception to the rule requiring that all food provided with relief funds shall be sold at such a price as may enable traders selling the same kind of food at the same rates to realize a reasonable profit; that with a view to ensure conformity to this regulation, it is recommended to Committees to place all the food for sale with individuals of character, fixing prices for them sufficient to repay the first cost with all charges, and a commission allowance of 5 <i>l.</i> per cent. for storing and selling.
7699	Cork	Ferney, Castletyros Committee inquire as to the lowest price at which they would be justified in selling Indian meal. See Answer annexed.

III.—COMMUNICATIONS RELATIVE TO SEED RYE, BERE, AND BARLEY.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7722	Roscommon . . .	Telck Committee forward their Account of Expenditure to the 15th August last, and state that the people are anxious to obtain seed rye, &c. Account deposited, and its receipt noted on Registry of Grants, &c., for past season. Correspondent informed that the seed rye and bere purchased by Government are daily expected to arrive, but are retarded by unfavourable weather, having been shipped in sailing vessels; and that immediately on arrival the cost price and arrangements for distribution will be announced to the Relief Committees.
7697	Tipperary	Cashel Committee inquire when seed at first cost can be had. Same answer as in preceding case.

IV.—COMMUNICATIONS RELATIVE TO RELIEF COMMITTEES, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7759	Galway	Dunmore Committee inquire as to the fund whence secretaries are to be paid, &c. Acquainted that there is not any fund for paying the salary of secretary to a Relief Committee except the Relief Fund, so be formed in the manner pointed out by the printed Instructions.
7758	Westmeath	Mullingar, Lieutenant-Colonel Archer, Inspecting Officer of Committees, reports that he has taken such steps as will enable him to proceed on duty—inquires as to postage expenses; his letters to Committees he pre-pays. Suggests that Inspecting Officers should be furnished with lists of similar officers of Board of Works in each county, noting their stations; also constabulary lists, &c. Paper with the Commissary-General.
7775	Cork	Cork, Assistant Commissary-General Bishop, Inspecting Officer of Committees, inquires whether under the 4th and 6th rules of the Instructions, the central Committee for each barony in the county of Cork is to be a baronial one, or limited to a single district; and states that if a central Committee is established for each barony in the county Cork, 25 would be required.

Returned to Mr. Bishop with a memorandum by the Commissary-General, stating that the 6th rule of Instructions only refers to the continuance of the plan of central Com-

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

IV.—COMMUNICATIONS RELATIVE TO RELIEF COMMITTEES, &c.—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
		mittees, where they were formed in the past season, whether for a barony, more than a barony, or part of one. Also that the 4th rule prevents the formation of central Committees (not existing last season) by requiring the Committees to be reassembled. That the separate district Committees cannot now, therefore, be placed under central Committees.
7688	Wexford	Rathspeck Committee forward replies to queries with reference to their funds, &c. Deposited, and the requisition for account current issued.
7708	Roscommon	Foregny Committee. Chairman inquires whether the Secretaries of the Relief Committees are entitled to remuneration for their services. Informed that there is not any fund out of which the secretary of a Relief Committee can be remunerated except that to be formed for relief by local subscriptions, and a Government donation in aid, as pointed out by the printed Instructions.
7714	Tyrone	Tintons Committee. Deputy-Lieutenant of county states that an error appears in the notification of the person appointed as secretary to Tintons Committee, which he desires to rectify, viz., by requesting that Mr. Lindsay be substituted for "Mr. Buchanan," the party noted, as supposed, at the Commissariat office. Informed that Mr. Lindsay is the only person known at this office as secretary to the Tintons Committee.
7638	Queen's	Clewagh Committee. The Acting Lieutenant of county forwards a memorial of the Committee praying for a division of the barony of Maryborough West, into three Relief districts, and he requests to be informed of the answer he should give. The application is returned to the Acting Lieutenant of county, observing, that as the barony, notwithstanding its considerable extent, appears to contain but one parish and part of another, the Commissary-General is unable to suggest any other course than the formation of three sub-divisions with sub-Committees for two, consisting of members of the general barony Committee, which would assemble in the third division.
7754	Roscommon	Strokestown Committee inquire if any arrangement has been made by Government for payment of secretaries of Relief Committees. Informed that there is not any fund available for paying the secretary of a Relief Committee, or the Committee's contingent expenses, except the Relief Fund to be formed in the manner pointed out by the printed Instructions; and it is recommended to relieve the secretary from the labour of copying lists, which may be done by employing a clerk for the purpose occasionally.

V.—APPLICATIONS FOR BOOKS, PAPERS, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7737	Kerry	Lisnaveel Committee request a second registry of applicants for employment. Sent.
7736	Galway	Children Committee request registry for labourers. Sent.
7349	Mayo	Kilgrevy Committee request books, papers, &c. Already sent.
7749	Dublin	Ballybough. Correspondent requests copies of Treasury Minute of 31st August last. Sent.
7715	Waterford	Passage East Committee forward the sanction of Lieutenant of county for their operations, and the necessary books, &c., requested. Noted, and books, &c. sent.
7728 7757	Wexford	The Vice-Lieutenant of county acknowledges receipt of the appointment of Captain Stopford's appointment as Inspector of Committees for this county, and requests copies of the printed "Instructions to officers employed on inspection," for distribution among the 43 Committees of county. Informed that the copy of Instructions to Inspecting Officers was only sent for his private information as Vice-Lieutenant, and that it is not proposed to send copies to the Relief Committees.
7744	Galway	Barony of Dunella. Kilcloghan Committee. Secretary forwards resolutions appointing the members of the Committee, and notifies their reassembling. Resolutions returned for the approval of the Vice-Lieutenant of county.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS RELATIVE TO RELIEF COMMITTEES, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
2/1734	Tipperrary . . .	<p>Cloamel Committee.—Lieut.-Colonel Douglas states, that having attended this Committee, he was asked what was to be done with the destitute for whom employment could not be provided in the Public Works; and observed, that when subscriptions shall be raised, the Lord Lieutenant will add a donation in aid, and that no provision for the unemployed can be permitted out of such funds, until the workhouse is full. States that he found the members badly instructed as to the mode of registering applications for work, &c. Recommends that every member of a Committee be supplied with a copy of Instructions, which he will undertake to do in his progress, if supplied.</p> <p>Copies of Instructions to be sent to Colonel Douglas from time to time, as he proceeds, and he is written to accordingly with a present supply.</p>
1733	Tipperrary . . .	<p>Cloamel Committee.—A lieutenant on the local staff inquires if his attendance at meetings of the Committee is now required, as during the past season of distress.</p> <p>Informed that his attendance as a member of the Cloamel Relief Committee is not necessary now, as the Treasury has made another arrangement, owing to the inability of the staff-officers to attend, except occasionally.</p>

VI.—LOCAL RELIEF COMMITTEES, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
1703	Meath	<p>Nevan District.—Correspondent states, that having been appointed Chairman of a Relief Committee for this locality, he wishes the Committee should be duly legalized.</p> <p>Requested to apply to the Vice-Lieutenant of county now forming Committees for the county, pursuant to the direction of the Lord Lieutenant.</p>
1698	Galway	<p>Denmore Committee inquires if any funds is at the disposal of the Commissary-General for the payment of their secretary; also, if after the revision of labour lists, according to the 20th Article of Instructions to Committees, it is essential to forward new lists to the proper officers. Forms of Labour Lists are requested.</p> <p>Informed that there is not any fund for paying the salary of secretary except the Relief Fund, to be formed in the manner pointed out by the Instructions. Also, that the object of the revision of Work Lists, is to strike off persons who should not be further employed; which may be done in such way as the engineer of the district and the Committee shall arrange; and that the forms for the lists are provided by the engineers.</p>
1727.	Donegal	<p>Letterkenny Committee.—Vice-Lieutenant of county, in forwarding resolutions of this Committee, states that applications have been made to him, urging the advantages which would arise, were the present regulation of having two parishes united in one Relief District dispensed with, in which suggestion he concurs.</p> <p>This paper is returned to the Under-Secretary, with a memorandum by the Commissary-General, stating that the object of the regulation as to two parishes, is to associate the clergy and gentry of two localities, with a view of promoting the <i>bona fide</i> interests of the public, irrespective of parochial influences, and also to prevent the Relief Districts from being too numerous; but there are cases of exception, (exclusive of those provided for by the 4th Article of the Instructions,) where parishes may be of such great extent, that two cannot be conveniently united under one Committee. In such cases, a Central or General Committee may be formed, to assemble for the whole district, if necessary; and to form Sub-Committees of its members to act for each electoral division, in registering applicants for employment, preparing lists, &c.</p> <p>The paper is returned to the Commissary-General, with a minute, stating that His Excellency considers that the rule is not one which should in all cases be rigidly adhered to.</p>
17100	King's County . .	<p>Parsonsstown.—Correspondent inquires, if it is essential that the parties employed by Committees for making sales of food, should be persons who receive a commission; and avers that two gentlemen have offered their services in this capacity gratis.</p> <p>Informed that Committees are recommended to employ persons of character to sell the food provided with Relief Funds, and add 5<i>l.</i> per cent. to the price, to cover the charge for storing and selling. If, however, the Committee can get persons to take less, there is no objection; but the 5<i>l.</i> per cent. should be still charged in the price, as representing trade profit.</p>

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

VI.—LOCAL RELIEF COMMITTEE, &c.—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7702	Galway	Cloosheen Committee.—Correspondent states, that in accordance with the directions of the Vice-Lieutenant of the county, the several functionaries, &c., for a Relief Committee were nominated, but not having received a written notification to assemble, they are unwilling to do so, &c. Also, inquires as to the extent of the district for the operations of the Committee. Party referred for any information respecting the Committee to the Chairman, Richard D'Arcy, Esq., of Well Fort, Tuam, as the details are not known to the Commissary-General.
7618	Mayo	Kilalea Committee apply for stallocracy, &c. Informed that ordinary stallocracy, as applied for, is not provided for Relief Committees, but is to be purchased by them as it may be required, charging the expense and any other contingent outlay to the Relief Fund, provided in the manner pointed out by the printed Instructions.
7707	Donegal	Bunernan Committee inquire if the Relief Fund to be collected, together with the Lord Lieutenant's donation in aid, must be handed over to the Board of Works. Answered by stating that the Relief Fund to be formed, as proposed for Bunernan District, will remain at the disposal of the Relief Committee, to be applied conformably to the Government Instructions, a copy of which is enclosed.

VII.—COMMUNICATIONS RELATIVE TO PUBLIC RELIEF WORKS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7622	Antrim (Portloughane)	Inishrush Committee request forms for Labour Lists. Informed that these forms are provided by the local officers of Public Works, and not supplied from this office.
7747	Queen's	Dunrow Committee.—The inquiry of this Committee (7514), respecting a presentment passed at Ballyoolin Sessions, for the labour work only, of a National school-house having been referred by the Commissary-General to the Board of Works, it is stated in reply, that the Board are not authorized to undertake such works, by the Act 9 and 10 Vict., c. 107, and the parties are informed accordingly.
7759	Mayo	Switford Committee.—A memorial (7688) of this Committee, praying for an extension of the Relief Works in progress, having been referred by the Commissary-General to the Board of Works, was forwarded to the Board's local officer, who reported that "if the lists were duly scrutinized, and none but the persons really in want put on, the works would be sufficient for the present." The parties are accordingly supplied with an extract from the Officer's Report.
7705	Cavan	Lower Loughree Committee report that an incorrect practice exists in allocating the work tickets, &c. Forwarded to Board of Works, of which the parties are informed.
7739	Roscommon	Barony of Athlone, Taghassoneeli Committee.—The chairman inquires if persons having a cow, a few barrels of corn, and in some cases a horse, can be taken on the Public Relief Works; alleging that they will otherwise be reduced to extreme poverty, and unable to subsist. A copy is supplied to the Commissary-General for consideration.
7755	Londonserry	Magherafelt Committee request forms of registry of labourers. Informed that they are provided by the local officers of the Board of Works.
7750	Tyrone	Flintona Committee request forms as above. Similar reply.
7777	Donegal	Gienties.—Correspondent refers to his application to the Board of Works for employment as pay clerk, and now nominates his securities. Informed that the Commissary-General is not a member of the Board of Works, but will forward his letter to that Board for consideration.
7616	Donegal	Barony of Raphoe.—Committee draw attention to the necessity of commencing the Public Works for this barony in consequence of the number of persons, hitherto employed as farm servants, who have been thrown out of employment at the November term of hiring. See answer annexed.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

COMMUNICATIONS RELATIVE TO PUBLIC RELIEF WORKS—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
17709	Tipperary; Ardaraun district.	Clonmel.—Lieutenant-Colonel Douglas, inspecting officer, inquires whether each Relief District may monopolize the Public Works within it to the exclusion of others of another district, but within the same barony, and under the same presentment. See answer annexed.

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
37779	Tipperary	Clonmel.—Lieutenant-Colonel Douglas, inspecting officer, reports, that he has visited the Relief Works in county Waterford, baronies of Upperthird and Glenahairy, where the men earn from 10d. to 1s. per diem, but complained that their wages were a fortnight in arrear, &c.; will speak to the local engineer to encourage task work; also states, that he pointed out to the Clonmel Committee the folly of permitting so many labourers to throng the Public Works, as employment is thought preferable on railways than on Public Works; but the latter are sufficient. States that if rural labour be not promoted by proprietors aiding the efforts of the Committee, the consequences will be fearful; and concludes by observing that Committees generally require a continual repetition of every rule of the Instructions, to be made to them by the Inspecting Officers. Paper with Commissary-General.
7779	Waterford	Tallow.—Correspondent states that the milling power of the country is insufficient for the enormous supply of food essential for the wants of the people; and, therefore, proposes to import patent mills to be worked by a steam engine of a considerable horse-power, should the Commissary-General send to the district for grinding 20,000 to 40,000 barrels of Indian corn. Informed that at present there is not any prospect of necessity for employing mills in the county Waterford to prepare supplies of meal for the Government depôts.
7780	Kerry	Killorglin.—Correspondent forwards a letter of the parish priest representing extreme distress, and prays that Government will send immediate aid to the locality, as also afford the protection of a small military party for the Relief Committee's depôt at Killorglin. Acknowledged, returning enclosure and stating, that an order has been made for detaching an officer and 50 men to afford the protection required in Killorglin.
7716	Dublin; Barony New-castle.	Rathcoole Committee.—Names of members are forwarded. Books, &c., requested; and a list of subscriptions, amounting to 58 <i>l.</i> , is furnished, but stating that the amount will be considerably augmented. Acknowledged. Books, &c., forwarded, and the parties informed that when the further subscriptions expected shall be received, a grant in aid will be recommended on transmitting a list of the whole in the manner pointed out by the printed Instructions.
17798	Cork	Assistant Commissary-General Bishop, Inspecting Officer, requests to be permitted to obtain an official seal, and suggests that one be provided by himself, containing a crown, with the letters V.R., and the word Commissariat. Observes, <i>en passant</i> , that the local official reports from Skibbereen District are very appalling. Informed that the Commissary-General approves of his having a plain official seal prepared in Cork as suggested; also, that the Dublin accounts from Skibbereen are far from being so unfavourable as those he has heard. A printed copy of Mr. Ball's Report is transmitted, requesting that the appendix of any of the original Reports in his possession may be forwarded.
7661	Dublin	Correspondent forwards a copy of papers containing printed Instructions for making patents from Indian corn meal. Thanks conveyed, stating that these papers, with a few more copies, if he can supply them, will be distributed among the Inspecting Officers, who will draw attention to them at meetings of Relief Committees.

ENCLOSURE.

MR. STANLEY to the REV. JAMES DISNEY.

*Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
November 28, 1846.*

HAVING laid your letter of the 25th instant before Commissary-General Sir Randolph J. Routh, I have been directed to forward, for your information, a copy of the Instructions to Relief Committees, in which (Articles 25 to 27) the mode of obtaining a donation on local subscriptions is pointed out. I am also to draw your attention to the Treasury Minute of the 31st August last (copy inclosed), which requires, that all food provided with a Relief Fund to which a donation is made by Government, shall be sold at market prices.

This rule, which applies only to Relief Committees formed by direction of Government, is not intended to convey the opinion of the Government with respect to the application of charity funds in assisting the poor, but to restrict the Government Relief Committees from becoming administrators of relief in aid of wages (which was one of the most injurious forms of relief under the late English Poor-Law), and also to prevent an interference with trade prices, that would necessarily tend to check the competition on which the country must mainly depend for supplies.

The bunkarding of the Relief Funds also requires an observance of the rule; and your Committee cannot fail to consider it more conducive to the interests of the labouring population in the district to keep up a supply of food throughout the long term of distress now only commencing, and sell it at a fair trade price, instead of allowing the fund to be exhausted in affording a merely temporary assistance by selling under cost price.

Sales at reduced prices would necessarily invite a pressure that must soon exhaust the fund, and then the families so supplied would be in a worse condition than if the relief had not been afforded, as all extension of the trade supplies would have been discouraged, so that only a limited stock of food would remain for future subsistence.

It is recommended to your Committee to provide the cheapest kind of food available in the district, by which relief can be afforded without loss to the fund, and to place it for sale, with an individual of character, fixing the price for him, at an amount sufficient to repay the first cost, with all charges, and a commission allowance of 5*l.* per cent. for storing and selling.

MR. STANLEY to MR. O'SULLIVAN.

*Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
November 26, 1846.*

HAVING laid your letter of the 24th instant before Commissary-General Sir Randolph J. Routh, I am directed to state, that all Relief Committees are recommended to sell the food provided by them at prices sufficient to repay the first cost, with all charges, and 5*l.* per cent. in addition, for storing and selling. It is also recommended that the food should be placed with individuals of character, to be sold in this way, allowing them the commission of 5*l.* per cent.

MR. STANLEY to MR. KNOX.

*Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
November 27, 1846.*

REFERRING to your letter in which attention is drawn to the necessity of commencing the Public Works for the Barony of Raphoe, County Donegal, "in consequence of the number of persons, hitherto employed as farm servants, who have been thrown out of employment at the November term of hiring."

I am directed to suggest that application should be made for the purpose, in the first instance, to the engineer of the Board of Works now in the district, and subsequently, if necessary, to the Board of Works.

MR. STANLEY to LIEUT.-COLONEL DOUGLAS.

*Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
November 26, 1846.*

Commissary-General Sir Randolph J. Routh begs to state that he concurs in the opinion expressed in your letter of the 25th instant, that Relief Committees in the same barony are equally entitled to send applicants for employment to the Relief Works presented for it; but he recommends that the course indicated by the 18th Article of the printed Instructions be followed, namely, that the officer of Public Works should decide on the number to be employed from each Relief District, having reference to the extent of the population requiring relief.

The officer of the Board of Works should first call on each Committee for a certain number of labourers, and then issue tickets to the persons named in the Committees' lists.

TREASURY MINUTE to the above.

December 18, 1846.

Write to Sir R. Routh with reference to the following entry in the abstract of his correspondence from the 26th to the 28th November last, and desire that he will instruct the Inspecting Officers of the district to ascertain and report what the causes were which led to the persons referred to being thrown out of employment.

Number.	County.	
7616	Downal.	<i>Barony of Rathfriland.</i> —Committee draw attention to the necessity of commencing the Public Works for this Barony as soon as possible of the number of persons, hitherto employed as farm servants, who have been thrown out of employment at the November term of hiring.

Also state that the landlords and farmers concerned should be warned of the disastrous consequences to themselves and to their country of neglecting to take proper steps to ensure the cultivation of the land.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, December 14, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the weekly return of the Commissariat depots in Ireland, and also a statement of the amount of donations and of the sums subscribed up to the 12th instant.

7,119 11s. 0d.

ENCLOSURE.

DONATIONS issued under Authority of His Excellency the LORD LIEUTENANT to RELIEF COMMITTEES in aid of SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Date.	Name of Committee.	Amount of Donation.	Amount of Subscription.
1846.		£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Dec. 7 .	Amount brought forward	5,387 11 0	10,963 1 1
" 5 .	Turbot District, County Kerry	80 0 0	180 2 2
" 5 .	Marber District, County Kerry	85 0 0	169 19 0
" 5 .	Knockanure District, County Kerry	54 0 0	169 15 0
" 5 .	Ballylongford District, County Kerry	115 0 0	230 19 0
" 5 .	Kinsale District, County Cork	180 0 0	360 2 6
" 5 .	Collinstown District, County Westmeath	35 0 0	71 17 6
" 5 .	Castleblaney District, County Monaghan	172 10 0	345 15 0
" 5 .	Parsonstown District, King's County	200 0 0	400 0 0
" 8 .	Doneraile District, County Cork	189 0 0	378 3 0
" 10 .	Closhbroney District, County Longford	31 10 0	63 0 0
" 10 .	Skerin District, County Sligo	27 10 0	55 13 0
" 11 .	Kerry District, County Limerick	185 0 0	371 0 0
" 11 .	Blackrock and Stillorgan District, County Dublin	245 0 0	490 19 0
" 11 .	Dunmanagh District, County Tyrone	68 0 0	136 11 6
" 11 .	Carne and Lady's Island District, County Wexford	54 10 0	109 0 14
		7,119 11 0	14,435 17 10½

R. J. ROUTH, Commissary-General.

Dublin Castle, December 14, 1846.

WEEKLY STATE OF PROVISIONS, &c., in the several Depots in IRELAND, on the Evening of Saturday, the 12th December, 1846.

Depots.	Indian Corn in Quarters of Eight Bushels each.			Indian Corn Meal.		Oatmeal.	Biscuit.	Wheat-meal.	Barley Meal.	Rye.	Egyptian Wheat.
	In Port.	In Store.	With Milkers.	In Port.	In Store.						
				Sacks, 280 lbs.	Sacks, 280 lbs.						
Lisnack	7,190	29	..	..	..	..	..
Banagher	716	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kilrush	525	..	..	..	..	..	..
"Madagascar," on 5th December.	1,388	384	1,654	..	..	..	..
Haulbowline	*250	..	1,010	..	..	..	..
Skibbereen	964	..	659	..	..	..	..
Dingle	1,459	..	143	..	..	..	..
Calcuttine	222	..	1,363	..	..	..	..
Galway	3,147	9	10	..	..	..	..
Westport, on 5th December.	..	754	..	616	630	24	48	..	..	..	..
Clifden	8	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sligo	1,903	18	791	..	293	..	137	..	..	..	1,284
Bellina	360	..	..	..	..	..	..
Longford	138	106	864	..	407	..	..
Castlereagh	16	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rowanmore	16	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dublin	1,456	876	500	148	..	474	..
Killybegs	1,424	630	..	..	120	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dunkelagh	806	..	..	..	..	..	..
Burton Port	900	..	..	..	..	..	..
	3,327	1,402	791	616	20,809	1,515	6,951	148	407	474	1,284

SHIPMENTS during the Week.

Sligo to Burton Port	80 tons Indian meal.
Do. to Killybegs	14
	94 tons.

RECAPITULATION of REMAINS on 12th December, 1846.

5,480 quarters Indian corn, at 5 each	1,005 tons.
21,425 sacks Indian corn meal, at 8	2,678 1/2 "
1,518 sacks oatmeal, at 8	189 1/2 "
6,361 bags biscuit, at 20	318 1/2 "
148 sacks wheat meal, at 8	184 "
407 sacks barley meal, at 8	50 1/2 "
474 quarters rye, at 6	94 1/2 "
1,284 qrs. Egyptian wheat, at 5	256 1/2 "
On transit	94 "
Total	4,796 1/2 tons.

R. J. ROUTH, Commissary-General.

Dublin Castle, December 14, 1846.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin, December 14, 1846.

THE Lord Lieutenant has asked me to procure for him a hoghead of rice, or rather three to four cwt., to be shipped from Liverpool to Waterford per steamer. Will you have the goodness to ask Mr. Erichsen to undertake it. The account will be paid by his Lordship's agent, to whose care it is to be addressed at Pelitown, Waterford. I enclose the memorandum which he gave me.

You will see by our return to-day our remains are about 4800 tons. We began last season our issues on 22nd May with about 8000 tons, and on the 20th July we should have exhausted it but for the purchases then made. It is true, it was

* For shipment, per "Des" steamer, to Castletown Buxhaven.

more divided than it is this year, and a subdivision of stores always requires a larger stock. I think there are still some large cargoes in the large towns in the North of the United States, which will reach us this winter, and we shall get some further supply from the Southern States; but I think we ought to have 8000 tons at least, and we might lodge 2000 tons, or more, at Haulbowline, rather than engage more store room. We have still the "Manchester" to expect at Galway, and the "Lee," and there may be something on its way from Malta. There will be a severe pull on us in February and March and April, and you cannot expect the spring arrivals before the end of May.

It is impossible yet to form a judgment, but I much doubt if we shall keep our depôts closed after the 15th January, or at furthest the 1st February.

Deputy-Assistant Commissary-General GEM to Deputy Commissary-General
DORRIS.

Burtonport, December 14, 1846.

THE only thing I fear is, that the people might be irritated when in a starving condition, as they are at this moment, if they saw meal in our stores and not issued to them. I must beg to call your attention to the fact, that the people here at Dungloe, and all around, are almost in a state of starvation. The roads to Letterkenny and Stranoclar, through the mountains, are nearly impassable from the very deep falls of snow, and carts that went to the former place for meal were obliged to return, they not being able to get any. I think that some issues ought to be made to the wretched people.

The Island of Arramore is even worse than the main land. If the Committees have been able to make any subscriptions, I suppose our issues will not long be delayed.

The people here are certainly depending on our issues, and are actually in the first stage of famine. If we keep stores of meal here without issuing, I could not answer for what a famished multitude would do.

SIR R. ROUTH to MR. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, December 15, 1846.

I FIND myself obliged to issue about 560 sacks of Indian corn meal from Banagher. It was one of the heated cargoes last summer, and was ground at Banagher by Coffin's orders, but not kiln dried. It is good now, but it has a very slight bitter flavour, the result of the corn having been heated. It is still very saleable, but it would not be safe to keep it, and I have given orders to dispose of it.

I wish you would consider that little important word *quantity*. When the seed is put into the ground there will be no farm labour, and the demand from the Committees will be very great. February, March, April, and nearly the whole of May will be severe months, and no home produce of any moment to rely upon. I think we ought not to start with a *less* quantity than 8000 tons, and that quantity last year only lasted two months. The trade is more alive to the demand this year, and will furnish their share, but I cannot estimate any less quantity for those four months than what I have named.

You will observe that the two depôts of Clifden and Belmullet are such unusual ports of consignment, that they will depend nearly altogether on us, and I recommend Messrs. Erichsen to prepare a second cargo like those (at least in quantity) now on their voyage, but not arrived.

Pray inform me if the barley meal and the whole wheaten meal consigned to me are kiln-dried.

I beg also you will have the goodness to consider Hanibowline as a good reserve depôt for a quantity from 2000 to 4000 tons as required.

We shall be quite ready at three days' notice to make up the estimate to 31st December, twenty-four hours after we receive the accounts to that date. On all these points we have the reins in hand.

Mr. Labouchere was speaking to me of the intention to make a large subscription in London and England generally, adding that it was his opinion that such subscriptions should be confided to and distributed by a Local Committee assembled in Dublin, and quoting the same course adopted last year in the distribution of the Indian funds. I believe that these funds were distributed to the Committees, and added to the Committee Fund, but I never heard that any account was required or rendered. I confess therefore that I think its distribution through a Government channel, by which this accountability could be ensured, and a certain superintendence or rather surveillance exercised, would be a safer course and more likely to reach the object of the subscriptions.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Castle, Dublin, December 15, 1846.

I SEND you enclosed the additional instruction to Committees, ordered by the Lord Lieutenant and Mr. Labouchere, which has this minute been received from the printer's.

ENCLOSURE.

ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS TO COMMITTEES.

IN consequence of the applications in many Unions of destitute persons to workhouses which are unable to receive them, and the want which prevails generally amongst the population of those districts where the poor-houses are full, his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant is desirous of giving a more extended encouragement to subscriptions made in such localities; and, where the circumstances of the case warrant his doing so, the Commissary-General will be authorised to recommend, on the usual application, a sum not exceeding the amount subscribed, having reference to the extent of destitution in each district.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

December 15, 1846.

We entirely approve of your circular letters on this subject to the Relief Committees and Inspecting Officers; but other final instructions, comprehending all that has since been suggested which it would be advisable to adopt, should be prepared when you have come to an understanding with the Board of Works as to the agency to be employed.

We have arranged with Lord Auckland that the "Stromboli" and "Rhodamantus"—reinforced, if necessary, by sailing-vessels—should be employed in conveying the produce of the Admiralty and other mills to the points at which it is required in Ireland and Scotland, and believing that an early supply of meal would be acceptable for your depôts from Skibbereen upwards, I will at once

request his Lordship to have the "Stromboli" laden with a portion of the meal we have ready at Plymouth, and to send her on this service; and I shall be obliged to you to inform me, *by return of post*, in what proportions you would wish it to be left at the different depots.

Pray also inform me specifically what qualities of meal you wish to have sent to different depots on the western coast, and which depots you wish to be supplied first.

You will be glad to see, from a communication from Mr. Ibbetson, a copy of which I send you to-day, that the first ship load of meal from the Malta mills may shortly be expected in the "Shannon."

Mr. Coreoran brought me to-day the French hand-mill which I ordered some time ago, and I requested him to send it you at once by a steamer about to start. It throws off a larger quantity of flour than any I have seen yet, and works easily with two men. If you have any orders for local Committees, you cannot do better than to get them executed through Mr. Coreoran.

The last being a local scarcity, we were able to keep down prices by pouring in the abundance of other quarters; but this being general, if prices were artificially lowered, the result would be a rapid consumption of our insufficient stock of food, which would lead to much worse consequences hereafter.

To recur to the subject of the Relief Works, we are inclined to think that it would not be advisable to allow the names of persons leaving the Public Works to attend to the cultivation of the land to be retained on the list, and that if they are subsequently employed, it should be a matter of separate consideration, according to the circumstances of the time.

Any person refusing to work for the farmers, when offered the same rate of wages as in the Public Works, or having left another employment without permission, should certainly be immediately discharged.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, December 16, 1846.

I BEGIN to see that the plan of inspecting officers will throw a vast accumulation of correspondence upon me, which I hope I may be able to meet. It is impossible to send you the letters as I have done; they must remain here one or two days. In the midst of all this I must be careful that it does not draw me too much away from the Commissariat part of my duties, which must be first attended to, and I must confess I have my apprehensions about quantity. The want of shipping is so great in the United States that they never will have the means of sending the half of what they could supply. Have we no old 74's that might be employed for a trip on such a duty. Some unusual step must be taken to prevent our being surprised by a real famine. To be secure against such a calamity, no one would complain even if our pledge were partially infringed. With 4,800 tons in store, I am really afraid of the result. Pray, therefore, do not think me importunate or troublesome if I repeat to you my anxiety to see a further reserve of as much more in the naval magazines at Haulbowline.

I was much pleased to hear that the Treasury were going to advance money to proprietors to improve their own estates. This is meeting the danger in face, and I shall be most anxious to see the terms. I am very much pleased with this decision.

I know nothing of the person employed in County Kerry that you speak of. We have only three persons employed, who had been previously serving with Mr. Hewitson—Mr. Hughes, whom you know, and Mr. Hill, employed last season at Cork, and Mr. Nash, who was in a merchant's counting house at Cork; and C. C. McClinton goes down to-morrow night from my office to take charge at Cusleton Beerhaven.

All our out-ports are now complete, except to prepare military protection in

County Donegal. I presume you approve of the course adopted last year of appointing the temporary clerks at 5s. locally; and if in this or in any other way I am overstepping your intentions, pray inform me at once that I may desist, for the last thing I wish is patronage.

I have just been called by Mr. Labouchere, who is very anxious about the reports from Skibbereen, and desired me to add a 100*l.* to the Ceylon subscription, and to apply it at once to the relief of the poor in such charitable means as can be suggested. I write, therefore, this night to Commissary-General Hewetson to detach Mr. Inglis to Skibbereen, where he will meet Captain Reid, to whom I also write, and, in conjunction with Mr. Hughes, to organize a plan for the relief of the distress, and to remain there until it is organized; and I have written to Captain Reid to proceed to Baltimore, Skull and Crookhaven, and in like manner to relieve the destitution there. Both Mr. Inglis and Captain Reid are to report daily, as well as Mr. Hughes, on the departure of the former, and Mr. Hughes is exactly the man to be useful on such occasions.

MR. TREVELYAN TO SIR R. ROYAL.

Treasury, December 18, 1846.

MR. ADAMS presented himself at the Treasury yesterday, and will proceed to Ireland after he has undergone a short preparation. I expect that he will render you valuable assistance, and I think your plan is to keep him at head quarters to support you in conducting your immensely voluminous correspondence.

Another officer, Captain Bellew, late of the East India Company's service, has been recommended by Lord Lansdowne, and will proceed to Dublin, to place himself under your orders as soon as he has read the correspondence.

I now proceed to notice the remarks in your letters of the 12th, 15th, and 16th instant, in the order in which they occur.

Three hundred and seventy tons of barley meal are now being shipped to Dublin, over and above the supplies destined for that port, of which you had received advice when you wrote your letter to me of the 12th instant; and as freight had been already engaged for this additional quantity by ordinary Dublin traders, who would not undertake the voyage to the western coast of Ireland, their destination could not be changed. You will, I hope, be able to store the whole at Banagher and Longford, which may then be considered as safe for some time to come, or, at the worst, a portion of it may remain for a time at Dublin.

I have already stated to you the objection to our storing meal at Haulbowline. If we were prepared to undertake the responsibility of supplying that part of Ireland, it would be a convenient arrangement, but as it is, it would inevitably place us in a false and painful position. Deptford, and still more, Portsmouth and Plymouth, are, with the assistance of the Admiralty steamers, available as store-houses, and then there are the store ships on the west of Ireland, which, excepting the one in the Shannon, are not yet filled, and our store-houses on shore which may be increased, if necessary.

I have requested Mr. Erichsen to send another cargo of a hundred tons of Indian meal from Plymouth to Clifden, and the same to Belmullet, and if there should be a difficulty in obtaining shipping at Plymouth, other measures will immediately be taken for the same purpose.

I await the intimation of your wishes regarding the "Rhadamanthus," and if Clifden and Belmullet may be considered as having been sufficiently supplied for the present, by the two cargoes already sent, and the two additional cargoes now about to be sent, this large steam-vessel will be able to leave supplies at any of the other minor depôts at which they may be immediately required. The arrangements made for the supply of the Scotch depôts, will, I hope,

place us at ease in regard to them for some time to come, in which case the "Rhodamanthus" and "Stromboli" will be appropriated to carrying meal from Plymouth to your depôts.

The whole of the barley meal and wheaten meal consigned to you is kiln dried.

You ask me to consider that important word "quantity." I can assure you that it has occupied our anxious attention ever since the commencement of our operations. Our own purchases have, as I have more than once informed you, been carried to the utmost limit, short of seriously raising the price in the London market; and the quantity secured is so large, that it must have had this effect, if we had not carefully watched our opportunities, and availed ourselves of every opening which enabled us to forward our object without acting directly upon prices.

You have 4800 tons in store, and you will see from the accompanying estimate that you may expect about 2770 tons more in the course of the next month; making altogether 7570 tons, besides the current produce of our mills, which I calculate at about 1000 tons a month, but as this is divided between Scotland and Ireland, you must not expect the whole of it.

You observe that you ought not to open your depôts with a less quantity than 8,000 tons, that that quantity last year only lasted two months, and that February, March, April, and nearly the whole of May, will be severe months.

If we open our depôts in the unrestricted manner we did last year, five times the above-mentioned quantity would not be sufficient to prevent them from becoming prematurely exhausted, leaving the people to all the horrors of a real famine, unmitigated by the degree of private exertion which would have taken place if we had not interfered.

It is to be feared, that although February, March, April, and May, will be severe months, June, July, and August will be severer still.

These opinions are founded partly upon our experience last year, and partly upon the numerous indications which reach us on the best official and other authority from various parts of Ireland; and as the experience of the past is a matter of positive fact and certainty, I have had those parts of the printed correspondence which bear upon this part of the subject selected and reprinted, and I will shortly send copies for your use, and that of your principal officers.

As the great pressure upon our depôts last season, took place in the months of June and July, I presume that in excepting these months from those which require the most serious attention, you are influenced by the expectation of the arrival of large supplies from America.

That large supplies will arrive, there can be no doubt; but on the other hand, the almost entire destruction of the accustomed food of four or five millions of people, is a new phenomenon, the effects of which have yet to be seen. A small country like Holland, may derive great part of its sustenance from abroad, but as some of the gentlemen in the North of Ireland have lately remarked at their meetings, for a numerous people like the Irish to be fed from foreign countries, is a thing unheard of. I hope it may turn out on trial to be easier than I expect, but my fears are stronger than my hopes.

The ordinary mercantile machinery even of the greatest trading nation in the world, is unequal to such a novel emergency, as is proved by the quantity of corn stored at Odessa, New York, and elsewhere, for the conveyance of which to Ireland ships cannot be obtained; and will it be much better in the spring, in the face of the competition of the spring trade? And even supposing it to have arrived on the shores of Ireland, in sufficient quantity, can it be brought into consumption in all the different parts of the interior in sufficient time to meet the wants of the people?

The ordinary social machinery by which the necessary supplies of food are distributed in other countries is, as you well know, lamentably deficient in Ireland; but the only available means of gradually creating such a machinery have been adopted by the establishment of Relief Committees to provide food in each locality, and sell it in detail at not less than cost price.

The practical conclusion is, that you must carefully watch the sales from our depôts and keep them under an effectual check, taking care, in every possible case, to adhere to the rule of placing the local Committees between us and the people, in order to prevent that direct pressure of the populace upon our stores which must speedily exhaust them, and to draw out the resources of

the country before we make our own issues. In the execution of this important duty you must be prepared to act with great firmness and to incur much obloquy; but you should remember that, while others only look to their immediate wants, you are bound to look to the future, and that any present abuse that may be heaped upon you is as nothing compared to the just reprehension to which you would be liable, both on the part of Government and the public, if you were to allow your depots to become exhausted. Any dole, however inadequate, would be better than immediate sufficiency followed by subsequent total destitution.

These principles must be kept in view in reference to what is now going on at Skibbereen, for if we were to commence by a lavish issue there, we might find it difficult to adopt a safe course elsewhere.

We attach the highest public importance to the strict observance of our pledge, not to send orders abroad which would come into competition with our merchants and upset all their calculations.

I am happy to inform you that another Admiralty steamer, the "Birkenhead," much larger than either the "Stromboli" or "Rhodamanthus," will be placed at our disposal for the conveyance of our meal; and these three will be more than sufficient to convey, with remarkable promptness and certainty, the whole produce of our naval and other mills in this country to the places at which it may be required in Ireland and Scotland.

Captain Hamilton is to send me a naval officer, Captain Baynton, ordinarily employed in the Admiralty surveys, who, he says, is well qualified to assist us in Ireland, as one of your inspecting officers.

The estimate we want is one precisely similar to that furnished to Parliament at the close of last session, carrying on that estimate from the 15th of last August to the 15th of next August. Pray let me have this as soon as you can, according to the best data at your disposal.

I have continued to forward the plan of a private subscription, as far as it lay in my power, both in Ireland and England, and Sir George Grey has rendered his more powerful assistance; I think it will be brought to bear. The only point on which I am disposed to modify my opinion, is that instead of the produce of the subscription being handed over to you at once, to be distributed by you among the Relief Committees where it is most required, I think it must be placed by a Committee, to be formed for the purpose in London, at the disposal of another independent Committee in Dublin, to be dealt with by them as may be arranged between the two Committees; but I have no doubt that the money will be actually appropriated according to your advice, with reference to the information centralised in your office from all parts of the country, almost as much as if it were handed over to you in the first instance; this modification of my opinion, I need not add, is not in the least owing to any doubt of your being equal to the task, but to a more full consideration of the nature of such a private subscription, and of the established practice on such occasions.

Deputy-Assistant Commissary-General GEM to Deputy Commissary-General
DOUBKE.

Burtonport, December 16, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that the distress of the wretched people here is heart-rending. Something ought to be done for them; they can get nothing to purchase. The carters have stopped bringing supplies. If I had authority, I could sell the Indian corn as fast as the meal, there absolutely being nothing in the place for food. The people in Arramore Island are living on seaweed. I suggest that the "Warrior," on her arrival (she left this harbour this morning), be dispatched here with meal for the relief of the people. The roads through the mountains are nearly impassable.

It strikes the people as being very unfeeling on our part to keep corn in the store without issuing it; of course the reason is obvious, that it is not good policy to issue except from full stores. I am endeavouring, as far as I can, to convince them of this, but I have found that a man with an empty stomach will not reason soundly.

I hope I may soon get authority to issue. I would think little of my trouble if, by issuing from morning until night, I could relieve their distress.

Captain HAMILTON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Admiralty, December 16, 1846.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to state, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, that the "Rhadamanthus" steam-vessel has been ordered to proceed from Woolwich to Portsmouth and Plymouth, for the purpose of receiving on board Indian corn meal, or other provisions, and to convey them to Tolermory, in the Isle of Mull; and my Lords request to know whether any further supplies are to be sent from Plymouth to Scotland, in order that Her Majesty's steam vessels "Stromboli" and "Rhadamanthus" may be sent back to Plymouth to receive it on board.

TREASURY MINUTE ON the above.

December 18, 1846.

WRITE to the Secretary of the Admiralty that their Lordships are of opinion that the "Stromboli" and "Rhadamanthus" should be entirely appropriated to the conveyance to Ireland and Scotland of the meal ground at the Admiralty mills at Deptford, Portsmouth, and Plymouth, and at the private mills which have been hired on or near the River Thames, and that the above-mentioned vessels should, if possible, be reinforced by another powerful steamer; and that as soon as any of these vessels have delivered a cargo, they should immediately return to take another; and that as Portsmouth and Plymouth are nearest to the points to which the meal has to be conveyed, and mercantile freight is more difficult to be procured there, the meal in store at those places should be taken by the Admiralty vessels in preference to that in store at the mills on the Thames.

Request that if the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty should see no objection, they will make arrangements accordingly.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

COMMUNICATION referred to by the UNDER SECRETARY FOR IRELAND to the COMMISSARY-GENERAL, from the 30th November to 2nd December, 1846.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
D 8812	Cork	<p>Kilboline Committee forward resolutions to the effect:—That if the Public Works presented were now put in progress, relief would be afforded to the able-bodied, but many aged and infirm left destitute; and that, as foreign supplies cannot arrive for six weeks, and subscriptions sufficient to meet the wants of the people cannot be raised, the Committee call upon Government to purchase and distribute provisions, suggesting that mortgagees and annuitants should be made to bear a just proportion of the expenses of the relief measures.</p> <p>Informed that the attention of the Board of Works has been drawn by the Under Secretary to the resolution with respect to the employment of persons for whom it is necessary, but that funds have not been placed at the disposal of Government for gratuitous distribution, either in money or food, as the Committee propose; and that, in the present state of the law, mortgagees and annuitants cannot be made to participate in the expense of the relief measures.</p>

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

RETURN of CORRESPONDENCE from 30th November to 2nd December, 1845, both days inclusive.

I.—APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7750	Mayo, Barony of Tirawley . . .	Ballina Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 500 <i>l.</i> 15 <i>s.</i> , and solicit a grant in aid. 150 <i>l.</i> recommended.
7751	Galway, Barony of Ballinacloch . . .	Ballinacloch Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 50 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> , and solicit a grant in aid. 25 <i>l.</i> recommended.
7340	Cavan, Barony of Tollymore . . .	Upper Larch Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 33 <i>l.</i> 5 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> , and solicit a grant in aid. 16 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> recommended.
7752	Kildare, Barony of East Offaly . . .	Kildare Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 33 <i>l.</i> 4 <i>s.</i> , and solicit a grant in aid. 16 <i>l.</i> recommended.
7750	Donegal, Barons of Boylagh and Benagh	Larne and Lower Killybegs Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions, amounting to 13 <i>l.</i> 15 <i>s.</i> , and solicit a grant in aid. 6 <i>l.</i> 6 <i>s.</i> recommended.
7307	Wexford	Ballymore Committee forward a resolution requesting to be informed whether a second donation is made on collection of additional subscriptions.
<p>Attention is drawn to the 25th, 26th, and 27th articles of the printed instructions, which point out the mode of obtaining a donation on local subscriptions collected for the present period of distress, and to be applied conformably with the instructions; observing that when additional subscriptions are collected after a donation has been obtained, neither will be recommended on transmission of a further subscription list.</p>		
7792	Kildare, Barony of East Offaly . . .	Clooney Committee, stating that in proposing to employ the subscriptions collected in providing meal for sale at 3 <i>d.</i> per stone under market price; they did not consider that this is prohibited by the Treasury Minute of 31st August last, having understood the words "as nearly as possible to market prices" therein, to imply that there might be a moderate reduction in the price, and therefore pray that their inadvertent error will not disqualify them to a donation, as granted in other cases.
<p>Informed that in every case a Relief Committee, on receiving a grant, is apprised that it is made on condition that the whole Relief Fund shall be applied in strict conformity to the printed instructions; also, that the Commissary-General is prepared to recommend a donation, upon the same condition, in aid of the Committee's fund, on being apprised that the fund will be applied as the Government regulations require.</p>		
7377	Waterford	Wilton Committee.—The chairman having on the 19th ultimo notified the House of the Committee, and requested that a donation then recommended might, when sanctioned, be remitted to himself, and a receipt having been since forwarded, signed by the chairman of the day, a letter is written to his lordship, inquiring whether the money should be issued according to this receipt or as at present proposed.
7176	King's	Geashill Committee forward a resolution with respect to the sale of meal, giving Sub-Committees authority, in cases of entire destitution, to issue meal without payment, and enquiring if they are therefore precluded from obtaining a donation in aid of local subscriptions.
<p>The attention of the Committee is drawn to the 25th, 26th, and 27th articles of the printed instructions, also to the Treasury Minute of 31st August last (enclosed), by which it will be observed (at A) that all food provided with a fund to which Government may contribute must be sold at the market price, and stating that it is therefore recommended to Committees to buy the cheapest kind of food, and resort to such other means as they can apply for placing subsistence within reach of labourers' earnings; also, to have the food so provided placed with individuals of character, for sale at prices fixed for them sufficient to repay the first cost, with all charges, including a commission allowance of 5<i>d.</i> per cent. for storing and selling. That, with respect to the gratuitous relief, it can only be given when the Union workhouse is full, and then only to the <i>deserving poor</i>, on proof of actual inability to perform a task of labour in any way.</p>		
7206	Mayo	Barriskane Committee state that they have collected 25 <i>l.</i> , and solicit a grant in aid. The attention of the Committee is directed to articles 25, 26, and 27 of the printed instructions, pointing out the mode in which a donation is to be obtained on local subscriptions to be applied conformably to the Regulations.
7177	Roscommon	Ballinacree Committee solicit aid towards their funds, &c. Reference made to the instructions, as in foregoing case, observing that a donation cannot in any case exceed one half of the amount subscribed, or be given except in aid of subscriptions collected for the present period of distress, to be applied conformably with the instructions.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

I.—APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7819	Queen's	Dunow Committee solicit a grant in aid of 150 <i>l.</i> to be applied in purchasing Indian corn meal for distribution among the most destitute poor. Informed that they can employ the Relief Fund, when augmented by a Government donation, in giving gratuitous relief to the actually infirm poor while the workhouse of the Union is full; referred to an enclosed copy of the Instructions, also of the Treasury Minute of 31st August last, and apprised that a donation will be recommended on the transmission of a subscription list in the way required, if the Committee will undertake to apply the fund conformably to the regulations of Government.
7821	Cork	Cheskill Committee inquire with respect to the donation in aid of local subscriptions. Informed, with an apology for delay, that the donation on local subscriptions cannot exceed the ratio of one-half; referred to the Instructions, also the Treasury Minute of 31st of August last, and apprised that on transmission of a list of subscriptions a grant will be recommended, on condition that the fund shall be applied conformably with the regulations, which admit of gratuitous relief to the actually infirm poor, when the workhouse is full and no task of labour can be performed.
7832	Treasury Chambers .	Notification of a reply to the Borden Relief Association.
7813	Tipperary	Tipperary Committee inquire whether gratuitous relief given to the actually destitute while the Union workhouse is full disentitles them to Government aid to their subscriptions. Informed that gratuitous relief given to the actually infirm poor while the workhouse is full will not preclude the Committee from obtaining a grant on local subscriptions, but that the Treasury Minute of 31st August last requires the food provided with Relief Funds to be sold at market prices, and that if the Committee will undertake to conform to the Government regulations, a donation will be recommended.

II.—APPLICATIONS RELATIVE TO DEPOTS, MEAL, FOOD, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7796	Galway	Cliffen Committee inquire if they can be supplied with Indian corn meal from the Commissariat depot, or if the food will be purchased elsewhere for the Committee, to be paid for on delivery. See answer annexed.
7811	Galway	Cliffen Committee request an issue of about 30 tons of wheaten or other meal. Deposited with the preceding letter.
7818	Sligo	Upper half Barony of Leshy.—Committee forward a resolution, proposing that meal be stored by Government at Tubbercurry, as a reserve in case of snow. See answer annexed.
7790	Longford	Lanesboro' Committee complain that the local Commissary officer refuses to take back the unsound portion of a ton of biscuit bought at the Longford depot. Requested to apply again to Deputy Assistant Commissary-General Campbell, at Longford.
7809	Sligo	Lieutenant of county recommends that supplies be kept up in the depôts at Sligo and Ballina, County Mayo. Referred to the arrangements which must be perceived to be in progress, and which it is hoped will satisfy him that it is fully intended to provide in both places the means of assisting local exertions in supplying food; but observing that it is, at the same time, to be borne in mind that the Government depôts are only intended as auxiliaries, not as the chief source of maintenance for the population; so that all available local means of meeting the present exigency must be employed with as much energy as the occasion requires.
7564	Galway	Grazzias, &c., Islands.—Correspondent recommends that a depot be established at the Killeen Commissary Barrack or the latter more Coast Guard Station, for supplying the islands and coasts of Aikerran Bay. Informed that it is not in contemplation to form a depot in those places, and that the Relief Committee should employ whatever funds can be collected, either by subscriptions or loans, in providing a supply of food, to be sold at prices which will maintain the fund undiminished, and enable the Committee to use it constantly through the period of distress in purchasing successive supplies of food.
7165	Kerry	Valencia Committee urge the necessity of issuing food for the poor of this island from the Commissariat depot at Caheriveen. Informed that the depôts on the Kerry coast are not yet complete, but that Commissary-General Hewson being charged with the depot arrangements for Limerick, Clare, and Kerry, no application should be made to him, by the Committee, at Limerick.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

II.—APPLICATIONS RELATIVE TO BEPOTS, MEAL, FOOD, &c.—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7171 } 7071 }	Wexford	Gorry Committee request instructions as to arrangements proposed by them for assisting persons to purchase food whose earnings are not sufficient to provide the quantity requisite for their families. Informed that this proposed arrangement involves a gratuitous distribution of the Relief Fund, and a system of task-work is suggested as preferable.

III.—COMMUNICATIONS RELATIVE TO BEER, BARLEY, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
6822	Galway, Barony of } Ballymoe }	Templetogether Committee.—Chairman transmits a return of the extent of land now in preparation for sowing seed rye, &c. Noted on Abstract of Returns.
7202	Kerry	Kenmare Committee forward a resolution conveying their opinion that 1560 <i>l.</i> worth of seed rye and barley, if imported into Kenmare, would be readily purchased at cost price. Noted on Abstract of Returns.
7530	Clare	Kilrush Committee inquire as to the price of rye and seed bere, and also to whom it will be assigned. Informed that the seed rye and bere, purchased by Government, have not yet arrived, as they appear to have been shipped in sailing vessels, which are delayed by unfavourable weather, but that immediately on their arrival, the cost price and arrangements for distribution will be announced.
7347	Limerick, barony } Lower Connello . }	Croagh Committee inquire as to the price of rye and bere, and if 300 or 400 stones would be sent to the district. Similar answer as in preceding case.
7303	Clare	Shanille-bridge Committee request 300 stones of bere, and 100 stones of rye, with as little delay as possible. Informed as in preceding cases.
7647	Donegal	Inver Committee apply for seed rye for 471 statute acres now in a state of preparation, and inquire whether payment will be required on delivery. Answered as in other cases, observing that the seed cannot be issued on credit.
7754	Galway	Innescultra Committee apply for seed bere and rye, and complain of delay. Delay explained as in preceding cases.
7175	Fermanagh	Lurg Committee forward a resolution applying for a supply of seed rye, &c. Usual answer.
7789	Cork	Kilmoe Committee inquire whether seed corn will be supplied, and on what terms. Usual answer.
7180	Limerick	Ballyeshane Committee state that the people are much dissatisfied at the delay made in forwarding the seed rye and bere. Usual answer.
7817	Laltrim	Carrigulla Committee forward a resolution applying for the seed rye, &c., required for the district. Usual answer.
7811	Donegal	Faneel Committee apply for a second registry book, and request if any of the seed rye, &c., purchased by Government, will be given to the district. Informed that the additional registry book required is dispatched. Usual answer as to the seed.
7782	Sligo	Killaragh Parish Committee request attention to their former application for seed rye, &c. Usual answer as in preceding cases.
7545	Galway	Kilcomash Committee inquire as to the cost price of the seed rye, bere, &c., and if the supplies required will be delivered at Ballinasloe. Like answer to those in preceding cases.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

IV.—LOCAL COMMITTEES, DISTRICTS, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7166	Tyrone	Leekpatrick Committee request to be permitted to act for parish of Leekpatrick alone.
7654	Queen's	Deposit, the arrangement proposed having been made. Maryborough East Committee inquire as to the salary of Secretary, the fund, and the amount. Informed that it is left to each Relief Committee to determine whether any salary should be given to a secretary, or whether the duty may not be performed by a member of the Committee, if allowed the occasional assistance of a copying clerk; also apprised, that any salary given can only be paid out of a Relief Fund to be formed in the manner pointed out by the printed Instructions, there being no other source from which it can be drawn.
4875	Down, Barony of Mourne	Kilkeel District.—Lieutenant of county transmits a list of the Committee for this district; reserves the printed form of return of Committees appointed until others are formed in the County Down, and inquires if he has acted properly. Informed that the names of the chairman and secretary of the Mourne Committee (Kilkeel) have been registered in this office as supplied in the list transmitted, which therefore is returned as a paper necessary for the chairman (if not already supplied with a copy), and observing that it will only be requisite to send to this office, from time to time, the names of the chairman and secretaries on the forms provided for that purpose.
7796	Cork	Magourney (Couchford). A voluntary Relief Committee formed in this parish apply for a soup boiler gratis, or funds to purchase one. This application, addressed to the Poor Relief Committee for Ireland, having been sent to the Commissary-General, it is acknowledged, stating that as there appear to be several voluntary associations for affording relief at present, the one for which the application is intended cannot be distinguished by the address given; it is suggested to address the Committee through the secretary, and with this view references are supplied for guidance.
7301	Kilkenny	Borough of Kilkenny.—Correspondent furnishes the name of the chairman and secretary of a Committee put in nomination by the Mayor of Kilkenny, for the Borough of Kilkenny. The parties are requested to forward to the Vice-Lieutenant of the City of Kilkenny (W. F. Tigue, Esq., of Woodstock)—a list of the Relief Committee for the city constituted in the past season, as his sanction is necessary for its being reassembled, pursuant to the Treasury Minute of 31st August last, a copy of which is inclosed. A communication for the latter object is also made to the Vice-Lieutenant.
4/7801	Tipperary	Clonmel Committee.—Lieut. Colonel Douglas reports the result of his attendance at a meeting of the Committee. Original with Commissary-General.
5/7802	Tipperary	Ardinna Committee.—Lieut. Colonel Douglas reports upon the proceedings of this Committee the difficulty of raising Relief Funds, the necessity of rural labour, of discouraging the pressure on Public Works, utility of Loan Funds, employment of women, &c. Originals with Commissary-General.
6/7812	Tipperary	Clonmel District.—Lieut. Colonel Douglas requests copies of all his Reports to Commissary-General; would wish for weekly abstracts of the number of paupers in the various Unions, which would cause the people to look beyond their own locality, &c. The people of Cashel are clamorous, their wages on Public Works being in arrears. Original with Commissary-General.
87840	Tipperary	Claghkeen District.—Lieut. Colonel Douglas reports on state and appearance of the district. States that the books of the Committee have been correctly kept, and that a subscription list is about to be opened to sell food at a fair price. The Committee ask to have the men's wages raised from 16d. to 1s. per diem; referred them to Board of Works. Is informed that the great bulk of the home supply is in the hands of corn merchants. The oat crop is bad, and the state of the population wretched. Is informed on good authority that one third the usual quantity of wheat is not sown this year in the four surrounding baronies. Original with Commissary-General.
9/7841	Tipperary	Claghkeen District.—Lieut. Colonel Douglas reports that the plundering of shops by the unemployed is likely to be repeated in the absence of instant employment. That the Committee consider the employment of 600 persons, in addition to 370 already on the Public Works, as imperative.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

IV.—LOCAL COMMITTEES, DISTRICTS, &c.—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
2 7842	Westmeath . . .	Mullingar.—Lieut.-Colonel Archer, Inspecting Officer, reports, that the Committee having written to Board of Works, relative to the cutting of the Hill of Kenay, Barony of Moyasbel, &c., and the population being in a state of destitution, he was requested to write for the same object to the Commissary-General. Original with Commissary-General.
7870	Kerry	Killarney.—Captain Reid, Inspecting Officer, reports, that the secretary of Killarney Committee stated to him that the Committee would not allow Government to interfere with their proceedings, having sought no Government aid, &c. Original with Commissary-General.
7769	Kilkenny	Barony of Kilkenny, in the County of the City of Kilkenny.—Vice-Lieutenant of county notifies the formation of a Committee for this Relief District, and requests the necessary books, &c., may be forwarded. Noted, books, &c., sent.

V.—APPLICATIONS FOR BOOKS, PAPERS, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7860	Tipperary	Cashel Committee.—Correspondent, in reply to Circular of 25th November, notifies the reassembling of this Committee by Vice-Lieutenant of county. Noted, and books, &c., sent, 23rd November, 1846.
7864	Tipperary	Moyrarky Committee.—Correspondent, in reply to Circular of 30th November, notifies the reassembling of this Committee by Vice-Lieutenant of county. Noted, and books, &c., sent.
7862	Tipperary	In reply to Circular of 30th November, Correspondent states, that Ballymacrrough Committee is reassembled by Vice-Lieutenant of county. Noted, and books sent.
7863	Tipperary	Farney Bridge Committee.—In accordance with Circular of 30th November, Correspondent states, this Committee has been reassembled by the Vice-Lieutenant of county. Noted, books, &c., sent.
7861	Tipperary	Finnos Committee.—Correspondent notifies that this Committee has reassembled by authority of Vice-Lieutenant of county. Noted.
7865	Tipperary	Dalla and Kilkenny Committee.—Similar notification as foregoing, and books, &c., requested. Noted, and books sent.
7868	Tipperary	Ardfinan Committee request books, &c. Sent.
7763	Westmeath	Ballymore Committee request books, &c. Sent.
7764	Galway, Barony of Leitrim	Kilroede, Ballana, &c., Committee.—Reassembling notified by the Vice-Lieutenant of county. Noted, and books, &c., forwarded.
7804	Donegal	Raphoe and Clonleigh Committee request copies of Instructions. Sent.

VI.—REASSEMBLING OF COMMITTEES, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7871	Dublin	Glendelough and Calary Committee. Notification is made of a change in the secretary of this Committee. Noted.
7876	Tipperary	Toomevara Committee request books, &c. Sent.
7821	Cork	Clondrohid and Macroom Committee request books, &c., for these Committees. Sent.
7895	Kildare	Lieutenant of county furnishes names of chairmen and secretaries of Relief Committees for districts of Ikenny and Oughtersany, and of Kelton and Moone districts. Noted, and books, &c. forwarded.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

VI.—REASSEMBLING OF COMMITTEES, &c.—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7806	Kildare	Lieutenant of county furnishes names of chairmen and secretaries of Relief Committees for Districts of Monastereven, Ballybracken, and Davinstown. Noted, and books, &c., forwarded.
7850	Clare	Quin and Donnie District. Correspondent refers to the necessity of having books, &c., forwarded for a Relief Committee in the parish of Donnie, &c. Informed that as Quin and Donnie are in one Relief District, the books, &c., required for a Committee in the former have not been supplied; but should there be a Sub-Committee for it, or a desire to form one, the Commissary-General recommends application to be made to Sir Lucius O'Brien, the Lieutenant of the County, to whom the names of chairman, committee, and secretary should be submitted. Papers forwarded to Sir Lucius O'Brien for his consideration.

VII.—RELIEF PUBLIC WORKS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7179	Mayo	Asghagower and Islandeady Committee forward a resolution with respect to the insufficiency of the Public Works in progress. See a over annexed.
7360	Kerry	Bally M'Elligot Committee urge, with reference to a former application and memorial, the necessity of additional work for the labouring poor of the district, &c. Informed that no more could be done by the Commissary-General than to forward their applications for the consideration of the Board of Works, as he has not cognisance of the arrangements for carrying the Relief Works' Act into effect, in consequence of which it is required, by the 12th Article of the Government Instructions to Relief Committees, that all correspondence respecting such works should be addressed to the Board of Works.
7653	Galway	Dunmore Committee request forms for registry of labourers, &c. Informed that the forms on which lists of applicants for employment are to be prepared will be supplied by the local Officer of Public Works, who will also issue the work tickets to the persons who are to be employed.
7783	Westmeath	Castle Pollard Committee request a number of recommendation sheets for the Relief Works. Informed as above.
7346	Cork	Macroon Committee forward a resolution relating exclusively to Board of Works' arrangements for commencing the Relief Works presented at Extraordinary Sessions. This paper not having been sent to the Board of Works when received, inquiry was made as to whether the works have been yet commenced.
7510	King's	Upper Philipstown Committee requests lists of recommendation for employment. Requested to apply to the local officers, &c.
344	Tyrone	East Urney Committee. Chairman draws attention to his recommendation of Mr. Ferguson Knox, as being well qualified to superintend drainage works. Informed that the attention of the Board of Works is directed to this recommendation. An extract is made with reference to this recommendation and forwarded to the Board of Works, to which their attention is at the same time drawn.
7785	Cork	Lower Glanville. Correspondent applies for an appointment under the Relief Works Act. Informed that his applications are forwarded to the Commissioners of Public Works, by whom, and not by the Commissary-General, all appointments under the Relief Works Acts are made.
7768	Queen's	Abtyleix.
7796	Down	Barnham.
7800	Down	Raphal and Clonsleigh.
7624	Tyrone	Strabane.
7846	Kilkenny	On-the-moor, and
7146	Kerry	Bally M'Elligot Committee urge the immediate commencement of Public Works. Informed that their applications have been forwarded for the consideration of the Board of Works.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

VIII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7799	Tipperary	Bansha. Correspondent draws attention to the great want of a mill in his neighbourhood. Informed that iron hand-mills capable of grinding wheat, barley, Indian corn, &c., are on sale in this city, and that the prices vary from 2 <i>l.</i> to 3 <i>l.</i>
7833	Armagh	Crossmaglen Committee, in reference to the application of their fund, in aid of which they wish to be entitled to the donation of Government, inquire if they can employ it in the purchase of flax for the purpose of employing females. Informed that the application of a relief fund in providing materials for employing females in useful labour is considered to be very desirable, and next in utility to the procuring of a store of food for sale. Additional copies of the Instructions, also, of the Treasury Minute of the 31st August last are forwarded for the information of the Committee.
7824		The Board of Works forward, at the request of the Commissary-General, a list of the inspecting officers and conducting engineers, with their stations; also a package of circulars relative to Mr. Labouchere's letter, for use of the inspecting officers of Committees. Acknowledged with thanks.
7319	Dublin	Correspondent states that having recently visited the southern coast of Ireland, including the islands, and having within three years obtained considerable acquaintance with the people, would be happy to afford answers to any queries proposed. Informed that the Commissary-General, finding it difficult to appoint a time at which he could receive orally the information proposed, he will feel obliged for any communication in writing that correspondent may have leisure to make.
1649	Waterford	Portlaw—Mayfield Dispensary. Correspondent inquires, in reference to relief fever hospitals, if the law authorizing their establishment is in force, and how its extension to the district may be effected, fever being prevalent. See answer annexed.
7820	Armagh	Torkill Committee forward a resolution applying for a copy of the Poor Law Valuation of the portion of the Union included in the relief district, with a view of checking applications for employment, &c. See answer annexed.
7797	Kilkenny	Freshford. Correspondent inquires as to the fitness of the hand corn-mills for Union workhouse purposes; the description of material, &c., composing them. Informed that iron hand-mills are not provided by the Commissariat, but are on sale in Dublin at houses to which reference is given.
7658	Mayo	Creeagh, Ballisrobe. Correspondent (a Deputy-Lieutenant) suggests that one-third more men be set down for each Public Work in progress; that in each week one-third shall stay at their own farm work for two days; and to secure their working on their own land profitably, the landlords or agent, &c., should give the Relief Committee a certificate to that effect; and where the regulation is not complied with, the defaulter to be for one week suspended from Public Works. This rule to apply to persons holding not more than one acre of land, or having in one house three males able to work. See answer annexed. A copy of the letter and reply is sent to each of the Inspecting Officers, with a view to their having the suggestion considered by the Relief Committee.
7625	Dublin	Correspondent applies for employment. Noted, and deposited for future reference, and the party is informed that his application is noted for future reference, if necessary, but that at present there is not any prospect of an opening for his services.

Mr. STANLEY to Mr. D'ARCY.

Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
December 1, 1846.

I HAVE laid before Commissary-General Sir Randolph J. Routh, your letter of the 26th ultimo, received yesterday, requesting if the Children Relief Committee cannot be supplied with Indian corn meal from the Commissariat depot, that about 30 tons may be purchased from the Committee in Cork, where you understand the price is at present under 11*l.* per ton, and that it may be thence conveyed without charge, to be paid for on delivery.

The Commissary-General desires to state that there is no authority to make purchases for Relief Committees in the way proposed; but that if the Committee will purchase the supply, and give him early information, he will see what can be done in providing transit, should the port be within the course of the vessels now employed. At the same time he begs to state, that you have been misinformed as to the prices in Cork, which on the 28th ultimo, were, for Indian corn 14s, and for the meal 16s to 16l 10s. per ton; he therefore recommends the Committee to provide the supply in Galway, where there is now a large stock of food in the hands of merchants.

Mr. STANLEY to the Very Rev. EDWARD N. HOARE.

*Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
December 2, 1846.*

COMMISSARY-GENERAL Sir Randolph J. Routh begs to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th ultimo (which arrived yesterday), with a resolution adopted by the Relief Committee for the Upper Half Barony of Lincy, proposing that meal be stored by Government, at Tubbercurry, not for present sale, but as a reserve, to be used in case the roads shall be made impassable during winter by snow.

This proposal, he desires to observe, cannot be considered merely in relation to the barony of Lincy, but to the whole of the western districts; and the suggestion to provide there for such a contingency as a great fall of snow; is one to which Relief Committees should give due consideration, with a view to such an enlargement of their relief funds, either by subscriptions or loans, as may enable them to keep up supplies sufficient for the usual period during which road travelling is impeded by snow in their several parts of the country; but he cannot recommend that the Government should make so great an extension of the magazines as such a provision for the contingency would require, and which would, he considers, be impracticable.

Mr. STANLEY to Mr. O'DONEL.

*Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
December 1, 1846.*

REFERRING to the resolution of the Aughtagower and Islandealy Relief Committee, with respect to the insufficiency of the Public Works in progress,—

I am directed to suggest to the Committee a classification of the population requiring relief,—firstly, showing the labourers who are wholly dependent on out-door home labour for support; 2dly, those who have as much land as with their earnings by other employment, either in England or elsewhere, should render them comparatively independent of the relief now afforded.

The registry of applicants will, it is presumed, enable the Committee to make this classification; and if the works in progress shall then appear to be insufficient, the attention of the Board of Works should be drawn to the actual circumstances requiring their extension, at the same time accounting for any claim that may be made on behalf of persons holding land which had not been appropriated to potatoes, and may therefore be presumed to have yielded other means of support.

Mr. STANLEY to Mr. MARTIN.

*Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
December 1, 1846.*

I AM directed to state, in reply to your inquiries, that although the Act 9 and 10 Vic., cap. 6, for providing relief in case of the prevalence of fever, is still in force, the meetings of the Board of Health constituted under it have been discontinued, the Government being of opinion that a sufficient remedy for any increase of fever which may occur is provided by the Irish Poor Relief Amendment Act, enabling the Boards of Guardians to establish permanent fever hospitals, or hire houses for temporary hospitals, as may be most expedient.

Mr. STANLEY to Mr. SMITH.

*Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
December 1, 1846.*

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday, with a resolution in which the Perkhill Relief Committee apply for a copy of the Poor Law valuation of the portion of the Union included in the relief district, with a view of checking the applications for employment on the Public Works; and I am directed to state that the application should be made to the Board of Guardians of the Union, but that it would appear to be a more simple course to send the list of applicants, arranged in township order, to the clerk of the Union, who could in a very short time check the amount set down for the extent of holdings, after which, however, the Committee should investigate the actual circumstances of each applicant, which the extent of holding does not fully represent, as many persons will of course be found with only two or three acres, whose other pursuits should render them independent of the Public Works.

Mr. STANLEY to Mr. CUFF.

*Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
November 30, 1846.*

COMMISSARY-GENERAL Sir Randolph J. Routh desires to state that the suggestion in your letter of the 24th instant is well deserving the consideration of Relief Committees, as the classes of landholders to which the proposed rule would apply, namely, those occupying more than one acre of land, or whose families contain three males able to work, must be in circumstances enabling them to give at least two days labour in each week to their own holdings.

Colonel M'GREGOR to Mr. TREVELYAN.

*Constabulary Office, Dublin Castle,
December 18, 1846.*

THE constabulary in many counties are harnessed to death by the multiplication of escorts for provision-cars, canal-boats, pay-clerks, and generally of all persons public and private intrusted with money. You are aware that we give storage in our barracks for the provisions of all Relief Committees, and assist them in the distribution of food, &c. The discharge of these duties diminishes our efficiency in some other respects, and causes grumbling in some quarters; but protection to those who are instrumental in feeding the people appears so important that we must submit, for the present, to be considered more lax than usual in the routine service of the force.

Mr. HUGHES to Sir R. ROUTH.

*Slibbereen Reserve Depot,
December 18, 1846.*

I HAVE the honour herewith to forward the weekly state of this dépôt, and beg to say, I have used my best endeavour to bring things into a regular system, and have this day, after much trouble and consideration on my part, finally arranged to issue to the Relief Committee here, and have laid down a plan for them to act upon, that the really destitute poor may get the meal, and that the gentry may not as heretofore, in some cases feed their tenants and servants on it. The Committee will commence on Tuesday next under my directions, selling at the price issued, and not more than one-quarter or half a stone to each family, and that by tickets only. I am to be furnished with a list of names, &c., which will enable me to detect impositions, for I need not tell you we have more than an equal share of it here; the cry on all sides here is "the Government;" the people have been led to believe the Government would feed them, find seed, and till the ground, take all off the landlords,—in fact, keep the people in idleness, and this at a time when the heart sickens at the poverty, scenes of destitution, wretchedness, and deaths; nothing appears to rouse the people from their apathy. The landlords, they say they cannot get their rents: the peasantry say their rents are paid up to November. One thing is certain, the whole face of the country is waste, and the people, those that can, are preparing, as soon as the spring opens, to emigrate to America, whereas the tide of emigration should be directed to the Cape or New South Wales, as they all take plenty of money with them.

ESTIMATE of the QUANTITY of GRAIN and MEAL on hand, and expected this Month.

<i>Barley meal from abroad, shipped from Leith via</i>	
Glasgow to Dublin	3,236 bbls.
about	300 tons.
Arrived in London, and now shipping to Dublin	2,000 bbls.
about	200 tons.
Expected in London	1,000 bbls.
about	100 tons
Barley meal ground in London and now shipping to Dublin, vessels being engaged	370 tons

Indian Corn meal—

Expected at Cork per "Manchester."	1,000	bbls.
Expected to arrive at Liverpool	2,500	"
Expected in London per "Athena."	1,000	"
	4,500	"
	or about	400 tons.

Indian Corn—

Now transshipping at Liverpool the cargo per "Sardinia," to Ballina	about	1,300	qrs.
Now transshipping at Liverpool the cargo per "Montezuma," transshipping to Sligo		1,870	"
Expected at Cork, per "Manchester," for West-port	about	2,850	"
		6,020	"
	or about	1,400	tons.

Together about 2,770 tons.

Besides the above, the various mills here, at Malden and at Portsmouth, will deliver from four to five weeks hence about 1000 tons of barley meal, for which the barley is already purchased.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

December 19, 1846.

In the estimate I sent you yesterday of the additional supplies which may be expected to reach Ireland for you in the course of the next month, I omitted to mention a vessel which has been freighted from Malta, with the first produce of our mills at that place. It contains, I think, about 300 tons, and will be followed by others as fast as Mr. Ibbetson and Sir Lucius Curtis can provide the cargoes, and they are working with great zeal and practical ability.

We continue to be of opinion that the true way of meeting cases of extraordinary distress is to increase the proportion of the Government donation, and we would even go the length of giving twice as much as the subscription, in very special cases of actual and extensive starvation, in which there are not local proprietors or others who could be expected to subscribe to any extent. But we must beware of free grants, for if such a precedent were once to be established there would be an end of the increasing funds at present derived from private subscriptions.

I do not think the cake made of Egyptian wheat bad, or the smell of the meal disagreeable, but this is from the first cargo composed of old corn in store at Malta, while the other three cargoes are of new corn direct from Egypt, forming part of the finest crop they ever had since the seven years of plenty.

I send you some more comfort from Erichsen in regard to your supplies.

MEMORANDUM.

December 19, 1846.

Besides the vessels daily expected with Indian corn mentioned in yesterday's estimate of supplies for this month, we may now add that the "Lepanto" has been expedited from New York to Galway with the first cargo of the first contract of 8,000 quarters Indian corn with Mr Peabody; and this gentleman now informs us that two very superior first-class vessels had been chartered for the completion of this contract, and we may thus expect the whole of the 8,000 quarters a month sooner than we had put down in our late statement.

Liverpool and London will receive in the course of the next four or six weeks nearly 40,000 quarters Indian corn, and 20,000 barrels of Indian meal, now all on the way by the American vessels, so long detained by contrary winds.

Large shipments of wheat meal are now making in London for Ireland, also of wheat in the raw state; about 20 vessels have been engaged this week, of

which a large proportion is for Limerick; it remains now to be seen if this will continue in spite of the very considerable rise on wheat which has taken place here since the 1st instant.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

December 19, 1846.

I PRESUME that the biscuit which Mr. Bishop told the Mayor of Cork was reserved for times of extreme need, was the Admiralty biscuit, which has nothing to do with the relief, but, on the contrary, was particularly directed to be preserved intact, to meet any movements of troops that might be required.

Pray tell me how this is.

If there are any relief supplies remaining in store at Haulhowline over and above the Admiralty biscuit, they should be at once sent to the depôts on the western coast.

Assistant Commissary-General LISTER to Sir R. ROUTH.

Westport, December 19, 1846.

DEPUTY-ASSISTANT COMMISSARY-GENERAL BISHOP informs me that the people there are becoming clamorous for the arrival of provisions, and it certainly will require the exercise of much firmness on the part of Mr. Bishop to resist the importunate demands that unquestionably will be made upon him on the arrival of the vessel consigned to Belmullet.

Commissary-General HEWETSON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Limerick, December 19, 1846.

THE late prevalence of easterly weather has kept back large supplies known to be on the way and anxiously looked for; the demand upon the Limerick market is excessive and increasing, and at present far beyond the available resources in the hands of the trade, consequently high prices and much dissatisfaction prevail, not a little aggravated by Committees, sending from a distance, not being able to get but a proportion of their orders executed. Indian meal, 18s.; whole meal, 18s.; oatmeal, 22s.; these are the wholesale prices of the factor and miller: retailers add thereto according to the pressure of the demand upon them, in some places out of all proportion to what the article cost. I have been obliged, as no doubt you are aware, to issue from the Kilrush depot to several remote localities on the sea-board of Clare, where, though there is employment, the people cannot obtain food in sufficient quantity; it is also necessary to consume the greater portion of the meal at Kilrush, or it would spoil on our hands; as it was, we were obliged to unpack and lift the whole, previous to distribution.

The most malicious reports have been spread by interested parties (dealers and others), and published with a view to set the people against using our supplies, especially those at Kilrush and Tarbert; but the old proverb, "the proof of the pudding is in the eating," has however told, and now they are, on all sides, most anxious to get them; but my orders are stringent and positive, none but the most remote localities in that county, unable to obtain food elsewhere, are allowed to purchase it; the town and neighbourhood of Kilrush altogether excluded.

I shall be glad when our own supplies begin to arrive, for I foresee a heavy continuous demand will shortly be made on all the depôts, and which we must not altogether resist, though against many, as I have for some time past been doing, I must continue to make a determined and unflinching stand. Mr. Inglis, you have no doubt heard from Sir Randolph, I dispatched on the 18th to Skibbereen. The mission he is upon-will, as far as he can accomplish it, I have no doubt, be well executed; but you know what a country this is when public money is to be expended, especially for charitable purposes; as to Public Works, if the people are not driven from them, they will certainly never voluntarily go to field labour. On every side the land remains untilld, and if very stringent measures are not speedily taken to coerce them to spade husbandry, such is their reckless dogged character in many places, not an acre of the soil will be turned up, and the destruction of 1845 be tenfold worse than that of 1847, which, I need not add, will be quite had enough.

I never vouch, in this country, for anything I do not actually see, but I am told in one of the Clare Unions, where a steel-mill had been introduced, in order to some little profitable employment being given to the inmates by grinding their own food, they dropped nails into the cylinder to put the mill out of order, knowing the cones could not be repaired here. I am further informed, that even the hand-working of the quern is considered a hardship, grinding their own food; such are the inveterate habits of indolence and indifference which have their origin in the hitherto almost exclusive use of the potato, requiring no previous preparation, beyond that of cooking, for their food.

At Cahirciveen, as well as at Skibbereen, we are making occasional issues; also, but to a much less extent, at Dingle. I send copy, as a specimen, of the sort of applications which are constantly reaching me, and were it not for our confined resources, they would be more extensively met.

We have the credit of a number of steamers for Relief Service, but so many contingencies and untoward occurrences are constantly arising, not the least the constant delays for the repairs of machinery, that I am beginning to be sorely put out for want of vessels. I have no doubt it will soon be necessary to increase the number by several more of a handy class; and I believe Sir H. Pigot is of the same opinion, for he is hard pressed by Committees for aid, which he is always anxious to grant.

Captain Hill, the Inspector, has just arrived, and commenced his inquiries yesterday; he will have quite enough to get through, and appears most anxious to do his best, but do what we will, abuses will always exist and to no inconsiderable extent.

Everything is quiet at Cahirciveen. You know there is now a strong detachment there for the protection of the depot. Mr. Maurice O'Connell, the member, writes me from Derrynane, that the object of the people on first coming into the town was to bully the engineer, but that some mischievous persons induced them to turn their attention to the depot, which you are aware, though attempted to be broken into, nearly 1000 persons having assembled, they did not succeed in plundering.

I wish I could write upon more cheering subjects, as you must be surfeited with Irish misery and misdoing; but there are, of course, many exceptions where things are far more satisfactory, and the people more tractable, and the land under proper tillage, but these do not come so forcibly under my notice as do all the evil and misery, which are, therefore, ever uppermost in my thoughts, more especially as I am no longer able to play the "Good Samaritan" of the Lee Mills.

ENCLOSURES.

MR. ENSIGHT to Commissary-General HEWETSON.

*Glenbeigh, Tralee, County Kerry,
December 11, 1846.*

I RECEIVED the Marquis of Lansdowne's subscription from Mr. Hickson, which name I mistake for yours.

All the other districts in Iveragh are getting meal and biscuit at the Cahirciveen depot, all except unfortunate Glencar, the most distressed and isolated district in Kerry, where the misery is greatest, and the funds lowest: for heaven's sake show us more justice at least, and do not continue to exclude us from the privileges which the surrounding districts are enjoying. I strongly suspect if you had received my letter, you would have charitably sent me an order for three or four tons of meal and biscuit, and that you would have thus saved us from some of the misery we are still witnessing. Sheep stealing and cow-stealing are carried on more and more extensively every succeeding night, and unless you kindly and humanely consent to relieve us by return of post, poor Glencar is lost.

MR. ENSIGHT to Commissary-General HEWETSON.

*Glenbeigh, Tralee, County Kerry,
December 12, 1846.*

I OMITTED stating in my last letter that Glencar is an Union in itself, formed by Lord Kenmare, and that the Glenbeigh Poor Relief Funds were given on the express condition that they were not to be intruded on by Glencar.

You will therefore, I hope, see the necessity of allowing this neglected district some immediate relief from the Cahirciveen depot, otherwise all is lost in this district.

Commissariat Clerk PARKER to Sir R. ROUTH.

Clifden, December 19, 1846.

WE have now three mills at work night and day, but I suspect by New Year's day the stock will be quite exhausted, and the people will have to look solely to Government, for there seems no effort making by the trade.

The soup kitchen, established by the Relief Committee, has afforded great relief. I am convinced that 20*l.* would buy all the provisions in Clifden to-day, and, to add to our want, we have no fish, as in former years.

I have already stated that I have meal for issue until the 31st instant, after which I beg your instructions.

The anxiety of all to work on the Queen's pay on the roads (though stated to be paid so badly and irregularly) will, I fear, retard agriculture; and, so far from the barren ground being brought into cultivation, I fear the hitherto cultivated ground will become barren.

Assistant Commissary-General BISHOP to Sir R. ROUTH.

Cork, December 19, 1846.

Remarks by Sir R. Routh.

1. I have the honour to report that during the past week I visited, in company with the Inspecting Officer of the Board of Works, the Relief Committees of *Ballinacraig* and *Knockavilly*, Committees formed exclusively for Relief Work purposes. We made a careful revision of the labour lists, and materially reduced the number to be employed.

2. I next visited the *Garrycloyne*, a newly appointed Committee, working upon a local subscription of 180*l.*; the distress is comparatively slight, the neighbourhood being wealthy, and extensive employment afforded by the railroad forming.

This Committee afford a rare instance of selling meal, soup, &c. at cost price. The labour lists were carefully revised and reduced.

3. My following visit was to the *Demoughmore* Relief Committee. There were present the Chairman (the Rev. Mr. Lane, P. P.) the treasurer and secretary, (the Rev. Mr. Cotter,) the Inspecting Officer of the Board of Works, and myself. This is an extensive and remote district in East Muskerry, containing 7600 souls. A large portion of the district is mountainous and sterile, producing, chiefly, an inferior quality of oats, with some barley. The produce here last season was not more than two-thirds of an average crop. Great part of the population are in extreme destitution. The public works presented for in October last have not yet been commenced, though it is expected some work will come into operation next week; but then only to an extent to afford employment to a small number of the distressed claimants. Lists containing 730 names, heads of families, comprising at least 4000 souls, were submitted as deserving objects of relief. About 300 of these we selected for immediate employment.

4. The Relief Fund of this Committee is exhausted by the sale of food at reduced prices. The Committee urge that the local distress was so imperative, in consequence of there being no public works; the recklessness with which farmers discharged their servants; there being no resident landlords to aid the distressed. The excessive high price of provisions, Indian corn meal being retailed by the huxters at 2*s.* 8*d.* a stone, threw the whole weight of the distress upon the Relief

4. This result of the delay in commencing works is almost general in the county Cork. See 18.

5. Until the occupiers of the land, who are the sources of employment, shall see the advantage which their own interests must derive from the encouragement of industry, we can never be safe from a recurrence of this distress. See 7, 8, also 14 and 15.

Committee. When they could afford no farther assistance, the state of the poor became alarming. Fortunately by the aid of a private fund, which had been placed by some charitable parties in England at the disposal of the rector for other purposes, some temporary assistance was afforded to the most destitute. An average sum of 6*l.* per day has been expended from this fund during the last three weeks. This fund is now nearly exhausted, and the destitute must look to Relief Works for subsistence; they cannot get employment upon farms, at all events, not for the next two months. The farmer with 100 acres under cultivation will not employ more than four labourers upon an average.

The small farmers in this district, holders of from 5 to 15 acres, have suffered most severely. The scarcity and dearth of provisions generally, the confusion into which the present crisis has thrown the labouring population, has had a more unfortunate effect upon the small holders than the large; without being reduced, except in a few instances, to the verge of that extreme poverty that would bring them within the necessity and title to relief, they claim no less a share of general sympathy, as men pressed by the same adverse circumstances to the brink of that endurance which is scarcely less than what we are holding out the helping hand to in the case of the labourer.

Few farmers have "grain" left for sale; they possess little beyond what is required for "seed" and home consumption.

What to a limited extent will be attempted in this district. Turnips will be more extensively cultivated than heretofore. I saw but one small field intended for carrots. The potato will be partially attempted; about an acre to every eight of last year.

There are many extensive tracts in Donoughmore of reclaimable mountain land, also for drainage operations.

This district being extensive, 9 miles in length, and about 6 miles in breadth, I devoted two days to its inspection. It is 14 miles from a market town, or Poor Law Union; 9 miles from a post-office; and has not one resident magistrate.

Perhaps there is not a larger number of unemployed labourers in this district than in other years at this season, when farmers have been in the practice of discharging many of their servants, but till now they have had the potato to sustain them during the winter; this has totally failed. The pigs and poultry which they have hitherto depended upon as an auxiliary, and which were sustained with the same food as themselves, are fast disappearing. Such pigs as were under (stall) feeding, have been killed off for market; the recent litters were drowned; thus a large portion of this population have now no means of sustaining life without the assistance of relief works. The landlords and farmers, as a body, do not fulfil their duty towards the poor of this district, to that extent which the existing appalling distress so loudly calls for.

9. But see 11, with reference to potatoes still in the district.

Have these holders paid their rents? and if so, are they tenants of middlemen or of proprietors?—which?

10. It would be important to ascertain, whether their rents have been paid, or whether they have laid up the money; or whether the deficiency of corn crop in this district, and home consumption, will account for the disappearance of the corn.

11. To plant potatoes to the extent proposed, there must still be a good supply in the district. It is desirable to have this ascertained in every district.

The attention of Relief Committees should be drawn to the importance of planting parsnips, which, while more useful as diet than either carrots or turnips, are less liable to thefts, being only eatable when boiled.

13. This shows the importance of the Relief Committee having a store of provision.

14. See observation at 5.

15. It is probable that emigration is contemplated. This intention, and the means of accomplishing it, should be required into in every district.

16. See observation at 5.

The labourer, from the want of support and encouragement, is thoroughly callous to his future wants, and cannot be persuaded to give the smallest exertion towards the cultivation of any small lot of land he may hold; his position is somewhat similar to that of the negro in the West Indies during the first year following the emancipation; he abandoned his provision grounds with a recklessness that was truly alarming; and it was only when the scarcity and excessive high price of "foreign" food had pressed for some time so heavily upon him, as to render the exorbitant wages he was then receiving scarcely sufficient to sustain life, that he was induced to return to the cultivation of his provision grounds.

It has doubtless been remarked, that out of the several Committees which I have visited, the greater part of them have totally expended their funds by the sale of food under cost price. And such is the case, so far as I am informed, of nearly all the Committees in the county. One unvarying answer is given to me—that, under the excessive high prices of food, prices which could not have been contemplated, they found themselves imperatively called upon to make the sacrifice. Their funds are gone; it is now a question worthy of serious consideration, whether further donations should be placed at their disposal.

Many Committees have raised local subscriptions without the intention of applying to Government for a donation, to be at liberty to appropriate the money in any way they consider most beneficial.

With many of the Committees the whole of the work is left in the hands of the treasurer and secretary; generally the rector and parish priest; this, for relief purposes, is perhaps the best executive, but when relief works are concerned, it is very desirable that landed proprietors should interest themselves in the working of the Committee. The only chance which seems to offer for accomplishing this object, is to bring some of the minor Committees, belonging to the same barony, to meet together at an appointed place, keeping them still as "accountants" perfectly distinct.

A suggestion to this effect has been made by the Inspecting Officer of the Board of Works, which, though at variance with the "Instruction to Committees," seems so desirable, for various reasons, as to merit consideration.

Throughout such parts of this county as I have yet visited with care, I cannot trace that "arms" have in any instance been purchased by persons employed upon relief works.

It is reported that a few such purchases have been made in the northern parts of the county. Farmers appear to be arming themselves generally, but with the sole view of protecting their "stacks" and dwellings from the distressed poor.

There was not any Indian corn in the market at the close of this day's sales; the last sold for 18s. a ton. A French vessel has arrived this evening with corn, and as the wind is now fair, many arrivals are looked for immediately.

I fear there is not much reliance to be placed upon the trade of this port for any very extensive supplies.

17. It is presumed that this class (described as labourers) differ from those referred to at Q, and must work for hire when they can get employment.

But, unfortunately for the Irish labourer, the landholders can more readily dispense with him than the planters could with the negro; and he is not, in the present neglected state of husbandry, likely to be paid such wages as the negro can earn.

18. If the Relief Committees entertain any hope of getting further grants, except in aid of further subscriptions, no effort to obtain the latter will be made. The farmers should assess themselves according to their acres, and failing to get any subscriptions, the Committee should borrow. Loans would enforce observance of proper prices.

19. Still such Committees should be made aware of the serious results produced by gratuitous relief and selling food under fair trade price, instead of maintaining their funds in the coming pressure of scarcity. See 20.

20. The evil of small relief districts is primarily the operation of parochial influence and mistaken benevolence.

In proposing arrangements at the beginning of September for the present relief measures, I suggested the formation of central and Sub-Committees for the whole country.

This cannot now be adopted. In fact, no change can be made under the present instructions.

21. The farmers having something to demand by arms, but there is no accounting for an abeyance in that way by the labourers, except for mischief.

22. The first change of wind will bring in the home- and-bound vessels, and change the face of the market.

Assistant Commissary-General BISHOP to Sir R. ROUTH.

Cork, December 20, 1846.

I FEAR as yet I am doing but little useful business with the Committees. Wherever I go I find the money gone. I meet with great courtesy, and every desire to afford explanation on the part of such of the Committees as I have visited; but this explanation results in one general excuse; the prices of food having risen beyond their most liberal contemplation, Indian meal retailing in the country districts at from 2s. 6d. to 2s. 8d. a stone, they considered themselves imperatively called upon to afford "assistance" to the extent of their funds.

Supplies to a limited extent are expected hourly, but the demand upon the Cork market from all parts of this county, as well as in Kerry, from whence 50 carts arrived here yesterday morning for corn, and yet remain, is enormous.

Four vessels are just reported from the Mediterranean, with Indian corn, about 100 tons in each.

Captain MANN to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Kilrush, December 20, 1846.

MANY thanks for your letter of the 10th instant.

Although I have not written to you since the receipt of your letter of the 31st ult., on the subject of the prudence of our having recourse to bere in this climate, it has not been overlooked by me. I have consulted a great number of practical men, and all appear to agree in stating, that bere was originally produced about here in preference to barley, and that it was abandoned, principally because the latter was more suited to the distiller, and therefore found a readier market. Mr. Hodges, of Donnygrove Castle, assures me that he has ground bere, and made meal of it, on the 10th of July; that, as a crop, it is more abundant in quantity than barley; and that the straw comes near wheat-straw, and, of course, very superior to that of barley. I find several gentlemen farmers about here have already put a small quantity in the ground, early produce being of great importance, and all agree in the opinion given by Mr. Hodges.

Every thinking person must view with apprehension the present neglected state of our tillage, more particularly as regards the stubbles; at this period they ought, at least, to have been trenched or turned: this work was usually performed by spade labour; but now every one flies to the Public Works; we scarcely see any fish, as the fisherman has now become a stone breaker; this is a double loss, both as food and legitimate employment. Colonel Vandeleur published a notice on the subject, promising that, if they would proceed to sea, their places should be kept on the Public Works open, so as to enable them, if driven in, to return, and get even half-a-day's employment; and the same to farm labourers, who would leave and return in like manner, where they could get employed. This formed a resolution put on the Committee books at the commencement of the late operations, by the engineer of the Board of Works and myself, because this difficulty was clearly required to be met. The failure arose from faith not having been kept with the people, or, at least, it was stated so. The men complained that the farmer sent them back to the works, after giving notice the previous day that they would be wanted—sometimes the weather not suiting, sometimes wishing to avoid payment in cash—and that when they returned, their place was filled in the gang. If this is all true, the gangman should be dismissed, and the farmer processed for the day's wages, or, at least, something like it. I wish there were a prospect of cheaper food in January and February, because I fear it will require strong measures to drive the labouring population to the farmer, and to induce the latter to employ them in tilling the land. One very serious consideration arises, how the cottier tenant is to find seed for his land. It is to the interest of some parties that these holdings should be given up, and therefore I am afraid they will not get help from the landlords; whatever may be done hereafter, this year every spot ought to be tilled, and not a moment lost in looking forward for the means. I am trying to raise a little money among my English friends to start a seed fund; as yet I have but 10*l.*, which is too small a sum to talk about arrangements for. If I prove more fortunate, it is my intention to start the experiment.

I find it better to talk to the most sensible and influential people out of committee. When there, you may be certain to meet some sporting patriot whose speech is intended to go through the broken pane of glass to the poor creatures outside; the cuckoo cry of "What do the Government intend to do?" instead of asking "What had we best do?" is too frequently the case.

You, no doubt, are aware that the issues of the residue of meal from last season have begun. It is a prudent course before any considerable supplies arrive. There is risk of its keeping good, and it will not be the fault of interested people should it deteriorate, if a great fuss is not made about it. All the absurd reports it would be impossible to state, but the one "that the meal was rotting in the stores while the people were starving;" that "quantities of bad meal and biscuit were thrown into the Shannon," &c., would, if it really should turn bad on us be a very prolific source for speech-making.

The quern about here now has come into general use. Yesterday I attended the Kilkee Committee. The chairman was induced to purchase a little Indian corn at Limerick, and try the experiment; the result to be communicated there.

The man employed produced the meal, which was excellently well ground on a 16-inch diameter quern; and he stated that it would grind two stone of it for every one of wheat, oats, or barley, and with no increase of labour. I suggested that the quern should be fixed in a large tub or box, so as to prevent waste by the flying about of the meal when it was being worked.

The result of late experience makes me think that it would be preferable to put the corn into my store to be sold to Committees for the poor. It would come more reasonable to them, employ the women, and as our merchants are generally, if not all, millers, and unwilling to lose that profit, decline selling the corn, it would not interfere, provided the Committees did their duty; and here I do not overlook the benefit to the public service. I should also be glad to try buck wheat; it appears to me so important to teach and induce them to get into industrious habits.

As to the suffering and privations of the poor, they are most severe, and almost beyond belief. I mean the *really destitute*, for, I am sorry to say, with all the care and precaution, imposture will creep in, and, in many instances, parties derive large benefits from the Public Works who ought not to, such as small farmers or their sons; there are sad complaints against men of property in parts of this county, both as regards jobbing and trying to bully the public officers; the language used towards some of the officers of the Public Works renders their position very critical, and, as a gentleman said a few days since, their lives unsafe. I have sent you the last "*Limerick Chronicle*" that you may read, if you have time, the proceedings at the Corcoran Relief Committee, and the remarks respecting the reserve depots. The investigation, in the first case, will be important, if fairly conducted, but the proof will be very difficult should such matters really exist, and of that I can give no opinion. I'll, at all events, send you the result, and in sending such matters, or some of my remarks, be good enough to receive them as sent merely for you to see whether you can pick out any information from them.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Castle, Dublin, December 21, 1846.

THE biscuit of which Mr. Bishop speaks, as I understand him, is the old biscuit received from the barracks, and assorted and repacked at Haulbowline, and kept there to be forwarded to Castletown Berehaven, when the store should be ready to receive it.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, December 21, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the weekly state of the Commissariat depots in Ireland, and also a statement of the amount of donations, and of the sums subscribed up to the 19th instant.

ENCLOSURE.

DONATIONS ISSUED UNDER AUTHORITY OF THE LORD LIEUTENANT TO RELIEF COMMITTEES
IN AID OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Date.	Name of Committee.	Donations.			Subscriptions.		
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
1846							
Dec. 14	Amount brought forward	7,419	11	0	14,435	17	10½
" 15	Killaloe District, County Clare	138	0	0	275	10	10
" 17	Newtown Barry, County Wexford	62	0	0	124	2	6
" 17	Trillick District, County Kerry	475	0	0	951	11	0
" 17	Inchgalagh, County Cork	78	5	0	156	10	0
		27,872	16	0	15,944	12	2½

Dublin Castle, December 21, 1845.

R. J. ROUTH, Commissary-General.

WEEKLY STATE OF PROVISIONS, &c., in the several DEPOTS in IRELAND, on the Evening of Saturday,
December 19, 1845.

Depots.	Indian Corn in Quarters of Eight Bushels each.			Indian Corn Meal.		Oatmeal.	Bran.	Wheat-meal.	Barley Meal.	Rye.	Egyptian Wheat.
				In Port.	In Store.						
	In Port.	In Store.	With Malins.	Sacks, 280 lbs.	Sacks, 280 lbs.	Sacks, 280 lbs.	Bags, 112 lbs.	Sacks, 280 lbs.	Sacks, 280 lbs.	Quarters.	Quarters.
Lisrick	7,126	29	..	..	..	..	..
Kilrush	277	..	..	..	..	..	..
Malbegum	1,132	384	1,654	..	..	..	..
Harlowe	250	..	1,010	..	..	..	..
Shillbreen	904	..	639	..	..	..	..
Engle	1,459	..	143	..	..	..	..
Colmstown	442	..	1,199	..	..	..	..
Cadestown
Galway	3,147	9	10	..	..	..	..
Wexford	718	754	..	..	1,199	24	..	..	..	..	..
Clifton	6	..	..	..	..	..	..
Belmullet
Sigo	1,815	..	689	..	437	..	137	..	..	..	1,284
Bulna	369	..	..	..	..	..	..
Killybegs	..	2,061	..	..	66	..	..	..	..	..	..
Burtonport	..	314	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dundraghy	896	..	..	..	..	..	..
Delin	1,456	876	500	148	310	474	..
Brough	771	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lough	133	196	864	..	407	..	..
Castles	16	..	..	..	..	..	..
Baccharon	16	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	2,533	3,129	689	..	20,153	1,518	6,136	148	717	474	1,284

SHIPMENT FROM SLIPS ON TRANSIT.

To Burton Port	..	..	215 tons Indian meal.
Arrival at Clifton	with	..	50 tons wheat meal.
The "Cheshire Lass"	with	..	16 tons peas.
	with	..	22 tons barley meal.

363 tons.

RECAPITULATION OF REMAINS ON DECEMBER 19, 1845.

6,351 quarters of Indian corn,	at 5 quarters per ton	1,270¼ tons.
20,153 sacks of Indian meal,	at 8 sacks	2,519¼ "
1,518 sacks of oatmeal	at 8 sacks	189¾ "
6,136 bags of biscuit	at 20 bags	306¾ "
148 sacks of wheat meal,	at 8 sacks	18½ "
717 sacks of barley meal	at 8 sacks	89½ "
474 quarters of rye	at 5 quarters	94½ "
1,284 quarters of Egyptian wheat	at 5 quarters	256¾ "
Indian meal in transit	..	215 "
Reported arrival	wheat meal	50 "
at Clifton	peas	16 "
	barley meal	22 "

Total . . . 5,108½ tons.

Dublin Castle, December 21, 1845.

R. J. ROUTH, Commissary-General.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

December 22, 1846.

OUR present arrangement is to freight two small vessels to Clifden and Belmullet, and to employ the "Rhodamantus" (the "Stromboli" has gone to Scotland) in leaving quantities of meal at other minor depots, and I shall be glad to learn from you whether any of your smaller depots on the coast are in want of meal.

I have not yet received your remarks on Colonel Jones's two papers on the Inspecting Officers; but my impression is, that the Board of Works establishment, and the duties with which it is charged, hang together in such a way that we must give up the idea of an actual transfer of officers to your department, and must consider the arrangement to stand for the future as follows:—

The inspection of the Relief Committees in their financial and Commissariat functions—that is, subscriptions, donations, loans, sales of meal and occasional gratuitous issues in cases of peculiar destitution—to depend entirely upon you and your officers.

The investigation of and report on cases of alleged destitution and abuse, to which attention has been particularly called, to be conducted by you and your officers, when the subject matter appears to fall more immediately to your province.

If you should happen to have no officer of your own in any district in which you may be called upon to hold such an investigation, you should, in that case, apply to the Board of Works to assist you by employing their officers to investigate the matter, and acquainting you with the result.

Your officers should revise the labour lists, as heretofore, as part of their ordinary duty, acting in co-operation with the officers of the Board of Works; but this is not to be understood as relieving the officers of the Board of Works from any part of the responsibility with which they are at present charged in this respect.

We must continue to depend mainly upon the officers of the Board of Works for the performance of this most important service, while your officers should act as auxiliaries, and give all the assistance in their power.

This is the practical view which the Chancellor of the Exchequer takes of the subject, as far as it has been at present discussed; but a final opinion will not be given upon it until we receive your remarks upon Colonel Jones's papers.

If you happen to agree with this view, I shall be obliged to you to communicate the result to Colonel Jones.

I am glad the discussion has taken place, because it has led to a clearer definition of the duties of yourself and the Board of Works, and we shall now more fully understand the part which each has to perform, and co-operate more freely and confidently together.

Mr. Erickson had already made inquiries at my request about carrot and parsnip seed, and I will send you the result of them in a separate letter for the information of Lord Clements and the other gentlemen who have made inquiries from you on the subject.

What is the Agricultural Society doing? If any department of the society ought to be in an efficient state, it is that which relates to the providing of seeds. The seedsmen of the Agricultural Societies of England and Scotland are much employed in this way.

What is now proposed about the subscription is, that there should be a Committee in the city, but no public meeting, the current of feeling being so strong against the disinclination of people in Ireland to help themselves, and the abuses supposed to be connected with the purchase of arms, &c., that any expression of public opinion would be likely to be attended with unpleasant results. I think, nevertheless, that considerable sums will be raised.

As regards the administration of the fund in Ireland, it is proposed that Colonel McGregor and Mr. Twissleton should be joined with you in appropriating it in the manner which, acting under the general directions of the Irish Government, you and they may consider best adapted to answer the end in view.

There are only two other points connected with this subject which it will be necessary for me at present to notice.

The first is, that although the information regarding the state of different parts

of the country which Mr. Twisleton will possess through the Poor Law system will, as well as that which you will obtain through the Relief Committees and your Inspecting Officers, be of great assistance to you in administering this fund, great care must be taken to keep it entirely separate from the Poor Law Expenditure, so as to prevent its being merely employed in relieving the ratepayers of any portion of the burden which they would otherwise have to bear.

The other point is, that it must be kept entirely distinct from the funds ordinarily at the disposal of the Relief Committees. Those funds consist of private subscriptions, added to by Government donations, one object of the donation being to furnish an additional motive to parties to contribute towards the relief of the destitute from their private funds, a motive which obviously cannot apply to the result of a subscription raised at a distance, without any reference to these rules. The produce of the English subscription, therefore, will be placed absolutely at the disposal of yourself and your colleagues, to be employed in relieving the most prominent cases of destitution, without any other restriction than such as the circumstances of each particular case may suggest.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, December 22, 1846.

I HAD very great pleasure in receiving your letter of the 18th December, on which I must nevertheless address some observations to you.

In the first place you must bear in mind that our Limerick depot, nearly 3000 tons, is composed chiefly of the remains of last year, and must be issued before the hot weather commences. Therefore, in our calculation, we must include this quantity as one to be replaced. Limerick is a depot that may be issued, and we ought to count that it will be issued before the 1st April.

Then, again, you will agree that the purchase of food is only an investment, for which the same or more money will be forthcoming, and therefore the money employed in this service is a secondary object, as it is not an expenditure.

This is a very great inducement to make our preparations sufficient for any contingency.

If any accident or delay interrupts the progress of the Board of Works, or any other of our establishments in Ireland, a satisfactory excuse may be found, but no one pardons the absence or the delay of food. Everything else may fail, but a disappointment in food finds no excuse.

It is very true we have given a pledge not to interfere with the trade on the north, east, and south coasts, and the country east of the Shannon, but if a great exigency in a particular locality occurs—and who can say it will not—we must, I presume, be prepared to meet it. In a great calamity we cannot be found wanting. The relief must be forthcoming. We could not fall back on our pledge.

See page 466-9.

If, therefore, our outlay is to cost nothing, but is to be repaid, is there any just reason for limiting our preparations to eight or ten or even fifteen thousand tons, if the latter quantity can secure the tranquillity of the country, and in lieu of the risk of obloquy and reproach, to make sure the testimony of all classes of people in our favour.

There is nothing in this to give any just cause of umbrage to the trade.

We are here to act when their resources fail, and the means are so new, and the people so unpractised in the trade communications with the interior, that no one can consider them without apprehending this result.

Besides there are spots, such as Donegal, Connemara, Belmullet, the greater part of the north-west of County Mayo, and parts of Roscommon, as well as of Kerry, where there is no trade, and which from this time onward must depend mainly on the Commissariat. Even in the best counties there are places which, from local causes, are peculiarly exposed, and may suddenly come upon us with appeals which we cannot reject.

All these appear to me reasons for making our preparations fully equal to the possible demand, and that it would be dangerous economy to be under the mark. We must take every precaution to make ourselves sure from the beginning of overcoming the difficulty we have to encounter, and this is the principal point, "food," to which everything else is subordinate, and in which, if we fail, all our other success will count for nothing.

When our supply last year became known to the public (I mean that imported into Cork from America), its small quantity was a subject of remark, and in comparing this year with the last, there is a striking difference in the actual supplies in the country, of which I shall quote one instance as an example. In the city of Cork, in December, 1845, and in its immediate neighbourhood, there were 100,000 barrels of grain and flour, and in the present month the quantity does not exceed 10,000 barrels. The east and the north may probably push through the season, with some exceptions, but I entertain much apprehension for the southern districts.

In bringing these opinions before you, I must not be understood as calling in question any of our admirable regulations for the encouragement of trade; my arguments are directed exclusively to the extent of our own preparations.

If the suggestion of employing national ships to convey these supplies from America; and hereafter from Odessa, should be sanctioned, I should hope it would afford the opportunity of increasing our stock at once, and secure us for the future against a failure, and that these extra means might be employed in the first instance for this object (without infringing the pledge not to purchase out of the United Kingdom) by a direct contract with the parties importing the supply.

Considering all the contingencies to which we are subject, I still fear that our supply in hand is insufficient. Accidents may occur at sea, cargoes may be bent and rendered unfit for use, any sudden severity of the winter may interfere with the trade operations from the coast to the interior, and we should be independent of these chances, which we must expect to occur.

It is also to be observed, that if we expect the Committees to supply themselves from their own exertions, we must occasionally give them assistance in the conveyance of their supplies by Government steamers, as the coast sailing-vessels may be a month getting round Kerry Head from Cork. In proof of this, Valentia harbour has been full of wind-bound vessels this last fortnight.

The Admiral is giving all the aid his disposable transport will permit to the Committees to the different ports on the sea coast, which not only ensures the arrival of the supply at the time appointed, but makes a great saving in their funds, and enables them to act up to our Regulations.

As these applications are increasing, it is most important that the Admiral should have the means of meeting this service.

I regret that we cannot establish a reserve at Halbowline, if it was only for providing the storehouses on the line of coast from Skibbereen to Dingle. I acknowledge all the force of the objection, which is quite clear and evident, but I regret the necessity.

We must increase our store-room at the larger depots, and we must continue to avail ourselves of Dublin, where the protection, and security, and ventilation, and good management, and space, are in the highest degree satisfactory.

Having concluded a contract for the transport of stores on the Grand Canal, with three boats holding from 40 to 50 tons constantly at our disposal each week, and having contracts also on the Royal Canal, Dublin becomes a most central position.

It is so late that I must now conclude.

Captain STOPFORD to Sir R. ROOTH.

Wexford, December 22, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th instant, and in compliance with your suggestion I shall return to Ross on Saturday next, the 26th.

I have this day attended the Kilcoran Committee, and examined into the abuse referred to in Mr. Trevelyan's letter of the 12th instant. I found the statement made of a man, his son, and two horses being put on the works correct. The work they were on is nearly finished, and all the men are discharged but six, and into whose separate cases I particularly inquired. The case of a man being on the works possessing 50 barrels of potatoes and 30 or 40 barrels of barley, I found to be excessively exaggerated: he rented $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres, and therefore it is not probable he could have grown them. It appears to have been a loose accusation against him on the part of some of the other labourers, but which they could not support when pressed. This man has also been discharged, being no longer wanted on the work.

I found the whole proceedings of this Committee very irregular. The tickets for labour being given to the men, signed by any three of the Committee, out of the Committee room, and no inquiries made as to their destination, their application being considered a sufficient test.

I put a stop to this, by entering a resolution in the minute book, "That no tickets be issued to persons, or labour lists supplied to the overseers out of the Committee room; that every case should be discussed by the Committee, who should meet for the purpose as many times a week as necessary."

I found some of the members of the Committee absented themselves in disgust at these proceedings, but I have reason to believe they will now attend punctually. In nearly all the Committees I have visited I have found it necessary to direct their attention to the Instructions and the Treasury Minute of the 31st of August, in consequence of their not being attended to, and frequently had not been read at all.

Remarks by Sir R. Routh.

This is completely opposed to the Instructions issued from this Office, stating that tickets were only to be issued by the Board of Works officers. It appears however that, in more instances than this, the tickets were delivered to the Committees.

This shows the value of the visits by the Treasury Officers.

The correspondence with the office supplies daily instances of this indifference and neglect.

Dec. 25, 1846.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin,

December 22, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, a copy of a memorial from Kenmare, praying for the establishment of a dépôt in that locality.

This subject had been under previous consideration, and was abandoned only from the apprehension that a dépôt so near to the interior of Kerry, and particularly to Killarney, would affect the local efforts in progress in that district.

The person who was sent there reported, that he could obtain no store-room, there being only one building, much out of repair, for which an annual rent of 100*l.* was demanded.

My views were then turned to Castletown, Berehaven, as a place more out of reach than Kenmare, more isolated from the interior, with a poorer class of inhabitants, and from which Bantry and even Kenmare might be supplied.

These were the inducements which led me to give up the intention of occupying Kenmare as a dépôt; but on the receipt of the enclosed memorial, I referred it to Commissary-General Hewetson, who has that part of the country under his immediate charge, and I now lay before you his reply.

In the mean while, though not prepared immediately to place a dépôt there, I shall keep a watch over the district, and be ready to do what is necessary.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

December 29, 1846.

WRITE to Sir R. Routh, that it is their Lordships' desire that no measures should be taken by him which would relieve the Kenmare Committee from the obligation of making the same exertions as the other Committees in the county of Kerry, and as there is a short and secure water communication between Kenmare and Castletown, Berehaven, where a dépôt is established, no further steps appear to be required.

It is their Lordships' wish that every practicable assistance should be given to this and other Relief Committees, by conveying for them, in Government vessels, the supplies of food purchased by them at the neighbouring Government dépôts, or from private merchants at Cork, Liverpool, or elsewhere.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

December 23, 1846.

AFTER the Relief Committees have sent a second letter to non-resident landlords, and have either received a refusal or no answer at all, our Inspecting

Officers should take up the question, and address a temperate letter to the landlord or his agent.

Pray consider the matter, and address a circular letter on the subject to your Inspecting Officers, giving them a general idea of the sort of letter you would wish them to write, and suggesting any topics which you think should be particularly insisted on. The Inspecting Officers should be directed to send you, in every instance, a copy of the answer they receive, or to report the fact of their not receiving one after a proper time has been allowed.

Deputy Assistant Commissary-General LE MESURIER to MR. TREVELYAN.

Banagher, December 23, 1846.

NOTHING of importance having occurred in this district since my arrival here, I did not feel myself warranted in the intrusion of a useless communication upon your valuable time.

The accounts and opinions of the most respectable residents that I have conversed with on the present state of this portion of the country, are so much exaggerated, and so contradictory, that it would be a fruitless attempt to endeavour from these to lay before you a fair estimate of the extent of distress in the neighbourhood. From the farmer downwards they are all starving, so he tells you, and if you will but listen to the beggar—"Place your honour, only one farden to buy a pen'orth of bread for myself and the five small childer that's starving at home; save the blessing of . . . not a morsel has crossed their lips it's this day 'fornight, and may the blessing, &c., attend ye." From such as these I might as justly form my conclusions.

It is quite apparent to me that unusual distress prevails, but it is equally so that the labouring and poor classes are, with a view to engage the sympathies of those capable of rendering them assistance, taking every advantage of existing circumstances to make their condition appear as wretched as possible.

While one gentleman tries to impress upon me that the supplies must be exhausted by the middle of January, another equally respectable, and for whose veracity and knowledge of the country the former expresses to me his highest confidence, states that the farmers, more particularly in Galway, will be able to hold out till the end of March, and that many of them have still a portion of last year's crop on hand. I must, however, acknowledge, that very few coincide in this opinion.

The markets were badly stocked until last week, when a large quantity of grain, chiefly oats, was offered; but for want of buyers was nearly all reserved for the Birm market, which is held on the following day to this.

The millers of Banagher are fully employed with meeting the demands of the country people, many of whom come from a great distance, owing to the deficiency of mill power in their parishes. It is the present intention to keep the mills going all winter, for which purpose extensive purchases of grain are being made. One cargo of 5000 barrels Odessa wheat is daily expected, being on transit from Liverpool. Small dealers are also very busy.

Although the dépôt has been opened since Friday last, no demands have yet been made upon us. Our sales will be confined to a portion of meal ground from Indian corn not kiln-dried, which, owing to its doubtful condition, Sir R. J. Routh desires it may be disposed of.

The following market prices taken from last Friday show an advance of about 6s. upon each article since the 29th of November.

Wheat . . .	42s.	per barrel of 20 stone
Oats . . .	22s.	" 14 "
Barley . . .	24s.	" 16 "
1st Flour . . .	26s. 8d.	per cwt.
2nd " . . .	22s.	" "
3rd " . . .	21s.	" "
Oatmeal . . .	24s.	" "

Mr. BEVIS to Captain HAMILTON.

Liverpool, December 24, 1846.

I BEG to inform you that, having just had some conversation with the master of a vessel three months from Odessa, but the last arrival here, he distinctly states that, when he sailed, only two vessels remained to load with corn for this country, although the accumulated supply there is immense, so much so that, in addition to the store-houses which were all full, they were clearing out dwelling-houses to stow the grain in, and that freights here had risen to the high rate of 7*l.* per ton.

I have since been speaking to a large ship-owner, who says, that good ships may be obtained on a charter to go to the United States for flour, at the rate of about 6*s.* the barrel freight; and I should have told you, that the last advices received here by the large house of Baring Brothers and Co. was that 30 sail were loading at New York for this country, and no doubt some of them have now arrived; but even the 30 sail would scarcely bring away a fraction of the immense stock which had accumulated there.

The price of American flour here now is 40*s.* the barrel; about a week or ten days ago it could be bought for 34*s.*; this large increase in price, combined with the high rate of freight, proves, I think, beyond a doubt that the statement made of the immense quantities of grain, collected at the ports in the United States and the Black Sea is a fact.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, December 24, 1846.

WE have the means of storing a larger quantity at Clifden and Belmullet than the two late shipments which have both arrived bring, and it is very important in such poverty-stricken spots to have a depot of some resistance. No picture of mine would do justice to the worst part of County Mayo, in the rear of Belmullet, or of the Connemara district, which is proverbial. These are the two most pressing points, and they will continue so throughout the season.

The snow has stopped the communication between Donegal and Derry, and we have fortunately just got a supply at Dunfanaghy and Burton Port, and we must immediately commence its issue, which is unfortunate, but with the interruption of the roads, there is no alternative.

I have not yet heard of the "Andromeda's" arrival at Killybegs.

The "Doris," for Westport, put into Galway, with her cargo much heated, and has sailed again. The "Lepanto" has arrived at Galway, cargo much heated, and the master states he has thrown 1200 bushels overboard, and the rest sprouting.

Dingle, Cahirciveen, and Skibbereen are just formed, and no extensive issues have yet been made; and I think the "Rhadamanthus," notwithstanding the 100 tons ordered by sailing vessels which may be a month before they arrive, had better be directed half to Clifden (Mannin Bay), and the other half to Belmullet.

I have been obliged to send a Treasury clerk (Mr. McClintock) to take charge at Castletown, Berehaven. He has been nearly a twelvemonth in my office, and is not without ability, but this is a new service for him, in which he has his experience to acquire. Mr. Hewetson will keep his eye upon him. As soon as Banagher is full, I shall push forward our stores at Dublin to Limerick, and make this place merely an entrepot.

I am much pleased with your plan for distributing the subscriptions, which I think excellent. I quite agree with your arrangements of the inspecting officers; for, notwithstanding some strong objections I see to the present course, it is not a moment to change it.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

December 24, 1846.

THE Chancellor of the Exchequer is firmly resolved to allow of no deviation from the decision which was publicly announced as long ago as August last, and has since been consistently adhered to, that the Government is not to interfere with the supply of food to the eastern division of Ireland.

We rely upon you to avoid even the appearance of any concession on this point.

But as we have undertaken to make good, as far as we are able, the deficiency of food in the western division of the country, he is anxious, as we all are, that we should fulfil this pledge to the best of our ability.

Whether we succeed in doing so will depend far more upon the manner in which the supplies are economised, than upon the extent of the supplies furnished; for no quantity that we could send could meet for any length of time together such a demand as was occasioned by the manner in which the issues were made at Cork and Limerick in June and July last.

It is therefore highly necessary that you should be regularly furnished with early and full information of what is going on at all the depots in this respect, and that you should put an immediate check upon any sales that are being made contrary to the rules which have been prescribed, which, if they are properly acted upon, are sufficient to prevent any improper issue.

Pray also furnish me with a statement of the prices at present charged at the different depots, and keep me informed of any alterations that may be made in them.

It is also particularly desirable that you should give me early and precise information in regard to the measures you wish to be taken for replenishing your stores, so far as the means at our disposal may allow; and it is a source of great satisfaction to me that you possess such a general acquaintance with the limits which are placed to those means, that we are not likely to be subject to any unreasonable demands from you.

If you should, at any time, be of opinion that any of the minor depots on the western coast might be replenished with more advantage from this country than from your own principal depots, you will remember that we have made arrangements for the prompt conveyance of supplies from Portsmouth and Plymouth by means of powerful steamers to the points at which they are required.

You should impress it upon all your officers as an axiom, *that they should on no account allow their depôts to become exhausted.*

Mr. Cubitt's foreman, despairing of our being able to get stone hand-mills made sufficiently quick to be of real service, obtained my leave to have one cast in iron as a specimen, and it has now been completed, and I have directed it to be sent to you. He estimates the cost of such mills at 25s. each, 7s. or 8s. of which would consist of the value of the iron.

Pray tell me what you think of it.

My impression is, that the French hand-mill, of which I have sent you a specimen, is the most effective of any that have yet been produced, and that although it costs more than the smaller and ruder description of hand-mill, it will grind more in proportion to its cost and to the labour bestowed upon it.

Where the small hand-mill is preferred, I think recourse had better be had to the native manufacture, which has been revived in Clare under Captain Mann's auspices, and I suppose exists elsewhere.

I will shortly furnish you with a statement of the prime cost of the peas and barley meal; but I need not add, that it must be sold at a price fixed with proper reference to the prices of other articles with which it is likely to come into competition.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

Treasury, December 26, 1846.

ALTHOUGH your letter of the 22nd has been anticipated by mine of the 24th, the subject is of such grave importance that I must make some remarks.

You write as if it were in our power to purchase grain and meal at our discretion, but I can assure you that this is far from being the case. The London and Liverpool markets are in a more exhausted state than you appear to be aware of, and the supplies which are to be expected till April are so totally inadequate to filling the immense void which has been created by the failure of the potato crop, the deficiency of the spring crops, and the foreign demand, that they give us no confidence. The prices at Limerick, Cork, Liverpool, and London have continued steadily to rise in the face of considerable shipments that have lately arrived.

Last year it was a money question, and we were able to buy food enough to supply the local deficiency, but this year it is a food question. The stock of food for the whole United Kingdom is much less than is required, and if we were to purchase for Irish use faster than we are now doing, we should commit a crying injustice to the rest of the country; as it is, we have given some of our recent orders with serious apprehension for the consequences, and we have been going for a long time *past the full length of our tether*.

You must therefore bear in mind, and impress upon all those with whom you are acting, that even the stock of food at your disposal has a certain fixed limit, and that it must be economised, and made to last the requisite time, like any private stock.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer will on no account permit you to undertake to provide food for any portion of the eastern district of Ireland. What we have is insufficient even for the western district, for which we have undertaken, and if we were to attempt more, we should render our own efforts, within our own sphere, still more ineffectual to accomplish their object—should absolve those who are really responsible, and should relax the bonds of society, by bringing upon the Government the odium of a state of things which its interference to the extent proposed would inevitably aggravate.

No exigency, however pressing, is to induce you to undertake to furnish supplies of food for any districts except those for which we have already undertaken.

I repeat that it is not a money question. If twice the value of all the meal which has been or will be bought, would save the people, it would be paid at once. It is not even a question of the encouragement of trade, except in a secondary and subordinate degree; but it is a question of making a very insufficient supply of food go as far as possible amongst the population of a great nation, and the plan which has been adopted is, for the Government to take upon itself the responsibility of providing in a direct manner supplies of food for those sections of Ireland and Scotland which were least likely to be provided for by the private trade, and to leave the remainder of the country to the resources of that trade, and of the relief organization and liberal money expenditure which have been everywhere established. Our object in adhering to this plan is not to save money or to favour the trade, but to save the country; and we are convinced that inexpressible calamities would be the result of the Government attempting the utterly impossible task of providing food for the whole of Ireland.

I entirely agree with you that, besides keeping up the stock in our depots, the Government steamers, which can alone act with the certainty and promptness the occasion requires, should be employed to the utmost possible extent in assisting the Relief Committees in the conveyance of the supplies of food laid in by them.

Three of the most powerful steamers in the Navy (the "Avenger," "Birkenhead," and "Rhodamanthus,") are to be appropriated as the carriers of the meal ground at our mills in this country to the depots in Ireland and Scotland.

Two more steam vessels are employed on the Relief Service on the north-west coast of Scotland, and a third is under orders for the same destination.

And every other disposable steamer will be sent to Ireland to be employed under Admiral Pigot's directions, in concert with you and Commissary-General Hewetson and Deputy Commissary-General Dobree, in conveying meal for the depots and assisting the Relief Committees; and if any of these vessels can be spared from other more pressing services to fetch meal from Liverpool for the Relief Committees, thereby saving them the expense of freight, which falls heavily on their funds, there can be no objection to it.

I am glad to find that you concur with me in considering the objections to Cork as a storehouse for the western coast decisive. With the help of the canals and

the Shannon, Dublin will be a great resource in this respect, but our principal stores will be in the Thames and at Portsmouth and Plymouth, whence they will be conveyed to the large steamers as occasion may require.

You will perceive, from the accompanying memorandum from Mr. Erichsen, that a further purchase of 730 tons of Indian meal has been made at Liverpool, and that more is expected to be obtained, all which I have directed Mr. Erichsen to keep in store at Liverpool until you are ready to receive it.

The "Rhadamanthus" has been loaded at Portsmouth and sent on to Plymouth, to wait for orders, and I have now requested that she may be directed to leave half her cargo at Clifden (Manin Bay) and the other half at Belmullet.

I am glad to find that you concur in our proposed settlement of the question regarding the Inspecting Officers, and I shall now send Colonel Jones an extract from my letter to you of the 22nd instant, and shall request him to consider the arrangement therein proposed as finally decided on.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

RETURN OF CORRESPONDENCE from 3rd to 5th December, 1845, both days inclusive.

APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7860	Cork	Donsville Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions amounting to 378 <i>l.</i> 3 <i>s.</i> , and solicit a grant in aid. 189 <i>l.</i> recommended.
7879	King's	Parsonsstown Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions amounting to 551 <i>l.</i> 14 <i>s.</i> 9 <i>d.</i> , and solicit a donation on 400 <i>l.</i> , the balance to be constituted as a charity fund, under the sole control of the Committee. 200 <i>l.</i> recommended.
7878	Westmeath	Collinstown Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions amounting to 71 <i>l.</i> 17 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> , and solicit a donation in aid. 35 <i>l.</i> recommended.
7880	Kerry	Tarbert Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions amounting to 100 <i>l.</i> 15 <i>s.</i> , and solicit a grant in aid. 54 <i>l.</i> recommended.
7877	Cork	Kinsale Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions amounting to 360 <i>l.</i> 2 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> , and solicit a grant in aid. 180 <i>l.</i> recommended.
7880	Monaghan	Castletown Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions amounting to 344 <i>l.</i> 15 <i>s.</i> , and solicit a grant in aid. 172 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> recommended.
7873	Monaghan	Farnley Committee forward a certified list of subscriptions amounting to 353 <i>l.</i> 13 <i>s.</i> , and solicit a grant in aid. 176 <i>l.</i> recommended.
7874	Tyrone	Urry Committee solicit a grant in aid of their subscriptions, stating that they propose to apply a portion of each fund in providing, gratuitously, food for the labourers on Public Works, whose earnings are insufficient to support their families, &c. The mode proposed is by issuing tickets for a certain amount of food. See answer annexed.
7921	Armagh	Keady Committee solicit a grant in aid of their subscriptions amounting to 252 <i>l.</i> 15 <i>s.</i> , and state that they propose to relieve widows with young families, and infirm persons unable to earn a sufficiency to support them by task-work or otherwise. See answer annexed.
7959	Waterford	Villierstown Committee. The chairman requests that the donation granted may be paid to the present treasurer, whose receipt has been forwarded. Notified to Assistant Commissary-General Cameron, and paper deposited.
7880	Londonderry	Chairman of Artillery Committee inquires whether further experiments have been made on the baking of bread. See answer annexed.
7936	Westmeath	Castletown Delvin Committee inquire as to the rule laid down in Mr. Lushington's letter of the 7th September last, permitting food to be sold "at the prices of ordinary years." See answer annexed.

Returns of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

LOCAL COMMITTEES, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7962	Donegal	Benmore Committee state that the Vice-Lieutenant of the county having acceded to a resolution forwarded by the Committee to him, requesting that certain gentlemen be added to their number, they inquire if any further authority is necessary to empower them to act. Informed that the appointment of the Vice-Lieutenant of the county Donegal is the only authority requisite for the Committee's assembling for dispatch of business.
7926	Clare	Quin and Clooney Committee. The Lieutenant of county Clare, in reference to a resolution of the Committee to unite the parish of Deora to Quin and Clooney in forming one Relief Committee, states that he fully approves of the arrangement. Noted. Acknowledged, stating that the registry of Quin district will be altered as desired.
7969	Sligo	Eastern Division of Barony of Tír na nÓig. Committee inquire from what fund the secretary is to be paid, &c. Informed that there is not any other fund for the payment of the secretary of a Relief Committee than the Relief fund, to be formed in the manner pointed out by the printed instructions.
2/7962	Wexford	Gorey. Captain Stophord, Inspecting Officer, reports that he visited Monaghan Committee, some of whose members, influenced by a similar plan adopted in Ennisbourny, desire to have the Relief Fund allocated to parts of the district in which the subscriptions have been raised.
Memoranda on paper sent to Captain Stophord for guidance:—The Ennisbourny Committee was the central authority under which several Committees acted for sub-districts, consisting generally of electoral divisions or parishes. It is found that wherever Relief districts include two or more parishes or electoral divisions, a desire is felt to have the subscriptions collected in each kept apart for that parish or division, and this seems to encourage the getting up of Relief Funds, which is of primary importance.		
3/7924	Kerry	Killarney. Captain Reid, Inspecting Officer, reports that the Killarney Committee, on his attending, adopted the following resolution—"That they adhere to the Instructions received during Sir R. Peel's administration, as regards their funds, and will not adhere to the Treasury Minute of 31st August last, as to the regulation of wages and the prices of food, and cannot recognize Captain Reid whilst acting under instructions of which they disapprove."
5/7964	Westmeath	Paper with Commissary-General. Mullingar. Lieutenant-Colonel Archer, Inspecting Officer, reports progress, and, amongst other matters, states that Haggarts are well supplied; food considered abundant in this district, &c. &c.
10 7965	Tipperary	Paper with Commissary-General. Clonmel Committee. Lieutenant-Colonel Douglas reports, in reference to the scrutiny of work tickets by the Committee, that the chairman states that half the number on the works are not destitute. Also, that the landholders are not disposed to employ labourers, some of whom are starving—seeking work which they cannot obtain.
11 7966 also 12 7969	Tipperary	Paper with Commissary-General. Fethard. Lieutenant-Colonel Douglas reports on the state of this district, and states that if advances be not made to small holders on the security of the coming harvest, to prepare their plots for seed, &c., the supply of food for next year will be diminished, &c. Observes that the workhouse is full, &c.
13 7968	Tipperary	Paper with Commissary-General. Cashel District. Lieutenant Colonel Douglas reports that an overplus of 150 in-door paupers, and 528 on out-door relief, are maintained by the Union workhouse; and states that the formation of a canal in the district, to give employment, is urgently required; there is no other resource for the people than Public Works; they are in a wretched state.
15 8003	Tipperary	Communication made to the Board of Works, and paper with Commissary-General. Ballynary District. Lieutenant-Colonel Douglas reports that he attended the Presentation Session, &c.; stated that there was no safety for the country unless steps were taken to grow increased food for next year, by landholders taking all the men possible off the Public Works, and engaging them in tillage. Paper with Commissary-General.

Returns of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

LOCAL COMMITTEE, &c.—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
16 5035	Tipperary . . .	Killesnoe Committee. Lieutenant-Colonel Douglas reports that the Committee, alarmed at the near exhaustion of the sums presented for weeks in progress, solicit consideration of the state of the district. Paper with Commissary-General.
1/7961	Wexford . . .	Glory. Captain Scophord, Inspecting Officer, requests forms of notes to chairmen of Committees announcing his appointment, and states that copies of the Instructions for cooking Indian meal should be distributed. The notices required forwarded, and informed that Instructions for providing cheap food, now in press, will be immediately issued.
4/7933	Westmeath, Castletown Delvin Committee.	Mullingar. Lieutenant-Colonel Archer reports on the proceedings of the Castletown Delvin Committee. Original with Commissary-General.
3/7881	Donegal . . .	Lieutenant-Colonel Archer reports on his attendance at the Mullingar and Rathfriland Committees' meetings. Original with Commissary-General.
5/7922	City of Cork . . .	Assistant-Commissary-General Bishop reports on the proceedings of a meeting of the Cork Committee at which he attended. Original with Commissary-General.
4/7823	Cork . . .	Assistant-Commissary-General Bishop suggests that Inspecting Officers be supplied with a printed memorandum, in reference to the chief points of information to be required from Committees, similar to a proposed form. Informed that the Commissary-General disapproves of the use of such a paper.
7925 7928	Galway . . .	Tram Committee. Vice-Lieutenant of county states, on returning a letter from Mr. Kirwan, elected chairman of the Committee, that a different gentleman had been appointed to that office by him. A letter received from Rev. E. H. Seymours, notifying his resignation as chairman, by the appointment of the Vice-Lieutenant, is forwarded to the latter for consideration, with copy of a minute of Committee's proceedings, and suggesting a re-modelling of the Committee.

RE-ASSEMBLING OF COMMITTEES AND APPLICATIONS FOR BOOKS, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7970	Wexford . . .	Forth Bannoy (No. 5 District). Committee apply for copies of the different Circulars issued by Government for their guidance. Copies of Government Instructions and of the Treasury Minute, 31st August last, sent.
7939	The Board of Works .	Apply for 60 copies of the Instructions issued to the Inspecting Officers of Relief Committees. See answer annexed.
7895 8041	Cork . . .	Eight Committees apply for necessary books, &c.: viz.—Ovens, Kilnright, Donaghmore, Bantry, Inchaguala, Aghabogues, Kilmee, and Donahoe Committees.
	Tipperary . . .	Notifications are received in reply to the Circular of 30th ultimo, stating that Committees have been duly re-constituted for the following districts, viz.—Cappanohate, Clonsilla and Clough Adahad, &c., Thurles, Borna, Youghal, and Nenagh, Berinagh, Ardmore, Lower Ormond, Modmore Lower Ormond, Ballyrathon, Upper Ormond, Berrisokane, Derragh, Outheth, and Meelstown, Grangemackler, Dindrum, Killesnoe, Upperchurch, and Ballynary.
	Tipperary . . .	Noted in registry. Replies are received in reference to Circular issued 30th ultimo, stating that Committees have not been yet duly re-assembled for the following districts, viz.—Emly, Tabrid, and Kildalme. Noted.
7911	Donegal . . .	Parish of All Saints, &c. Committee request books, &c.
7914	Kildare . . .	Bantry of Kildare. Committee request books, &c.
	Galway . . .	Derron Committee request a second supply of books. Books, &c., sent.
7913 7985 and 7983	Limerick . . .	Crough. North Liberty Bannoy and Adare Committee apply for books, &c. Sent.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

RE-ASSEMBLING OF COMMITTEES AND APPLICATIONS FOR BOOKS, &c.—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7904	Wicklow	Barony of Newswick. A complete list of Committees for this barony is furnished by Vice-Lieutenant of county.
7938	Queen's	Noted. Barony of Maryborough East, also Barony of Portashinch. Return of the Committees in these baronies is forwarded by the Vice-Lieutenant of county, who, at the same time, requests that Rev. Mr. Brunker may be apprised of his appointment to be secretary of the Lea and Coolshingaugh Committee. Noted, and Rev. Mr. Brunker is apprised accordingly; at same time, copies of the Instructions are forwarded for guidance of the Committee, &c.

PUBLIC RELIEF WORKS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7953	Londonderry . . .	Newtownlimavady Committee request forms of recommendation for employment. Informed that the forms required are provided by the district engineer of the Board of Works, and not supplied from this office.
7970	Wexford	Ferth Barony (No. 5 District). Committee request circulars, &c., relative to providing employment, &c. Forwarded to Board of Works.

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7885	Armagh	Armagh Borough Committee state that they select a class of the distressed, whose earnings are considered by the Committee insufficient for their support, to whom they supply tickets for meal, at 3½d. per quarter stone; and the Committee pay every Monday morning (on producing the card to their treasurer), the difference between 3½d. per quarter stone and the current price of oatmeal for the preceding week. Informed that the arrangements proposed by the Committee is the system of aiding low wages, which entailed so much evil on the labouring classes in England under the late Poor Laws; and that, as it involves a gratuitous distribution of the Relief Fund among able-bodied persons, the Commissary-General cannot recommend a donation to be added by the Lord Lieutenant to the local subscriptions; gratuitous relief being only allowed under the Government regulations to the actually infirm poor, and then only where the union workhouse is full. Also informed, that the Commissary-General recommends the Committee to consider whether means may not be devised of usefully employing the wives of labourers, or other members of their families, so that their united earnings may provide a sufficient subsistence; or whether, by resorting to task-work, the labourers may not themselves earn sufficient wages for the purpose.
7972	Tyrone	Newtownswart Committee inquire, with reference to Mr. Lebourne's letter of the 7th September last, what is meant by selling meal at prices of ordinary years; and what price should be charged when they pay 20s. per ton themselves. Informed that the observation in the letter alluded to is not intended for the guidance of Relief Committees in fixing the price of food, which is to be regulated by local market prices, as required by the Treasury Minute of the 31st August last; that it is recommended to the Committee to review the prices of various kinds of available food, buying only the cheapest sort; also, that the food provided be sold on commission, at a price sufficient to repay first cost with all charges, including a commission allowance of 5s. per cent., and observing that papers pointing out various means of providing cheap food will be immediately issued to Relief Committees.
7883	Galway	Clifden Committee request the use of some empty meal bags for a time, a large number being at present in the local Government store. Informed that the sacks alluded to are kept in account with Government, and cannot be lent, being part of the responsibility of the accountant; that they are also for the public service, to be used when the expected foreign supplies arrive, and could not be lent without applying for a further supply, which would delay the Commissariat service.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

MISCELLANEOUS—continued.		
No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7884	Galway	Oughterard. Correspondent applies for a hand-mill. Informed that iron hand-mills are on sale in this city at houses to which reference is given.
7957	Dublin	Severis Committee state that they propose giving tickets to labourers on provision traders, in part payment for meal. Informed that the system referred to is open to the twofold objection of involving a gratuitous distribution of the Relief Fund in aid of wages, and its employment in purchasing food on less favourable terms than it may be otherwise provided; also, that the Government regulations do not authorize a gratuitous application of a fund to which the Lord Lieutenant shall contribute, except for the relief of the actually infirm poor, and then only when the workhouse of the union is full; that where wages shall not be sufficient to provide subsistence for a family, the Committee should devise some task of work suitable to the labourers' wives or children, or provide for sale food, which, by mixing different kinds, as meat and vegetables, &c., may cheapen the cost of subsistence; observing, in reference to this object, that some papers will be supplied to the Committee shortly.

Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
19th December, 1846.

MR. STANLEY to the Reverend ROBERT HUME.

Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
December 3, 1846.

COMMISSARY-GENERAL Sir Randolph J. Routh begs to state, that the relief in aid of wages, to which the Urney Relief Committee propose to apply the subscriptions raised in the district, being a gratuitous distribution of the fund among the able-bodied classes, he is not authorized to recommend a donation to be added by Government to the amount subscribed.

The regulations of the Government only authorize gratuitous relief out of funds to which the Lord Lieutenant adds a donation, when limited to the actually infirm poor, and then only in unions where the workhouses are full.

The proposal of your Committee to give food tickets on every Saturday to labourers whose earnings are not sufficient to support their families, involves the adoption of the aid of wages system, which produced so much evil in England under the late Poor Laws. It is therefore recommended to the Committee to consider the means of enabling the labourers to earn more wages by task-work; also of affording employment to their wives or other members of their families, which, with their own earnings on the Relief Works, &c., may provide a sufficient subsistence.

MR. STANLEY to MR. STRINGER.

Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
December 4, 1846.

COMMISSARY-GENERAL Sir Randolph J. Routh, before recommending a grant on the subscriptions for Keady Relief District, a list of which you have transmitted, requests to be informed of the mode in which it is proposed by your Committee to afford relief to the classes mentioned in your letter, namely, widows with young children, and infirm persons not able to take tasks in the Public Works; also the mode in which it is proposed to give relief generally, as you observe, in case of an interruption of the ordinary works by severity of weather.

The Commissary-General begs to refer your Committee to the regulations of Government, as laid down in the Treasury Minute of the 31st of August last, and in the Instructions to Committees (copies of which are enclosed); and he desires to observe, that a Relief Fund, to which Government shall contribute, cannot be applied in gratuitous relief, even partially, except when the union workhouse is full, and then only in assisting the actually infirm poor.

He proposes in the ensuing week to forward to the Committee some papers on the means of providing cheap food for the use of the labouring population.

MR. STANLEY to Sir R. A. FERGUSON.

Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
December 3, 1846.

COMMISSARY-GENERAL Sir Randolph J. Routh begs to state, in reply to the inquiry made by your letter of the 30th ultimo (received yesterday), that brown bread, from whole wheaten meal, appears to be now sold by bakers in Drogheda at 1½d. per lb., and that the labouring classes there, purchasing the meal at the medium of the local retail prices (1s. 8d. to

2s. per stone), which they get baked for 3d., can thus have for 2s. 1d. eighteen pounds of bread, being the quantity that the stone of meal produces. This exceeds the price in the paper you allude to. However, the wheat described in that paper was a dry foreign wheat (as mentioned), which necessarily absorbed more water, and produced a greater weight of bread than Irish wheat; but the information obtained from Drogheda shows, that by purchasing Irish wheat at present, or the meal, and having it made into bread, the cost is still within reach of the wages which the labouring classes can earn.

Mr. STANLEY to Mr. ROBINSON.

*Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
December 4, 1846.*

COMMISSARY-GENERAL Sir Randolph J. Routh begs to state, in reply to your further inquiry of the 3rd instant, that the rule in the Treasury Minute of the 31st of August last, as to the prices of food provided with Relief Funds, to which Government shall have contributed, is the rule that Relief Committees administering such funds are bound to follow.

He desires to observe, that giving food under current prices, at a loss to the fund with which it was purchased, is a relief in aid of wages, not sanctioned by Government, and is analogous to the part payment of wages out of the poor rates, which in England, under the late Poor Laws, produced so many evils.

Where families are so large, as that the earnings of one member are not sufficient to obtain subsistence, he trusts that some means of employing the females or youths can be adopted by the Relief Committee.

But if the Committee shall continue to sell under the prices of the local markets, the account of expenditure cannot be admitted; and he will be precluded from recommending a donation to be made on any further subscriptions which the Committee may collect.

In the ensuing week he proposes to forward some papers to the Committee on the means of providing cheap food for the use of the labouring population.

Mr. STANLEY to Mr. WALKER.

*Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
December 4, 1846.*

I AM directed to forward to you, in compliance with the request of Colonel Jones, 60 copies of the Instructions to the Inspecting Officers acting under the Commissary-General; and I am to state, that it is particularly desired that these Instructions shall be given only to the officers of the Board of Works who may require them, and with a direction that care be taken to keep them from the public newspapers, or from public circulation.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

COMMUNICATIONS referred by the UNDER-SECRETARY for IRELAND to the COMMISSARY-GENERAL, from 7th to 9th December, 1846, both days inclusive.

APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
D 9132	King's	Tullamore Committee forward a memorial praying for a liberal grant in aid of the subscriptions (302l. 4s. 3d. certified), and stating that they were obliged to sell wheaten meal at 1s. 8d. per stone, &c.
Attention is drawn to the Treasury Minute of the 31st of August last (a copy forwarded), requiring that all food provided with funds to which Government may contribute, shall be sold at market prices; stating, at the same time, that no deviation from this rule can be made without necessarily discouraging local traders or others from enlarging the supply on sale, and inviting a pressure on the low-priced stores of the Committee, which must soon exhaust the Relief Fund, that ought to be maintained for the whole period of distress; observing that papers, pointing out various means of providing comparatively cheap food, will be immediately supplied to Relief Committees; and notifying, that as compliance with the regulations of Government is the condition on which grants are made, it is necessary to obtain from the Committee a promise of future conformity before one can be recommended on the subscriptions set forth in the list transmitted.		
W 21,802	Mayo	Loughborough.—The Roman Catholic clergyman prays for the establishment of a depot at Loughborough.
Informed that it is not intended to have a Commissariat depot at Loughborough, as there is one at Westport; but that if any Relief Committee for the barony of Murrisk shall collect subscriptions for providing supplies of food, a donation in aid will be recommended, on condition that the food shall be sold at market prices.		
Z 21,182	Armagh	Jamessborough Committee inquire as to the salary and other expenses of Committee.

Communications, &c.—continued.

APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
Z 21,152	Armagh	Paper returned to Under Secretary, with memorandum, stating that a letter precisely similar had been previously received from the Committee, by the Commissary-General, and answered by return of post.
D 9149	Kerry.	Tribut Committee forward resolutions, stating that the people have been without provisions for three days, not from want of funds, but from the supposed impossibility of obtaining food from Limerick, and praying for a supply from the ship "Madagascar."
R 28,144	Limerick.	Paper returned with memorandum for the Under Secretary, observing that a communication will be made by Commissary-General Hewson on the subject; but that it does not appear that the parties have applied to Limerick. Shanagullen Committee apply for two registry books for labour applicants. Books forwarded on the 8th December, 1846, as requested by a letter addressed to the Board of Works, and referred to this Office.
8002	. . . . .	The Under-Secretary.—Requesting that the attention of Relief Committee may be drawn to the necessity of strictly scrutinising the lists of applicants for employment; and forwarding the copy of a letter addressed to the Board of Works, in reply to one representing the difficulties in respect to these lists, which are met with by the Inspecting Officers of that Board. Circular prepared, printed, and issued. Copy annexed. Sixty copies sent to Board of Works (8413), for the information of the Board's Inspecting Officers.

CIRCULAR to the SECRETARY of each RELIEF COMMITTEE.

Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
December 8, 1846.

SIR,

COMMISSARY-GENERAL Sir Randolph J. Routh has received directions from Government to impress on each Relief Committee the importance of closely investigating the grounds on which employment on the Public Works shall be sought by each applicant.

Any want of attention to this essential preliminary duty necessarily leads to the admission of persons to the Public Works who may not require relief, or may require it less than other applicants, whom they exclude.

To admit all applicants would be productive of ruinous consequences, and is not necessary, as many persons who apply are known to have other resources. A scrutiny is, therefore, indispensable to keep down the amount of local taxation which the works will occasion, as well as to distribute the employment among the really necessitous classes.

Applicants who have not any land should not be admitted on the registry for employment, until it is clearly ascertained that they cannot get work in their usual pursuits; that they have been for some time unemployed; and have no other present source of maintenance.

Applicants who have land should not be registered, unless the Committee shall be satisfied that every person admitted is actually destitute of means of subsistence, and cannot obtain them otherwise than by employment on the Public Works.

The extent of land held by each applicant should be carefully ascertained; and although there are cases in which holders of a larger quantity than has been ordinarily held for potato crop, may be rendered destitute by some combination of unfortunate circumstances, still it is considered that the occupation of more land than may have been used for producing the yearly supply of potatoes, must be held by the Committee as disqualifying the applicants from employment without satisfactory evidence of destitution, as well as proof of inability to procure subsistence, unless employed on the Public Works.

Each Committee should apply to the Board of Guardians of the Union, for permission to extract from the rate book, or to receive from the Clerk of the Union (on making compensation out of the Relief Fund) a list of the occupiers of land in each townland within the relief district, from which application for employment shall be made.

It is considered that any person whose land may be valued on the rate-books at 6*l.* or upwards, is likely to possess means of providing for the maintenance of his family without resorting to the Relief Works; and the application of every such person should therefore be rejected at once, unless the most undoubted evidence of destitution shall be presented.

In fixing on "6*l.*, or upwards" as an amount of value requiring rejection of the applicant, it is not intended that lesser amounts should be regarded as entailing the occupiers of such lesser holdings to admission, without questioning the necessity for relief in each case. In every case the most rigid scrutiny is necessary for public protection, and the Committee cannot shrink from the duty of making it.

The evidence of destitution which the Committee should require is not intended to be ordinary word of testimony, but searching local investigation, made in Committee, as well as in the townlands.

I have, &c.,

W. STANLEY, Secretary.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

REPORT of Correspondence from 7th to 9th December, 1846, both days inclusive.

LOCAL COMMITTEES.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.	Subscriptions			Donations Recommended.		
			£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
8048	Longford	Clonbrody, Barony of						
		Ground	63	0	0	31	10	0
7990	Sligo	Sreen, barony of						
		Trough	55	13	0	27	10	0
		Totals	£118	13	0	58	0	0
7996	Wexford, barony of	Fethard (No. 4 District) Committee request that the Com-						
	Shelburne.	missary-General will apply for a grant out of the Calcutta						
		Fund, in aid of their Relief Fund.						
		Informed that all applications to the Trustees of the Calcutta						
		Fund should proceed directly from the local bodies or individuals						
		soliciting a contribution; reference is made to the Office.						

APPLICATIONS WITH REFERENCE TO MEAL, FOOD, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7995	Westmeath	Mullingar Committee inquire where rice and Indian meal may be procured, and the price.
		Informed that Indian meal is 16s. to 17s. per ton, but that East India rice may be bought in Dublin for about the same price, and will go further in use. Reference is made to the corn merchants for more minute information; observing that papers, pointing out means of providing cheap food, will be forwarded to the Committee in a few days.
7999	Cork	The Very Rev. Lord Mountmorres, Chairman of the Kilderrery Committee, states that the Committee pay 10s. earnings for each ton of Indian meal, and allow 12s. 6d. a-week for selling to a person keeping a public-house, whose sons are stewards on the Public Works, while his son-in-law has horses employed on the works throughout the season.
		Informed that the arrangements for the sale of food provided by the Committee should be reconsidered—that the person employed to make sales should be an individual of character, not in any manner connected with the Public Works, or engaged in the retail of spirituous liquors.
8063	Cork	Paper sent to Mr. Bishop, Inspecting Officer.
		Glanworth Committee propose to open a shop for the sale of soup at 1d. per quart; and inquire if the balance of the Relief Fund of last season, amounting to 70s., can be applied for this purpose.
		Informed that if the price at which the Committee propose to sell the food to be provided with the Relief Fund balance, shall be sufficient to prevent a loss of this fund, there cannot be any objection to the course intended; but observing that the sale of food, of any kind, at prices not sufficient to repay all the expenses of providing it, cannot be sanctioned; also, that the Committee will be immediately supplied with papers pointing out various means of providing cheap food.
8040	Fermanagh	Kilbough Committee inquire if the Commissary-General will pay the constables assisting in the issue of meal to the poor of the district.
		Informed that the whole of the expenses incident to the sale of food by a Relief Committee should be included in the price charged for it, with the first cost, &c.

APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
8062	Monaghan	Caulis Rickard Committee.—Secretary and Treasurer, requesting a list of the members, &c.
		Informed that there is not any list of the Caulisrickard Committee in this office, and referred to the Vice-Lieutenants of the county, or to Mr. Nugent, the Chairman of the Committee.
8001	Cork	Dunderraw Committee having collected subscriptions, pray for aid exceeding the ordinary proportion; this being their first appeal.
		Copies of printed Instructions, and of the Treasury Minute of 31st August last, are forwarded; observing that the latter regulates the amount of grants to be made on local subscriptions; that the former points out the manner in which a grant may be obtained; and that both contain rules for the application of Relief Funds.

LOCAL COMMITTEES—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7990	Cork	Canaway Committee.—The Secretary applies for books, &c. Informed that the Lieutenant of the county has returned Canaway parish as part of the district of Moviddy, &c., to which books were forwarded on the 29th October last.
7997	Armagh	Jonesborough Committee forward a resolution, inquiring what fund the secretary is to be paid from, and the amount. Informed that there is not any other fund for this purpose, except that which may be formed by local subscriptions and the donation in aid, as pointed out by the Instructions, a copy of which is enclosed.
7/8005	Westmeath	Lieutenant-Colonel Archer, Inspecting Officer, inquires as to what may be denominated Letters "received," in contradistinction from letters answered in the form supplied for weekly return of arrangement of his duties, and also as to the handling of proposed business. Informed that under the head of letters received, there should be stated only letters properly so called, and not office papers merely enclosed for perusal, &c. And as to the 2nd query, that at first the description as he given of proposed business will be of a general nature, such as inquiry into the transactions of Relief Committees.
3/8031	Kerry	Captain Reid reports attendance at the Committees of Tralee, Lislaw, and Turbert, and states that they are proceeding well.
5/8051	Kerry	Captain Reid reports further progress.
6/8094	Westmeath	Lieutenant-Colonel Archer reports the result of his visit to Rochfort Bridge Committee.
9/8052	Westmeath	Lieutenant-Colonel Archer acknowledges receipt of papers, and gives an outline of his visiting arrangements, &c.
3/8006	Wexford	Captain Blufford reports his visits to several Committees.
17 8053	Tipperary	Lieutenant-Colonel Douglas reports on the appearance of the lands along the road between Thurles and Templemore, which he considers to be fine grass soils, and observes, that agricultural operations are there in progress.
19 8055	Tipperary	Lieutenant-Colonel Douglas reports his visit to Thurles Committee, where he met the leading men of four other Committees.
7860 8054	Tipperary	Lieutenant-Colonel Douglas forwards the Cashel Account Current, observing on the peculiar circumstance of its having affixed to it the signature of every party but the treasurer of the Committee.
8052	Donegal	Dungloe.—Correspondent applies for payment as secretary to Dungloe Committee. Forwarded to the chairman, of which applicant is applied.

PUBLIC RELIEF WORKS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7999	Cork	Kilderrery Committee.—Chairman states, in reference to the labour lists, that opposite opinions are held; one (for a particular object), that after the lists are completed, other names may be added; on the other side, that the books are closed when the lists are sent in, and that the direction to "revise," in the Instructions, authorizes the Committee only to strike out the names of persons found to have other means of support. Informed that no additions can be made to the lists of persons employed on the Public Works, except when further names are required by the engineer, or when persons are struck off as not entitled to employment; with a view to which latter object only, should a revision be made by the Committee.
9992	Londonderry	Bellaghy Committee request forms for labour lists. Applied that the forms are supplied by the local engineer of Board of Works.
8054	Tyrone	Carnes Committee forward resolution to the effect, that in future no person beyond the precincts of each electoral division in the district (unless in case of extreme destitution) shall receive tickets for employment, to the exclusion of applicants within the division. Informed that if the works to which the Committee will send labourers, are to be charged exclusively on each electoral division, none but persons residing within the respective divisions should be put on the lists for employment on the works presented.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

PUBLIC RELIEF WORKS—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
8945	The Board of Public Works.	Forward Extracts from Reports of the Inspecting Officers for the counties of Armagh and Donagall relative to the extreme destitution existing in Upper Tewa, and Upper Olor, county Armagh, and the irregularity of the returns made out by the Relief Committees in the county Donagall. See answer annexed.
8958	Tipperrary	The Board of Works, in acknowledging a letter of 24th ultimo, relative to delay in paying wages, state that their local officer reports,—“In almost all cases, from ten to fourteen days of arrears of pay cannot be avoided, as the pay sheets are not made till the week is concluded, and must be then inspected and checked, before being sent to the pay clerks.”—Deposit.
8968	Donagall	Raphee Committee pray for immediate work.
8959	Kings	Castlejordan Committee request forms of labour list.
8114	Queen's	Enno Committee ditto ditto.
7931	Tyrone	Urney Committee pray for immediate works.
8105	Wexford	Killurin Committee pray for increased works. Informed that their applications are forwarded to the Board of Works.

APPLICATIONS FOR BOOKS, PAPERS, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
8970	Tipperrary	Templemore, Killeen, Tubrid, Kilsaranin, Shamshan, &c., and Tonerara Committee.—Sent.
8916	Meath	George's Cross Committee.—Sent.
8913		Castleown Area Committee.—Sent.
8913		Shamgolden Committee.—Sent.
8949		Broadway Committee.—Sent.
7970		Eyre Court Committee.
8972	Galway	Turlough Committee, } Sent. Kilfin, &c., Committee.
8943	Kildare	Lieutenant of County notifies a change in the Secretary of Time-see Committee.—Noted.
8968	Kilkenny	Names of Chairmen and Secretaries of the several Committees in Barony of Shillelagh are supplied by Vice-Lieutenant of County. Noted, and books, &c., forwarded.
8967	Cavan	Clankee Committee apply for books for Kingscourt Sub-Committee.—Sent.
8913	Queen's	Vice-Lieutenant of county furnishes name of Chairman and Secretary of the Barro, &c., Committee.—Noted.
8911	Tyrone	Lieutenant of County supplies name of Chairman and Secretary of Ballygawley Committee. Noted, and books, &c., sent.
8940	Longford	Clonbrony Committee apply for Acts, Papers, &c. Informed that the Acts and Papers were forwarded on 13th October last, but that a further supply is now sent.

COMMUNICATIONS RELATIVE TO SEED RYE, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
8919	Mayo	Bellinlet Committee inquire what quantity of seed rye can be obtained by them from the Commissary-General. Informed that arrangements for distribution of the seed rye, &c., received, will be communicated immediately to Committee.

Mr. STANLEY to Mr. HOBNEY.

Commissariat Relief Office,
Dublin Castle, December 9, 1845.

HAVING laid your letter of the 7th instant, and its enclosures, before Commissary-General Sir Randolph J. Routh, I am directed to convey his thanks to the Board of Works.

With respect to the distress in the baronies of Upper Fews and Upper Olor, county Armagh, where the Inspecting Officer (Lieutenant Griffith) reports “the poorer class of farmers and cottiers generally to be in a state approaching to starvation,—he having witnessed many instances

of absolute destitution and famine.—I am to state that the Commissariat arrangements are restricted by the Government, to the western division of Ireland.

In reference to the Report of Captain O'Neill, from the county Donagal, pointing to the irregularity of Relief Committees there in placing the names of small farmers on the lists of applicants for work, I am directed to state that a circular is going forward to the Committees, drawing attention to the necessity which requires that they should make a strict scrutiny in every case, at the same time referring to the regulation for excluding occupiers of land rated at 6*l.* or upwards, unless found to be actually in destitution, like, for example, the poorer class of farmers in the county Armagh, many of whom are found by Lieutenant Griffith to be in a state approaching to starvation.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, December 26, 1846.

I SEND you a note of the extent of storeroom now available for the reception of supplies in the several depots in the river Shannon, under Commissary-General Hewetson, which he has since sent me:—

City of Limerick	4250 sacks of meal
Tarbert (Madagscar)	4000 ditto
Kilrush	5000 ditto

Equal, at 8 sacks of 20 stone each to the ton, to 1856 tons.

For meal in barrel, or biscuit in bags, a greater quantity may be stored, as they can be piled higher up than meal sacks.

Corn in bulk cannot be stored with security in the floating depots.

Added to this, a further magazine can be secured for about 1000 tons in a convenient situation.

I send you copies of the reports of Assistant Commissary-General Inglis, from Skibbereen, which I think are very satisfactory; but it will be necessary to extend the same arrangements to Skull, Baltimore, and Crookhaven.

I have a short note from Mr. Mensel, of Tervoe, stating, that at least 250 acres of flax will be sown, and that each of these acres will require a Riga barrel of seed.

I send you my answer to Mr. O'Connell. I avoided entering into any discussion with him. His chief object was evidently that the tranquillity should not be disturbed at Cahirciveen, and the detachment of troops will secure this.

I send you some extracts from Mr. Dobree, which explain the necessity of our issuing at the new posts now forming in Donegal.

ENCLOSURE.

Assistant Commissary-General INGLIS to Commissary-General HEWETSON.

Skibbereen, December 21, 1846.

I DID not receive your letter of the 19th instant until after I had made arrangements with a Committee already formed for the relief of the poor, by giving them soup on a small scale. Together with this Committee I have had the able assistance of several of the most respectable persons in the place, who have subscribed 85*l.*, and paid it into the bank, and I have met them with a similar sum, making 170*l.*, which will enable us to open two large establishments for the daily supply of soup, to a large and starving number of people, for nearly two months. And I have made them a further promise, that if they comply with the conditions I have made with them, I will solicit leave to give them a further sum. A copy of the resolutions, together with several other important and startling documents, I will bring with me for your information.

You will hardly credit that between the 5th November and the 21st December, 197 persons have died in the poorhouse alone, besides nearly, if not quite, half that number have died in their cabins, or have been found dead in the lanes or streets. On my arrival on Saturday, a girl about nine years old was found lying on a heap of dirt near the police barrack, dead, her father and mother having died a few days previously. Also two men were discovered dead in a miserable hut, partly re-entred, and no one to remove them. With the assistance of the police I had the three buried, but without the attendance of a clergyman or any other person. The fact is, they have come to a resolution to bury them without coffin or clergyman, and to appropriate these expenses to the support of the living.

You will find that no part of the money lodged in the bank is to be drawn out for the expense of the soup-houses without being countersigned by Mr. Hughes, and that he is to be furnished daily with the number of persons receiving soup, which return he is to forward direct to Sir R. J. Keith.

If I get the second establishment under way to-morrow, I will leave this on early Wednesday morning, on my return to Limerick. A large number got a supply of excellent soup to-day.

Mr. Hughes has his store in good order, and every article seems to be sound and good. I shall not be able to go to Castletown.

Nearly all the members of the Soup Committee are members of the Relief Committee, but I did not confer with the latter as a body, as I found they had not agreed together.

Captain Reid arrived this forenoon and passed on, and is to be here on Wednesday next, to meet the Relief Committee.

Assistant Commissary-General INGLIS to Deputy Assistant Commissary-General ROUTH.

Skibbereen, December 23, 1846.

Will you have the goodness to inform Sir Randolph that, owing to the bad state of the roads, I did not reach this place until late on Saturday, and that on Sunday I called on several members of the Relief Committee, and also upon several clergymen and other respectable persons, and that I ascertained that they had already established a Committee for the relief of the distressed, and issued a small quantity of soup daily.

On Monday I requested a meeting of all the respectable persons in and about this place, and stated to them, that from all I could see and hear, their present relief was quite inadequate to the pressing wants of the poor and distressed people of this unfortunate place, and that, if they would subscribe the sum of 85*l*, and place it in the bank, I would give an equal sum, and we should, without delay, establish two large soup-houses, one at each end of the town, which was at once agreed to; and the sum subscribed, together with the 85*l* I gave, was deposited in the bank, with the understanding that no part was to be drawn unless the cheques were countersigned by Mr. Hughes, agreeably to the copy (herewith enclosed) of the resolution drawn up at the meeting, signed by Mr. Somerville, chairman; who, by the way, is a most respectable gentlemanly person, and has great influence here.

We have at present a boiler of 125 gallons, and a second of about 60 gallons under way, but both at one end of the town; for this reason, that the Committee having a large boiler at Cork, which is to be here on Saturday, it would not be worth while to remove the small one from its present place for a few days; and, moreover, Sir William Bircher having kindly given up a house at the north end of the town, having a large fire-place at one end, where it can be placed, and the other part of the building can be fitted up for the issue of meal in retail.

Distress and misery prevail here to an awful extent. Since the 5th November to the 20th December, 197 persons have died in the poorhouse, and at least half that number out of it, many having been found in the back lanes and streets lying dead, without any one to afford them the most common rites of burial.

I can assure you, that on Saturday evening after my arrival, I had three unfortunate persons buried by the police, without clergyman or any one to attend their relics to the grave; one a girl about nine years of age, her father and mother having died a few days previously, found lying dead on a heap of dirt; the other two found by the police in a hovel, and partly eaten by the rats. The fact is, that fever and bowel complaints have reached to such a pitch that the people begin to fear going near each other. In many instances the dead bodies are taken a short distance from the cabins, and thrown into a grave without a coffin. But you must recollect that this mortality is confined to a certain class of persons, who are always to be found in and about all towns in Ireland, such as the labouring people and beggars. The country people generally never looked more healthy, and, I am told, will have provisions till about May next. They are eating the produce of their own grain, and paying no rents.

Captain Reid is here; he came from Skell this morning, and tells me that the poor there are in a sad state of destitution, and I have also learnt the same accounts from Balmora and Crookhaven; and you may rely upon it, that if some timely aid is not given, they will soon be in the same miserable state that they are in here. I have the same accounts from Bantry, and all up in that direction; and also at Bandon I understand they are in a dreadful state.

I have had every assistance from Mr. Hughes; he is a member of the Soup Committee by right, having subscribed to it, and he has also kindly offered his services to attend and instruct in making soup at the south-east establishment, and its being near his residence will give him frequent opportunities of looking in to see what is going on. I have no doubt, when the two houses are well under way, that you will find the most beneficial results will be felt from such an establishment by the distressed. We are to have one of the police at each house, to prevent rows and to see that each article is put into the boilers in time, so as to have the soup ready at 12 o'clock for delivery.

You must excuse this hasty scrawl, as I have just returned from the soup establishments, quite a new sort of Commissariat duty.

P.S.—I leave this in the morning.

(MEMORANDUM.)

			£.	s.	d.
Given to the Soup Committee at Skibbereen	.	.	85	0	0
Ditto ditto at Castletown	.	.	10	0	0
Ditto ditto to Clergyman	.	.	3	0	0
Ditto ditto by myself to poor distressed persons	.	.	2	0	0
Lodged in the bank in the name of Commissary-General Hewatson			100	0	0
Total	.	.	200	0	0

Skibbereen, December 21, 1846.

MINUTES of Proceedings of a Meeting held at the house of the Rev. JOHN FITZPATRICK, R.C. Adv. of SKIBBEREEN, for the purpose of establishing a Soup Kitchen, for the relief of the Poor of Skibbereen and neighbourhood.

Thos. Somerville, Esq., J.P., and Chairman of the Relief Committee and Board of Guardians, Chairman, present; Mr. Inglis, Assistant-Commissary; Michael Galway, Esq., J.P.; Daniel McCarthy; Daniel Wipley; Thos. St. John Clarke; Wm. Clarke; Rev. Mr. Freke, Rector of Killea; P. B. Griffin, Manager of N. Bank; Rev. Arthur O'Leary, and Rev. John Fitzpatrick.

The following arrangements were entered into, viz:—

1st. That a sum of £51, be lodged in the Provincial Bank of Skibbereen by Mr. Inglis, to the credit of the Soup Committee for the establishment of a Soup Kitchen, a similar sum having been deposited in some bank by the Committee for the same object.

2nd. Any sum necessary for the conducting of the soup kitchen to be drawn by an order on the Treasurer, signed by any three members of the Committee and countersigned by Mr. Hughes, Assistant-Commissary.

3rd. A daily account of the number of persons relieved each day at the soup establishment to be given by the Secretary of the Soup Committee to Mr. Hughes, Assistant-Commissary, for transmission to the Commissary-General, Sir Roderick Smith.

4th. That, in addition to the soup-kitchen already in operation, another be established in the house in North-street, given gratuitously for this purpose by Sir Wm. W. Bircher, formerly used as a schoolhouse; that one or two boilers be there got up, in order that the Committee may be enabled to give more general relief than they have hitherto done.

5th. That as soon as possible an account be made out by the members of the Committee of the widows, orphans, infirm, disabled, and such other destitute persons in the district as are unable to support themselves by industry.

6th. That in the new soup-house, in addition to the boilers to be set up, an apparatus be provided for the purpose of preparing suitable drink and food for the sick poor in the district, as the poorhouse and fever hospital attached thereto contain a much greater number than they were intended to accommodate.

7th. That Mr. John Wm. Clarke be requested to act as Secretary; and on his return home to summon an extraordinary meeting of the Committee on the earliest convenient day, for the purpose of carrying into immediate operation the foregoing arrangements.

(Signed) T. SOMERVILLE, Chairman.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. O'CONNELL, M.P.

The Castle, Dublin, December 10, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, and to acquaint you that orders were despatched to Commissary-General Hewetson to give every attention to your business, and to forward your supply with all possible speed.

I am sorry to acquaint you that a large concourse of people, amounting to about one thousand, assembled round the Commissariat depot at Cahirciveen, breaking partly through one of the windows, but were finally induced to desist from further violence as the instance of the Committee, by whom a distribution of biscuit and meal was made to them.

I regret that it is not in my power to make to you a sale of the biscuit in store at Cahirciveen, but I think such a measure is not now necessary, as directions have already been transmitted to Cahirciveen to open that depot for sale one or two days in each week, which I trust will meet your object.

EXTRACT of a Letter from Deputy-Commissary-General DORRICE to Sir R. ROUTH, dated Sligo, December 24, 1846.

"I ASSURE you that I have taken every precaution to avoid any pressure on our depots for the present. I have authorised Deputy-Assistant-Commissary-Generals Gem and McCulloch to issue a small quantity weekly for immediate wants; but to stimulate the Committees to look again to the markets around them as soon as the roads are open. These premature sales have been forced unavoidably upon us by the heavy and unusually early fall of snow; the ground was again covered with it this morning."

Deputy Commissary-General IBBETSON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Malta, December 26, 1846.

I REPORTED to you, in my letter of the 3rd inst., that the Admiral had engaged a vessel to convey the Indian corn meal (ground at the steam bakery) to Ireland, and that I had accepted an offer of beans to fill up the cargo at 29s. per salm; but the same parties having offered to supply pence instead of beans at 31s.6d. per salm, I have thought it advisable to accept the same, having found on trial

that these pease make excellent soup with a good deal of boiling, and much more nutritious, as an article of food, than beans; but I propose to put on board a small quantity of the beans as a sample.

The cargo now shipping on board the "Robert," a vessel of 272 tons register, and which brought us out salt meat from England, is

Indian corn meal, 295,743 lbs. in casks, the produce of 664½ salms.

Barley meal, 81,300 lbs. in 290 sacks of 280 lbs. each.

Pease, 898½ salms; there may be more required to fill up the vessel completely.

The vessel is expected to be ready for sea by the 30th instant. I will write further by the mail, *via* Southampton, which leaves this evening.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, December 26, 1846.

IN reply to your letter No. 422, dated 28rd instant, I have the honour to request your reference, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, to the able Report of Assistant Commissary-General Bishop, on the Donoughmore district, which will give to you a clear explanation of the state of the baronies of East Muskerry; and I beg to acquaint you that I have applied to the Board of Works, and expect their answer in the course of the day, to ascertain if they require an advance of money to commence the works in question, and I shall bring the subject at once under the notice of his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant.

See page 296.

I hope to communicate to you the result before the mail closes.

Captain O'BRIEN to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Limerick, December 26, 1846.

I HAVE directed my attention to the sources from whence the peasantry at present derive the employment on which their existence depends. These sources are—

1st. Agricultural labour.

2nd. Labour on the public roads under the Act, 9 and 10 Vict. c. 107.

3rd. Labour under Mr. Labouchere's letter of the 5th of October.

4th. Labour under the regulations as to loans for drainage embankments, &c., &c., for which provision is made in the Public Works Act, 9 Vict., c. 1.

With respect to the first, it has been stated that the farmers cannot obtain labourers, and the land is, therefore, being thrown out of cultivation. I believe there is much misconception on this point, and instead of farmers being put to great inconvenience and loss for the want of labourers, they are employing as many, or nearly so, as they usually employ at this season of the year. I am told by *really practical* agriculturists, on whom every reliance must be placed, that hitherto the labourers had but little to do at this period, as they did not prepare the ground for oats till March, potato-setting not commencing until April or May, and turf-cutting being done in the summer. It is true that the little demand for manual labour and its consequent cheapness induced the farmers to have their stubbles dug by spade at this time instead of having them turned over by the plough; but there was a doubt among them whether it was not better to let the land remain untouched until the spring. This year those who desire to turn the stubble will do so by the plough, because at the present high rate of wages spade labour would be too expensive. Sowing wheat is proceeding as usual. Between Nenagh and Birdhill, a distance of 10 miles, I counted 71 men and 16 sets of ploughs and harrows at work in the fields within an average distance of 300 yards from the road on either side.

But the real difficulty will be experienced in March and April if the labourers cannot be procured then to get the Lent corn into the ground. How this difficulty is to be met I am not now prepared to suggest. At present, I can only state the fact, which is one of great importance.

The poor people who have land are doing all they can to spare the corn for seed. I have heard instances of their having stinted themselves to one meal

a-day rather than break in on the seed corn; but present hunger is more pressing than provision against future want: no furnishing man will long practice self-denial, and deep roads have already been made on this score.

With respect to the labour on the roads under the Act 9 and 10 Vic. c. 107, I need scarcely say that it has saved thousands from death by starvation; but otherwise it has, as I am informed, been of little value. The old high-roads have, in many places, been rendered impassable. The Dublin Mail was upset close to this place the other day. The old bye-roads have had more money expended on them than the value of all that will ever travel over them many times told. The new lines of road are, for the most part, constructed where the wants of the country did not call for them.

But it will be said there were other objects in view besides the mere improvement of the communications through the country, viz., to coerce the landlords into employing the people on their respective estates; and to establish in Ireland the wholesome system of task-work in lieu of daily wages. From what I can learn, success has not attended the steps which have been taken for either purpose. In Clare, certainly, the landlords have done nothing to abstract the labour from the roads. Though task-work has been adopted on the Public Works, it has not become popular with the labourers themselves, owing, mainly, to the want of a sufficient number of competent overseers who have been in the habit of setting bodies of men to work, apportioning the tasks among the several gangs, and measuring up the work afterwards, so that each individual employed might know what he had to do at starting, might be able to make the most of his time, and afterwards be certain of being fairly paid for what he had done. At present the masses of labouring men are too vast to be easily handled, and most of the overseers are without experience—many of them without honesty. The labourers argue that, if daily wages at a fixed amount were paid to them, all would be treated alike; but when it is left to the overseer to apportion the tasks, to measure up, and, practically, to decide how much each is to receive without any previous covenant or explanation, they say that they know not what is before them either as to the extent of work they are about to perform or the price which they are to be paid for it; and according to the prejudices of the overseer or the bribes which he is offered are they treated and paid. There is, undoubtedly, much truth in this. But the engineers find it almost impossible to obtain good overseers, and I believe they are not unfrequently in the dilemma of being obliged to retain men of doubtful capacity, or even suspected mal-practices, because they could only supply their places by those whom they know to be as bad or even worse.

With respect to the operation of Mr. Labouchere's letter of the 5th of October, I understand that herenabouts but little has been done under it. The landlords do not like it. They say, first, because as the work of drainage is to be done by the labour of the destitute at the present high prices, it will be performed neither so cheaply nor so well as to enable them to reap a profit, although the capital so expended be at a rate of only $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. interest. Secondly, because they are not absolved thereby from bearing their proportion of the repayment of the sum expended on Public Works in their electoral division. Thirdly, because there is no certainty as to the apportionment of the cost, or of the prospective possible profit between the landlords and the tenants.

In certain cases, too, where an electoral division is very poor, and many destitute persons are contained in it, while the remainder of the barony is not so poor, and where from the geographical positions of the electoral divisions the distances which the labourers would have to be sent from the very poor division to another division would be inconveniently great, it has been found necessary to conduct the baronial sessions under the Act, and not under Mr. Labouchere's letter.

But there is an additional reason, and one which is more powerful than all the others, I believe, though not prominently avowed; and that is, the Legislature neither will nor can cause repayment of the advances by the Executive Government for Public Works to be made out of the land; but, on the other hand, will compel the repayment from the land of monies spent in thorough drainage and subsoiling.

And here I may observe that the mass of the people firmly believe the money paid for Public Works will be provided from the general funds of the State. They say the loss of the potato is by the hand of the Almighty: it is a destruction of property not caused by the fault or act of man: a disaster, the sad effects of

which ought not to be borne exclusively by the owners of the land in Ireland, but should be regarded as a great national loss to which the whole community must contribute through the instrumentality of taxation.

With regard to the instructions from the Board of Works as to loans for drainage, embankments, &c., &c., under the Act Vic. 9, c. 1, to which allusion is made in the Treasury Minute of the 1st of December, and in your letter to the Commissioners of the 15th, I have heard nothing but commendation. Before I left Dublin, Mr. Radcliff had given me several copies of the printed Instructions to distribute as I thought fit. They have been much approved of, and I hope and believe that they will be extensively acted upon. At the same time you ought to be made aware that there is a great disinclination on the part of the landlords to involve themselves in any additional debt or undertaking until they know beyond a doubt what the law will be, and how they may be affected eventually by the Act of Parliament alluded to in your letter.

Much has been written and said against the Relief Committees, and, in several instances, there has been much which is reprehensible; but from what I hear I am inclined to think that the majority have done their duty. The majority, too, of the priests, considering how they are circumstanced, have behaved well; and certainly, the patience and self-denial of the people have been beyond all praise. The labourers work for their wages, but seeing clearly that what they are doing on the public roads is of no real value, their heart, as they say, is not in it. Naturally quick in feeling, and acute in intellect, they have no lively interest in the completion of a task which, though it keeps them from starvation, is manifestly unproductive.

I must now close this long letter.

MR. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

Treasury, December 28, 1846.

OVERLEAF you will find a copy of the application I have made to Mr. Lewis for the assistance of some of his Assistant Poor Law Commissioners, and of his reply. Pray speak at once to Mr. Twisleton, and tell him that the gentlemen we wish to borrow from the Poor Law system are to be employed under you in looking after the Relief Committees, stimulating them to exertion, and reporting to you in what cases and to what extent assistance ought to be given.

We consider it here as perfectly understood that the depots in the Western District are to be henceforth opened for the sale of food as far as may be prudent and necessary; that although the poor-houses are to be extended, and rates levied as far as practicable, we are mainly to depend upon the Relief Committees for the relief of urgent distress, and that you are authorized to double, and I would say, in a very extreme case, to more than double, the local subscription of a Relief Committee.

THE SECRETARY of the ADMIRALTY to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Admiralty, December 28, 1846.

WITH reference to your letter of the 19th instant, stating that the Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury are of opinion that the "Rhadamanthus" and "Stromboli" steam vessels should be entirely appropriated for the conveyance of meal, and that another powerful steam vessel should be employed on that service, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you, that the "Rhadamanthus" has been ordered to take on board as much meal as she can stow, at Portsmouth, and to proceed direct to Clifden, county Galway, and Belmullet, county Mayo, with directions to leave half her cargo at each place, and to return to Plymouth immediately; also that Her Majesty's steam ship "Avenger" has been ordered to be loaded with meal at Devonport; and that Her Majesty's steam ship "Dragon," now at Sheerness, will be appropriated for this service when ready.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

December 29, 1846.

Transmit copies of this letter to Sir R. Routh and Sir Edward Coffin, for their information.

Sir R. ROUTH to Lieut.-Colonel DOUGLAS.

December 28, 1846.

THE causes which impede improvement in Ireland are not susceptible of speedy change; they are deep-seated and complicated, require skilful legislation, social repose, an alteration of long standing practice, and an application of capital to the soil much beyond the amount now so applied. All these will take much time, and living men can only hope to see them in progress. To be sanguine of seeing much improvement soon realized, is to be building hopes without foundation.

The first object should be to get as much food from the land as was obtained before the potato failure.

If the roads could be adjusted, and all lands turned to the labour necessary for obtaining the supply of food which is required, there would be ample reward for exertion, and the hope of success is neither very uncertain nor remote.

The Inspecting Officers should rather make their inquiries according to their opportunities afforded by intercourse with Relief Committees than by the distribution of queries. Abundant means of information will be presented even in the examination of the claims of applicants for employment.

You state that fever is rapidly increasing.

Wherever fever is increasing, the Relief Committee should be made aware that the Board of Guardians of the Union ought to provide a temporary hospital as by law required. Leaving the poor ill with fever at their homes is productive of great misery.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin,

December 28, 1846.

I HAVE been so overwhelmed with letters to-day, to which it was necessary to reply, that I must write only part of what I have to say.

I forget if I sent to you, as I intended, the additional Instruction to Committees in regard to donations. I now enclose it. It was drawn up at the desire of Mr. Labouchere, and corrected by him.

I also send you a copy of my letter to Assistant Commissary-General Bishop, which was in like manner submitted to and approved by Mr. Labouchere before it was sent.

The object of it is to extend to all those remote places at the south-west the advantage of the same arrangements as those now in force at Skibbereen for the establishment of soup-shops, which, indeed, in the inability of these people to purchase the more expensive food, is almost their only resource.

I am so little satisfied with the state of Mayo and Roscommon, and see how indispensable it is to rouse those two counties to some exertion in their own behalf, that however I am pressed here I must detach Mr. Adams on this duty. The experience he will acquire will only fit him the more for the duties hereafter at Dublin, which cannot be carried on by new men.

Our present prices are as follow :—

	£	s.	
Indian corn	17	0	per ton.
Indian meal	18	0	"
Oatmeal	22	0	"
Barley meal	16	0	"
Biscuit (the old biscuit assorted)	16	0	"
Pease	16	10	"
Wheat meal	18	0	"

I received a letter from Mr. Chapple, and I think his plan excellent, and the one, on the whole, better than the stone.

Pray tell me what you think of the prices. It would not be wise to put barley meal and pease higher now; I fear the latter is too high already. They must first please before they can be high priced.

ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTION TO COMMITTEES.

December 14, 1846.

IN consequence of the applications in many Unions of destitute persons to workhouses which are unable to receive them, and the want which prevails generally amongst the population of those districts where the poor-houses are full, his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant is desirous of giving a more extended encouragement to subscriptions made in such localities; and where the circumstances of the case warrant his doing so, the Commissary-General will be authorised to recommend, on the usual application, a sum not exceeding the amount subscribed, having reference to the extent of destitution in each district.

Sir R. ROUTH to Assistant Commissary-General BISHOP.

The Castle, Dublin, December 26, 1846.

I AM sorry to interrupt the course of your inspection, which you are carrying on in a very satisfactory and able manner.

You will have heard that there has been a great deal of distress and destitution at Skibbereen, and I found it necessary to detach Assistant Commissary-General Inglis from Limerick to establish soup-shops in that town, and to advance to them upon any subscriptions that they would make pound for pound.

The inhabitants subscribed 85*l.*, to which be added a similar sum.

A large soup-shop has been established at each extremity of the town, with a policeman to each, to see that the articles purchased for the soup are put into it, that the distribution commences at twelve o'clock, and that order is preserved.

Mr. Inglis has been obliged to return to Limerick, but the same arrangement has to be made at Scull, Baldinree, and Crookhaven, and Bantry and Castletown (Bervlaven).

I have no alternative but to ask you to perform this duty.

I beg you to observe that it is a main point to obtain some subscription from the inhabitants, and there must be somebody in each of these parishes capable of some contribution.

The Chief Secretary has authorised me to sanction a grant of pound for pound on all such subscriptions; and further he has informed me, if there should be a case of such paramount distress as to call upon you to recommend a larger sum, that he will, on your representation of it through me, advise the sanction of the grant.

I know I am quite safe in transferring this authority to you, that you will use it with a just and careful discretion, and that you will only apply it to such an exigency as may warrant this exercise of liberality.

I shall address my next letter to you at Skibbereen, and transfer to your credit a sum of money sufficient for these operations.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, December 26, 1846.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you, for the information of the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the Weekly Return of the Commissariat Depots in Ireland, and also a statement of the amount of donations, and of the sums subscribed up to the 26th instant.

Estrogenic

WEEKLY STATE of PROVISIONS, &c., in the several Depôts in Ireland, on the evening of Saturday, the 25th December, 1845.

DEPOTS.	Indian Corn in Quarters of Eight Bushels each.			Indian Corn Meal.		Oats.	Barley.	Wheat Meal.	Buckley Meal.	Egyptian Wheat.	Rye in Bush.
			With Shells.								
	In Port.	In Store.		Sacks, 280 lbs.	Sacks, 280 lbs.						
Limerick	7,126	29	..	..	..	..	..
Kilrush	197	..	..	..	..	..	..
Malinbeg	1,184	384	1,654	..	..	..	..
Handbowline	250	..	1,110	..	..	..	..
Scribbreen	924	..	519	..	..	..	..
Dingle	1,435	..	83	..	..	..	..
Caherciveen	426	..	1,124	..	..	..	..
Castletown
Galway	\$,147	9	10	..	..	..	..
Westport	..	768	718	..	1,199	24	..	..	..	..	..
Clifden	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
Betmalet
Sligo	2,998	..	664	..	565	..	157	..	..	1,216	..
Bellina	359	..	..	..	..	..	..
Killybegs	..	1,308	23	..	206	..	..	..	..	..	..
Burton Post	..	314	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dunfingally	598	903	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dublin	361	1,456	876	500	148	5,160	..	..
Bonaghier	759	..	..	..	..	..	..
Longford	133	106	464	..	688	..	..
Castlerea	15	..	180	..	..	..	..
Rosecommon	16	..	200	..	..	..	..
Total	2,998	2,690	1,403	959	20,256	1,518	5,881	148	5,746	1,216	..

Yachts reported as arrived at the following Ports:—

" Lepanto," from New York, at Galway, with about	1,800	quarters of Indian corn.
" Doria," from Genoa, at Dornich, for Westport	861	ditto.
" Cheahrie Lass," from London, at Clifden	389	quarters Pease.
	50	tons Wheaten meal.
" Newport," from Genoa, at Cork, for Bellina.	1,066	quarters Indian corn.
And in transit from Sligo to Killybegs	20	tons Indian meal.
Making a total of	450½	Indian corn
"	47½	pease, and
"	50	wheaten meal
	550½	tons.

RECAPITULATION of REMAINS on the 26th December, 1846.

6,993	quarters Indian corn, at 56. per ton	•	•	1,398½	tons.
21,235	sacks Indian meal, at 84. per ton	•	•	2,614½	„
1,518	sacks oatmeal, at 84. per ton	•	•	189½	„
5,881	bags barley, at 204. per ton	•	•	294½	„
145	sacks wheat meal, at 84. per ton	•	•	18½	„
5,746	sacks barley meal, at 84. per ton	•	•	718½	„
1,216	quarters Egyptian wheat, at 54. per ton	•	•	243½	„
	On bonded vessels on coast, and arrived, about	•	•	550½	„

Total . . . 6,064½ tons.

Total . . . 6,064½ tons.

The Castle,
Dublin, December 28, 1846.

R. J. ROUTH, *Commissioner-General*

STATEMENT of DONATIONS issued under the authority of the Lord Lieutenant to Relief Committees, in aid of SUBSCRIPTIONS in IRELAND, between the 19th and 26th December, 1845.

Date,	Name of Committee.	Donation,			Subscription.		
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
1846.	Amount brought forward . . .	7,872	16	0	15,044	12	24
December 19 .	Fethard District, County Wexford . . .	84	0	0	107	3	9
" "	Ashford District, County Wicklow . . .	150	0	0	234	13	8
" "	Glencary District, County Kildare . . .	33	0	0	65	14	0
" "	Hacketstown District, County Carlow . . .	45	0	0	89	18	0
" "	Clifden District, County Galway . . .	150	0	0	103	15	0

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Statement of Donations, &c.—continued.

Date.	Name of Committee.	Donation.			Subscription.			
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	
December 21 .	Closely and Clegher District, County Tipperary.	135	0	0	139	6	11	
" .	Templemore District, County Tipperary . . .	170	0	0	177	19	4	
" .	Leyney Upper District, County Sligo . . .	60	0	0	60	0	0	
" .	Clonsilla District, County Cork . . .	180	0	0	189	6	6	
December 22 .	Skibbereen District, in aid of Ceylon subscription.	109	0	0	100	0	0	
December 23 .	Macroom District, County Cork . . .	36	0	0	35	5	0	
" .	Carluwat District, County Meath . . .	290	0	0	245	2	6	
" .	Carraigallen District, County Leitrim . . .	40	0	0	60	0	0	
" .	Ballynacker District, County Tipperary . . .	92	0	0	92	8	6	
" .	Baleederry District, County Dublin . . .	90	0	0	137	12	0	
" .	Ballypawley District, County Tyrone . . .	130	0	0	137	2	8	
" .	Wexford District, County Wexford . . .	300	0	0	502	13	14	
December 24 .	Stackallen District, County Meath . . .	80	0	0	100	0	0	
" .	Pethard District, County Tipperary . . .	300	0	0	300	11	0	
" .	Kells District, County Meath . . .	260	0	0	269	14	0	
" .	Roscrea District, County Tipperary . . .	190	0	0	197	10	6	
December 26 .	Forkhill District, County Armagh . . .	113	0	0	113	7	2	
" .	North Feskil District, County Clare . . .	114	0	0	114	10	0	
" .	Keady District, County Armagh . . .	250	0	0	252	15	0	
" .	Rathmoylan District, County Meath . . .	160	0	0	304	13	0	
" .	Darrov District, Queen's County . . .	140	0	0	142	1	0	
" .	Horestown and Kilgarven District, County Wexford.	30	0	0	58	10	4	
Total amount . . .		£	11,504	16	0	29,377	4	2

Dublin Castle,
December 28, 1846.

R. J. ROUTH, Commissary-General.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

December 29, 1846.

THE detailed statement of the available store-room at Limerick, Tarbert, and Kilrush, contained in your letter of the 26th inst. is very satisfactory to me, and I have ordered the 750 tons of Indian corn meal which have been purchased at Liverpool to be shipped at once to Tarbert without the delay of storing it at Liverpool.

You must keep me informed of the available store-room at the different depots, and of the relative urgency of the demand for filling them.

I do not understand your reference to Mr. Monsel of Terree's 250 acres of flax, and I cannot help thinking that you have omitted one or more ciphers; and supposing this to be the case, I want to know what the practical conclusion is as affecting our operations.

Mr. Inglis is turning out a man of sense and capacity, as I expected he would.

I send herewith two confidential copies of the selections from the correspondence of last season, and I shall send one each to Hewetson and Dobree.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

December 29, 1846.

I SEND herewith copies of letters stating that there is no food to be purchased at Dunglow, in the county of Donegal, and Tralee, in the county of Kerry.

I stated in reply that we would call your attention to the subject, but that as Dunglow is on the sea-coast, the Relief Committee there might easily obtain supplies from our depots in the neighbourhood; and I added, that there is a limit, and that not a very wide one, beyond which it is undesirable, for the sake of the people themselves, that we should multiply our depots; for if they were to become too numerous, the people would depend too exclusively on them, to the neglect of other resources, and, what is of still greater consequence, we should be unable to keep them supplied.

COMMISSARIAT.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

December 29, 1846.

I HAVE just seen Mr. Lewis, who informs me that if you and Mr. Twisleton should arrange for Mr. Ball, or any other Assistant Poor Law Commissioner, or any of the four Poor Law Auditors, being temporarily employed under you as Inspecting Officers, their places in the Poor Law system might be supplied by provisional appointments, which could not be done in the case of the corresponding officers in England.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin,
December 29, 1846.

WE never contemplated any relief by provisions in the Eastern District, but my letter referred to certain situations, of which there is one in county Armagh, another in Tipperary North, another in Meath, which in ordinary times are always on the verge of want, for you will see by the enclosed letter that Colonel Jones objects to the plan of last season of adapting a small work for such localities, and advancing a small sum to the Board of Works for employment upon it. I do not say he is wrong in his opinion, but it is not easy to substitute another mode.

I am not sorry to be armed with the decision of the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the general question as regards the Eastern District; I know very well that we cannot undertake it, but in the midst of so many demands on me it is satisfactory to have my road marked out so clearly and decisively.

You will see that our last arrivals from Glasgow and London have met with very heavy weather at sea. Only one vessel, the "Adam," arrived with no damage to her cargo. I am sorry to say that the rye and bere have suffered, and that much of it is so damaged as to be unfit for seed.

I send my letter to Messrs. Erichsen, acknowledging these arrivals through the Treasury, that you may see the details of the damage done. November is usually one of the worst months.

ENCLOSURE.

Lieut.-Col. JONES to Sir R. ROUTH.

Office of Public Works, December 21, 1846.

WITH reference to your letter of the 19th instant, it is necessary that I should, without loss of time, communicate to you the utter impossibility of the Board of Works being able to carry out the principle attempted to be established by it, viz., that the Board of Works are to be the receivers of the alms given by Government for distribution to the old and infirm throughout Ireland who are unable to obtain relief by employment on the Public Works. What was possible and practicable with 50,000 men, is no longer so with seven times that number. It is with difficulty that we are able to give employment to those returned to our officers by the Relief Committees; and from the very unequal distribution of food throughout the country, and from the determination of your department not to issue provisions, I foresee that the calls upon our officers will be numerous, and to supply such eleemosynary grants to the relief of the destitute and starving, will require the constant presence of an officer of the Board in the locality for which each grant is intended. There are so many difficulties to the effectual carrying out of the intentions of the Government in the mode now proposed to be established, that I consider it an imperative duty to state, as early as possible, that with the great mass of business now pressing so heavily on all hands, and the difficulty of procuring additional assistance, that it would be deceiving the Government and yourself if I did not point out the impossibility of our undertaking the distribution of the alms now intended for the relief of the poor.

It is not necessary to assure you of the earnest desire of every person connected with this Board to exert themselves to the utmost to meet the difficulties of the present crisis, but I should be culpable if I consented to undertake a duty when convinced by past experience that it could not be properly executed, and one upon which so much depends, and which requires to be so promptly acted on.

I would suggest that the sums of money thus proposed to be advanced should be lodged in the hands of some individual residing on the spot, who could ascertain the residences of the individuals requiring relief, for it must be borne in mind that the relief to be afforded by these sums must be either in money or food; neither the season of the year nor the state of the poor will permit of their being employed on out-door work to entitle them to receive a donation. In the former season the case was different; we had summer before us, and the destitution was not so great: the poor were then able to go out and break stones on the public thoroughfares, but you must be aware from the daily reports you receive, that such is not the case at present; relief must be given to the aged and infirm in their own cabins, and by a local authority.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS referred by the Under Secretary for Ireland to the Commissary-General, from 10th to 12th December, 1846, both days inclusive.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
D 9212	Limerick	Pollackeny Committee, forwarding a certified list of subscriptions; amount £314. Donation recommended, 1834. Also inquiring whether gratuitous relief may be provided with their funds for the infirm poor, the Union workhouse being full. Informed, in notifying the amount of donation recommended, that while the Union workhouse is full, gratuitous relief may be given to the actually infirm poor.
D 9304	Monaghan	Bellinay Committee, forwarding a resolution paying for a donation in aid of 175 <i>l.</i> collected. A list of the subscriptions is requested to be forwarded in the manner pointed out by the Instructions.
W } 22132 }	Monaghan	Castleblaney. A Presbyterian minister complains that he is excluded from the Castleblaney Relief Committee. Informed that the organization of Relief Committees rests exclusively with the Lieutenant or Vice-Lieutenant of the county, whose attention will therefore be drawn to the representation made. It was at the same time observed that only one minister of each church officiating in each parish, or other district, is intended by Government to be placed on each Committee; and that if the principal clergyman (or the senior in the ministry) cannot attend, he may nominate another to act in his place. Letter sent to the Vice-Lieutenant of the county, and his Lordship's attention was drawn to a copy of the reply.
Z } 22590 }	Monaghan	Muckno and Clontibret. A Presbyterian clergyman representing his exclusion from the Castleblaney Committee, and complaining that all ordained clergymen are not eligible; also that some persons returned by him from his congregation did not get labour tickets. Informed as in the foregoing. The secretary of the Committee was at the same time acquainted that it having been stated in a letter from a clergyman in his district that the clergymen on the Committee have only attended to the registry of persons of their respective congregations, this statement should be brought under the notice of the Committee, and information afforded as to the course actually pursued, which, it is hoped, will be found to be one wholly irrespective of congregational distinctions; also, that the registry should be made under cognizance of the whole Committee; and that all persons who have no other way of obtaining subsistence at present than by employment on the Public Works should be registered, but none other,—none, in fact, who, without the Public Works, could make out subsistence.
Z } 21648 }	Carlow	Tullow. Application for portion of a premium understood to have been offered by Government to persons sowing potatoes from the berry seed instead of the root. Informed that the Commissary-General is not aware of the offer of any reward by Government for that object, to which attention is given by all scientific cultivators; but that it is possible that the Agricultural Committee of the Royal Dublin Society may have taken some step to promote an extension of the practice.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

RETURN of CORRESPONDENCE from 10th to 12th December, 1846, both days inclusive.

L.—APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS.

No.	County.	Locality.	Subscriptions.	Donations Recommended.
8073	Wexford, Barony of Forth	Corn, Lady's Island, &c. .	£. s. d. 109 0 14	£. s. d. 54 10 0
8074	Tyrone, Barony of Strabane	Donaghmanagh	136 11 6	68 0 0
8102	Dublin, Barony Rathdown	Blackrock and Stillorgan .	490 19 0	245 0 0
		Totals	736 10 7½	367 10 0
8104	Leitrim, Barony Drumshaire	Killerga Committee, forwarding for a grant a list of subscriptions, not certified. List returned, requesting that the certificate in the Instructions (inclosed) may be added, and an explanation given of the nature of a donation in the list stated to have been made by the Drama-house Committee.		

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

I.—APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
8083	Galway	Athlone Committee, inquiring in what manner Government assistance to their subscriptions may be obtained. Referred to articles 25, 26, and 27, of an inclosed copy of the Instructions.
7929	Tyrone	Tilston Committee, inquiring whether Government will make a grant in aid of their subscriptions. Copies of the Government Instructions sent as pointing out the mode of obtaining a donation in aid of subscriptions, as well as the objects to which relief funds are applicable; and reference made to the Treasury Minute (copy inclosed) as containing regulations for the sale of food provided with any fund to which Government may contribute.
7958	Tipperary	Tethard Committee, forwarding for a grant a certified list of subscriptions, collected since the 15th of May. Informed that the Government donation should have been applied for before the 10th of August on the amount previously collected, as notified in the Circular of the 30th July; that the Commissary-General is now precluded from recommending a donation on the amount so subscribed, as the accounts of the past season are finally closed; but requesting a separate list of any of the subscriptions received since the 31st August.
8132	Galway	Deputy Chairman of Tyebine Committee, requesting a grant in aid of a fund for town improvements, and stating that sums have been subscribed for the purchase of food. Informed that it is not understood to what fund allusion is made as being intended for town improvements, but if the subscriptions for food shall be applied in providing it for sale at a price sufficient to replace the amount so employed, a donation in aid will be recommended on transmission of a subscription list, in the manner pointed out by the Government Instructions enclosed.
8180	Meath	Stactallen Committee, inquiring if a grant will be made to enable them to provide food for sale at full price, and stating that a gratuity fund has been formed, which will be kept open. Informed that on transmitting a list of the subscriptions for providing food to be sold at full price, a grant will be recommended in aid; and that gratuities relief should not be given from any fund to which Government may contribute, except when the Union workhouse is full, and then only to the actually infirm poor.
7848	Leitrim	Counsell Committee, showing the inadequacy of their funds, and inquiring how they are to be augmented. Informed that a donation may be obtained from Government in aid of subscriptions to be applied in strict conformity with the Government regulations in the Commissary's Instructions, and the Treasury Minute of the 31st of August last.
8106	Loughfad	Abberchary Committee, inquiring if a donation will be added to a fund to provide gratuities relief for persons almost in actual starvation. Informed that a grant cannot be recommended in aid of a fund to be employed as proposed in a gratuitous distribution of food, except the relief be limited to the actually infirm poor, for whom there may not be room in the Union workhouse. Attention drawn to the Treasury Minute of the 31st of August last, and the Government Instructions to Relief Committees.
8125	Dontgal	Ballyhannon. The secretary of a female Relief Society, applying for a grant in aid of funds to be applied solely for the relief of the destitute, the Union workhouse being full. Informed that there are not any funds placed at the disposal of Government for donations in aid of local relief subscriptions, unless placed at the disposal of a District Relief Committee appointed by the Lieutenant of county. The Instructions to Committees forwarded to show the application of relief funds to which Government shall contribute.
7989	Cass	Tenkle (North) Committee, stating that they have collected subscriptions amounting to 11 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> ; and asking a grant. Informed that to obtain a donation from Government, it is necessary that a list of the subscriptions shall be transmitted in the manner pointed out by the Instructions. Attention is at the same time drawn to the Instructions generally; also to the Treasury Minute of the 31st August last, as containing regulations for the sale of food provided with funds to which Government may contribute.
8109	Leitrim	The Cloone Relief Association (composed of members of Mohill Relief Committee), applying for a grant in aid of funds to be employed in providing provisions to be sold at cost price. Informed that there is not any fund at the disposal of Government for grants in aid of local subscriptions to relieve the present distress, excepting those placed at the disposal of the District Relief Committee, to which bodies these grants are strictly limited by the Treasury Minute of the 31st August last. The Lieutenant of county requested at the same time to notify the appointment of the Mohill Committee.

II.—LOCAL COMMITTEES.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
8083	Tipperary	Carrick-on-Suir Committee inquiring with respect to subscriptions placed at their disposal, on which it is not intended to ask for a

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

II.—LOCAL COMMITTEES—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
		Government donation, as being intended for expenditure in a manner not sanctioned by the Government Instructions.
		Informed that the sum so subscribed should be kept in a distinct account from the Relief Fund, and should not be employed in supplying provisions under current prices, as being contrary to the principle of the regulations in the Treasury Minute of the 31st of August last; but observing, that if the Union workhouse be full, gratuitous relief may be given to the actually infirm poor out of the Relief Fund.
8101	Armagh	Secretary of Crossmaglen Committee, inquiring whether the secretary of a Relief Committee is a member. Informed that the secretary is not <i>ex officio</i> a member of the Committee, but may be made a member by the Lieutenant of the county.
7535	Carlow	Myshall and Kiltunnel district, drawing attention to the distress in this locality as resident magistrates, the chairman and secretary of the local Relief Committee having resigned, and suggesting Public Works of Relief. Informed, in reference to the employment suggested, that the arrangements for its commencement are not within the Commissary-General's cognizance; but that he has requested the Vice-Lieutenant of the county to complete the organization of the Relief Committee, in order that the preliminary inquiries and registry be proceeded with, if not already made. A communication made to the Vice-Lieutenant of county Carlow, apprising him of the resignation of the chairman and secretary of the Local Relief Committee, and requesting him to appoint persons in their room, in order that the Committee may be completely organized for dispatch of business. As much distress appears to exist in the district, the inquiries, registry, &c., preliminary to the commencement of the Public Works, should be now made.
7030	Westmeath	Dromoney and Nohaville Committee. Vice-Lieutenant of county notifying the resignation of the chairman and the appointment of another. Appointment registered, and notification made to the Vice-Lieutenant.
8078	Cavan	Honorary Secretary of Virginia Relief Committee, stating that the Committee have authorized him to employ distressed women and girls in making shirts, stockings, &c.; and suggesting that providing shirts for the Army and Navy, if patterns were provided, would enable the Committee to dispose of the articles made by the women employed. Informed that the arrangement for distributing employment to females, as proposed, is very judicious; but that it is apprehended that the mode of employment adopted must fail, from want of demand for ready-made shirts, &c., even sufficient to employ at remunerative wages the great numbers who seek to obtain a livelihood from this branch of industry; and that assistance could not be obtained through the army clothing contracts, as suggested, without depriving of subsistence persons now employed in providing supplies; observing, that if local circumstances shall present any means of employment for females, in supplying wants of any kind, these means should be used as preferable to other modes of employment.
8116	Westmeath	Secretary of Kilbeggan Committee inquiring how incidental expenses are to be paid. Referred to the printed Instructions, by which it will be observed that they are to be paid out of any Relief Fund which may be formed, there being no other source for the purpose; at the same time copies of the Instructions forwarded for the use of the Committee.
8081	Kildare	Castledermott Committee inquiring with reference to salary of their Secretary. Answered as in foregoing case.
8012	Cork	Barony of West Muskerry. The Lieutenant of county furnishing names of chairmen, &c., of several Committees in this barony, and one in barony of Fermoy. His Lordship informed that as a change appears to have been made in the secretary of Mallow Committee, also in the extent of the district, inquiry will be made of the new Committee, with respect to the Relief Fund, to which a donation was added by Government in the month of October. Inquiry made of the secretary of the Mallow Committee as to whether the new Committee have received the becks, &c., of the Committee formed for the past season, and whether the Relief Fund, to which Government added a donation in October, is fully at the disposal of the existing Committee; also as to the extent of the present district.
24 8103	Tipperary	Lieutenant-Colonel Douglas, Inspecting Officer, reporting on the appearance of the country along the road between Templemore and Roscrea, and stating that although this district is, perhaps, the best wheat country in Ireland, yet the produce of the past harvest is considerably less than former years. Original with Commissary-General.

Returns of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

II.—LOCAL COMMITTEES—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
23 8078	Tipperary . . .	Templemore and Rancran Committees. Lieutenant-Colonel Douglas reporting further progress. Original with Commissary-General.
1 8101	Galway	Assistant Commissary-General Milikin, Inspecting Officer, reporting progress in reference to the Clifden Committee, and the districts of Oughterard, with other parts of Connemara. Original with Commissary-General.
10 8128	Westmeath . . .	Lieutenant-Colonel Archer reporting the sale of 70 pieces of firearms, with bayonets, in Castle Pollard district, and representing the existence of extreme distress. Original with Commissary-General.
8110	Kildare	Raddinstown Committee referring to the receipt of books, and stating that no Chairman appears to have been yet appointed. Informed that Mr. Charles Cannon, of Moyglare, Maynooth, is the Chairman.
8133	Roscommon . . .	Kilbelle Committee furnishing an account of expenditure, amounting to 6 <i>l.</i> , incurred in selecting from the population fit objects for employment on the Public Works, and requesting the amount may be transmitted. Informed that the expenses described should be paid, if sanctioned by the Committee, out of any Relief Fund that may be formed in the manner pointed out by the Instructions, there being no other source for the purpose. It was at the same time observed, that the expenses incurred being contingent on measures for relief of the labouring population of the district, should be provided for by the owners and occupiers of property there.
7867	Meath	Secretary and Treasurer of Castlebrickard, &c., Committee, requesting a list of the Committee. Informed that the list required can only be obtained from the Vice-Lieutenant or the chairman of the Committee.
8130	Cavan	Vice-Chairman of Cavan Committee inquiring whether a Relief Fund may be employed in providing soup, or employment for women by spinning. Informed that it is open to the Committee to employ the local subscriptions and Government grant for the purpose of employing females and other persons not fitted for the labour of the Public Works; but that no specific mode of employment is pointed out, as that can be best determined by each Committee according to local circumstances. Also that when food of any kind shall be provided with the fund, it should be sold at a price sufficient to repay the first cost and all charges, so that the fund may not be used, even in part, gratuitously; observing, however, that gratuitous relief may be given to the actually infirm poor, when the Union workhouse is full, and reference made to papers on the means of providing cheap food.
8137	Longford	Chairman of Feeney, and Nobahille Committee applying with reference to salary of the secretary. Informed that there is not any other source for the payment of salary to the secretary of a Relief Committee than the Relief Fund; observing that his letter went, through mistake, to the Board of Works.
7189	Dublin	Bey, notifying formation of Bey Committee by Lieutenant of county. Noted, books, &c., sent.

III.—COMMUNICATIONS RELATIVE TO FOOD DEPOSITS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
8232	The Lords of the Treasury . . .	Forwarding to the Commissary-General the copy of a letter from the chairman of the Dundrum Relief Committee, county Dublin, recommending the sale of food, by Relief Committees, under market prices, with copy of a Minute, signifying disapproval of the course recommended. Deposited.
8196	Tipperary	Roscrea Committee representing the high price of food, and its increasing scarcity. Acknowledged, observing that the Committee must be aware that the county Tipperary is not included in the district, for the supply of which the Commissariat will render assistance. Reference made to the necessity of providing supplies, either by subscriptions or loans; and Committee recommended to promote a continuation of the local interests involved for devising means to maintain a supply of food and economize the consumption of it.
8124	Donegal	Tullaghbegley Committee praying for the establishment of a depot of food at Buncbeg, also that works be set on foot for providing employment in the district. Informed that it is hoped the Commissariat arrangements for Donegal will be found sufficient when they can be completed, and that a depot will be established at Buncbeg, but cannot be opened until the expected supplies arrive. Also, that the Commissary-General has not cognizance for the measure of providing employment.
8138	Tipperary	Curick-on-Saur Committee, stating that they have established soup-shops to be supplied from a fund to which no donation has been added by Government; and that conceiving it not to be an infringement of the Government regulations, 3 <i>M.</i> out of the fund, to

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

III.—COMMUNICATIONS RELATIVE TO FOOD DEPOTS.—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
		which Government has added a grant, will be applied in affording gratuitous relief to the actually infirm poor, the Workhouse being full.
		Informed that there is not any rule prohibiting Relief Committees from having soup-kitchens; and papers are forwarded, containing various directions for preparing soups with other cheap food, but that as a sale under cost price involves gratuitous relief partially, the ordinary Relief Fund cannot be employed in defraying the loss on such sales, although it can be used in assisting the actual infirm poor, while there is not room for them in the workhouse.
8134	Cork	Castletown, Berhaven.—Applying to be appointed superintendent of the local depot. Informed that none but a Commissariat officer is appointed to take charge of a Government depot.
7843	King's	Passenstown.—A salesman employed by the Passenstown Relief Committee complaining of the allocation made of supplies provided as interfering with his advantages. No answer; the course adopted having been fully explained by Lord Rosse, Lieutenant of county.
7584	King's	The Board of Works forwarding an extract from report of their inspecting officer for this county, stating that many of the Relief Committees were underselling the local market prices, &c. Acknowledged, stating, that although the Board's Inspecting Officer observes that the Relief Committees are selling under market prices, he does not condemn this practice, but implies that he considers it necessary; and that when he points to the evil of leaving the population dependent on hawksters, he does not appear to have considered that the expenditure of the Relief Funds at present, in selling under the proper prices, must inevitably lead to the consequence which he apprehends; future dependence upon hawksters, as it is not likely that any traders will enter into competition with Relief Committees selling under cost.
8109	Lestrim	"The Cloone Relief Association" apply for permission occasionally to purchase provisions at the Government stores in Longford. Informed that the Longford depot is not yet sufficiently advanced to be opened to the public; also, that Government depôts are to be considered as reserve stores, and not to be looked to for sales whilst food can be obtained by private enterprise.

IV.—APPLICATIONS FOR SEED RYE, BERN, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7927	Kerry	Glenties Committee forwarding a resolution showing the necessity of seed rye and here being supplied.
7850	Cork	Schull Committee inquiring whether it is intended to supply them with seed rye, &c. Informed that of the seed rye obtained by Government, one cargo only arrived in Dublin on the 8th instant, in consequence of the detention of the vessels by unfavourable weather, and that the cost price, with the arrangements for distribution, will be immediately announced.

V.—PUBLIC RELIEF WORKS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7937	Queen's	Mountin District.—Extracts from a communication received by the Chief Secretary for Ireland forwarded to the Commissary-General. Deposit.—The application is from a district in Queen's County, for immediate work or relief in food until the works shall be in progress. In either case the Commissariat cannot interfere, and it is presumed that the Chief Secretary has drawn the attention of the Board of Works to the case.
7851	Limerick	Chairman of Hospital Committee, The O'Grady, representing the necessity of extending employment as a means of relief, there being money on hands for the purpose. Informed that the attention of the Board of Works is drawn to his representation. The Board of Works applied that there are many persons in distress in Hospital District for want of employment, although there is alleged to be money on hands for completing works unfinished which have not been resumed; also, that works presented for the district are stated to be not as yet commenced.
7932	Monaghan	Chairman of Ballyboy Committee, requesting copies of Mr. Labouchere's letter of the 5th October, in reference to reproductive works, as also forms of labour lists.

Returns of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

V.—PUBLIC RELIEF WORKS, &c.—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
		Copies of the letter requested sent, also of the Board of Works Circular of the 4th ultimo, with respect to presentation for repudiative works, referring to local officers of the Board for forms of labour lists.
7868	Queen's	Ballyvan Committee, with a statement of works going forward in the district. Reference to Board of Works not necessary, as all but the drainage works presented, appear to be in progress.
7928	Kerry	Castle Island, inquiring as to the address which should be on letters relative to Relief Works. Informed that the letters should be addressed to "The Secretary of the Board of Works, Custom House, Dublin."
7839	Cork	Cape Clear Island.—Sir William Wynne Beecher, Bart., Deputy-Lieutenant of county, representing distress, and the necessity of devising some means of providing employment in this island. Informed that as employment appears to be the leading want, the Commissary-General is unable to suggest any other mode of providing it in the absence of the works to which reference is made, than by enabling the landholders to get loans from local funds or banks for paying wages, and setting the labouring classes to work in preparing the land for crops.
8036 8037	Tipperary	Lieut.-Colonel Douglas, reporting on the urgent necessity of additional works in the district of Roscrea and Boherlahan. Forwarded for consideration to the Board of Works, with a request that a communication may be made on the subject.
8126 8127	Tipperary	Lieut.-Colonel Douglas, reporting on the necessity of employment in Nenagh District. Original with Commissary-General.
8139	Tipperary	Kilfenagh Committee, applying for forms of labour lists. Informed that application should be made to the local officers of the Board of Works.
8081	Kildare	Castledermot Committee, forwarding a resolution in reference to Relief Works. Informed that their resolution is forwarded to Board of Works.

VI.—APPLICATIONS FOR BOOKS, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
8140	Cork	Cansoway Committee.—Sent.
8143	Limerick	Coomagh Committee.—Sent.
8144	Down	Aghaderg, Donoughmore, Scafield, and Ballyshinch.—Sent.
8090	Dublin	Bay Committee.—Sent.
8179	Tyrene	Aughder Committee.—Sent.
8180	Tipperary	Bonany Committee.—Sent.
8141	Wexford	Killegney Committee.—Sent.
8177	Cork	Rathomey and Kildenny Committee.—Sent.
8182	Dublin	The Board of Works request 30 additional copies of Circular to Secretaries of Relief Committees, with reference to labour lists.—Sent.
8068	Dublin	Dr. Corrigan applies for forms.—Sent.
8115	Tipperary	Templemore Committee apply for books, &c.—Sent.
8125	Louth	Drumcorrath Committee apply for books, &c. Informed by Circular, that on the Lieutenant of the county's notifying the formation of the Committee, books, &c., will be sent.

VII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
8084	Cork	The Board of Works, forwarding an extract from a report of their inspecting officer for the East Riding of Cork, on the subject of silver coin paid out to labourers on Public Works, and not observed to return into circulation; also, pointing to the practice of sending on coin charges from Cork for other places, to which he attributes the increase in the price of metal.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

VII.—MISCELLANEOUS.—continued.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
		Acknowledged, stating, that if the silver paid in wages to the persons employed on the Relief Works be withdrawn from circulation, this can only occur in one of two ways, namely, by its not being employed in buying food, which is not likely to be the case; or by its remaining in possession of Relief Committees, or local traders, awaiting arrival of the time for their payments; therefore suggesting that the pay-clerks should be directed to ascertain the amount of silver which Relief Committees can weekly exchange for notes; also, that similar arrangements may be entered into with many of the local traders; and observing that no answer is made to the statement relative to the prices of meal, as the Inspecting officer is evidently misinformed on the principles involved in this great question.
7936	Sligo	Island of Inismurray.—Application from a clergyman, through whose labours the population of the island obtain food. The island is off the coast of Sligo, the property of Vincent Palmerston, whose agent has been applied to ineffectually, and therefore, no doubt, has omitted to bring the case under his Lordship's notice.
		The acknowledgment of the writer's zeal by the Commissary-General conveyed, observing that whenever a necessity for Commissariat assistance may arise, his application for food should be addressed to Deputy Commissary-General Dobson, at Sligo.
8107	Cork	Ballyhea Committee applying for Ordnance Biscuit Map. Informed that maps are not supplied to this office for distribution among Relief Committees.

Commissariat Relief Office,
Dublin Castle, December 29, 1846.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, December 30, 1846.

I have very bad accounts from County Clare, and I wish to send you copy of my letter this day to Mr. Hewetson, but know not if I can have it prepared in time.

I am inclined to think Mr. Twisleton will regret to part with Mr. Ball, but he is not a man to make unnecessary difficulty.

You will have seen that Colonel Douglas wishes to come up to Dublin to confer on various subjects, and he will probably do so now, as he sees his way more clear with advantage to the service.

The soup system promises to be a great resource, and I am endeavouring to turn the views of the Committees to it. It will have a double effect, of feeding the people at a lower price and economising our meal.

Mr. Hewetson's letter is just finished, and I enclose it, begging you to give me your opinion on the several points, particularly as relates to sums of money sent to certain distressed districts that can raise no subscription of themselves. Both the Lord Lieutenant and Mr. Labouchere see it in the light I have put it.

There were two arrivals at Dublin to-day, all in good order. Captain Bellew has arrived.

We have a large batch of letters from Inspecting Officers for you to-morrow.

It is past eight o'clock, and I conclude.

ENCLOSURES.

Sir R. ROUTH to Commissary-General HEWETSON.

Castle, Dublin, December 30, 1846.

I SEND you copy of a letter from Captain Wynne, to which I call your serious attention. I think it will be necessary for you to take immediate steps to afford relief in that part of County Clare as you are now doing at Kilmish; and more particularly do I think it necessary that you should place yourself in communication with the Committees for an establishment of soup-shops throughout the County Clare.

You are at liberty to promise a donation of pound for pound upon all subscriptions raised in localities where the workhouse is full, and you will do your best to cause the application of these sums to be directed to the distribution of soup, which is the cheapest and most nourishing food that can be given.

I see no better way of dealing with the relief of urgent distress than through the Committees, and in this manner; and you are authorized also to consider contributions from England or elsewhere, to districts where there are no local resources, as a subscription, and to provide a grant upon them in the above-mentioned proportion. If you should be of opinion that any special case of more than ordinary distress should be of a description to require a greater exercise of liberality, even to the extent of double the amount subscribed, you will be pleased to represent it through me, and every attention will be immediately given to your recommendation.

I do not suppose that you can by any possibility be required to open your depot for the town of Limerick; but for the other localities, we must understand that the depôts in the western districts are to be henceforth opened for the sale of food, as far as may be prudent and necessary; and on all these questions you will keep me well informed, so that the authorities here and at home may be aware of the course we are pursuing, and the grounds on which we act.

I beg to observe to you, that although the funds administered by the Relief Committees are in the main appropriated to buying meal and selling it again at cost price, gratuitous issues are allowed in exceptional cases of peculiar destitution to the ~~war~~ poor, to widows, orphans, and children, who have no one on whom they are dependent, or who are incapacitated from affording them relief by sickness or other cause, and that to these gifts of food should avowedly be made from charitable motives, but it is not desirable that any portion of the fund should be employed in *selling* at less than cost price.

In the distribution of soup, I think the precedent established at Skibbereen may very properly be carried out by the Committees in County Clare; that is, to have one or two kitchens, with sufficient cauldrons established in the centre, or at the extremities of the village, that the constabulary officer should be requested to appoint a policeman to superintend the issue, so see that the articles purchased for the soup are actually put into it, that it is distributed at twelve o'clock precisely, and that good order is preserved.

The soup itself should be substantial, with an addition of biscuit or meal, to add to its nourishment.

Captain WYNN to Lieut.-Colonel JONES.

Ennis, December 29, 1846.

I AM most unwilling to occupy more of your time than is unavoidable, yet I cannot avoid directing your attention to a class of the inhabitants of this district which, I regret to say, is increasing daily, and with the most alarming rapidity; I allude to those persons who, from age, infirmity, or exhaustion, are unable to work, and are, therefore, beyond the reach of Relief Works. I am well aware that these persons are considered fit subjects for private charity, or the exertion and benevolence of Relief Committees; but it is in vain to look to these sources for relief at all commensurate with the magnitude of the demand; I therefore think it my duty to make this representation to you, in the hope that you will be able to devise some means of averting the fearful crisis that cannot be far distant. Already several deaths have occurred, I fear, too, from starvation; they must increase daily. There can be no doubt that famine advances upon us with great strides; our supply of food is decreasing daily and rapidly, and as it grows less and less, the anxiety of the people becomes painfully intense. It is vain to direct their attention to the prosecution of those agricultural operations which can alone place any limit to their present deplorable condition. Agricultural labour holds out a distant prospect of reward—their present necessities require immediate relief. Such is their state of alarm and despair at the prospect before them that they cannot be induced to look beyond to-morrow; thousands never expect to see the harvest. I must say the majority exhibit a great deal of patience, meekness, and submission; while a few turbulent spirits, availing themselves of circumstances, and yielding to the influence of some imaginary wrong, rush headlong into the commission of every crime within their reach. I cannot, however, even in the abhorrence of the crimes of the latter class, and my indignation at the cruelty practised by them upon man and beast, lose sight of the appalling and shocking destitution in which the former class are plunged.

I avail myself of every opportunity of impressing on the minds of all classes the necessity of patience under the present visitation, abstaining from crime, the preservation of order, and submission to those placed in authority over them, as the best and only means of meeting the crisis.

I am happy to say that for the last week the district has been comparatively quiet and tranquil.

The effects of famine are discernible everywhere, not a domestic animal to be seen,—pigs and poultry have quite disappeared.

The dogs have also vanished; except here and there the ghost of one buried in the skeleton of one of those victims of cruelty and barbarity which have been so numerous here within the last two months,—I allude to the horses and donkeys that were shot.

It is an alarming fact, that this day, in the town of Ennis, there was not a stone of bread left of any description to be had on any terms, nor a loaf of bread.

I have received some private donations from friends, which have enabled me to do much good, but the monster demand baffles all private exertion.

Mr. N. CUMMINS to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Cork, December 30, 1846.

I LAST addressed you on the 12th instant; and although the reports which I have from time to time furnished by your desire have been sufficiently gloomy, I am now painfully convinced that their anticipations will be found short of the reality.

The most unquestionable evidence of eye-witnesses above suspicion, which daily pours in, shows, as respects the western portion of the county of Cork, a state of utter destitution which appears to me to call loud for the utmost resources at controul of the Government.

A near relative of my own, to whose published statement (sent herein) I refer you, has been but one of many credible witnesses who have actually seen the extent of the misery.

Last week two members of the Society of Friends, deputed by that body, traversed the coast district of West Carberry; and their statement is even more distressing, if, indeed, that can be, than the report of Mr. Cummins.

Private funds to some extent are beginning to be sent to this devoted locality; but, even if these sums were in any degree commensurate with the object, it is an absolute fact that food is not to be had for money in many places.

Although several cargoes of maize have come to hand here during the past ten days, no impression worth notice has been made upon prices, which stand at, for Indian corn, 17*l.* 5*s.* per ton in ship.

To add to the misfortunes of West Carberry, the extensive flour-mills of Messrs. Allen, situate at Shannon Vale, near Clonakilty, were last week burnt down. This event, at such a time, will be severely felt.

Commissary-General HEWETSON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Limerick, December 30, 1846.

VESSELS with supplies are dropping into Cork and Limerick with every change of wind to the westward: to the former port chiefly for orders; to the Shannon, direct consignments to the trade. Last quotations from Cork:—Indian corn, 17*l.* 5*s.* per ton ex. ship; Limerick, corn not in the market; Indian meal, 18*l.* 10*s.* to 19*l.* per ton, demand excessive. Looking to the quotations in the United States markets, these are really famine prices, the corn (direct consignment from the States) notstanding the consignee more than 9*l.* or 10*l.* per ton. The commander of an American ship, the "Isabella," lately, with a direct consignment from New York to a house in this city, makes no scruple in his trips in the public steamers up and down the river, to speak of the enormous profits the English and Irish houses are making by their dealings with the States. One house in Cork alone, it is affirmed, will clear 40,000*l.* by corn speculation; and the leading firm here will, I should say, go near to 80,000*l.* as they are now weekly turning out firm 700 to 900 tons of different sorts of meal. I know this cannot be controlled at present, but I sincerely hope we shall in the spring have the means of interfering to check such, I would say, extortionate prices; but as they are according to the spirit of trade, and therefore legitimate, I will qualify the term to famine rates. I sometimes am inclined to think houses give large prices for cargoes imported for a market to keep them up; it is an uncharitable thought, but really there is so much cupidity abroad, and the wretched people suffering so intensely from the high prices of food, augmented by every party through whose hands it passes before it reaches them, it is quite disheartening to look upon. I mentioned in a former note we should soon be compelled to issue more largely in certain districts, and to meet and comply with the demands therefrom, keeping in view your letter of the 18th instant to Sir R. Roeth (an extract of which was sent to me), is my chief and anxious study. In all my communications with Committees, and which are numerous, I earnestly impress upon them the imperative necessity of their making the most strenuous exertions to provide food for their people, wherever procurable, offering not only means of water transport, but temporary aid, pending the execution of their arrangements for so doing, and in many cases my representations have been well met; others again either cannot, or will not do anything, especially in the remote mountainous seaboard localities, and, that the wretched people may not suffer, we must step

in with aid. To discriminate among all these is an anxious task, but if I err, I trust it will be on the right side.

No arrivals for us yet in the Shannon. Our present stock of meal will of course be first brought into use, but I am desirous of putting out the whole corn; and I am inclined to think, as I have on previous occasions stated, it will ultimately, looking to the facility for grinding offered by the quern, to those who wish to convert it into meal, be in greater request than the manufactured article, and of course at least 1*l*. per ton cheaper.

I have heard it is likely large subscriptions will be made in England for the relief of the destitute in this country, in which case I should wish to see the money so raised appropriated for the purchase of food and seed, the former, if possible, in a foreign market, and imported direct; the General Committee, or Trustees, establishing small depôts in charge of fit persons, at Haulbowline, Castletownsend, Henmore, Bantry, Ventry, Castlegregory, Ballybunnion, Killorglin, Kilrush, Clare Castle, Liscannor Bay, Islands of Arran, Connemara, and other parts along the whole western coast. Such a mode of relief, well managed, and acting in concert with the Relief Committees, would do incalculable good; but if money is remitted, great abuses will follow, with nothing like an equal benefit to the people. Seed, cheaply and gratuitously given, will be an all-important advantage to the whole community.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Commissary-General HEWETSON.

January 6, 1847.

I HAVE not before had time to reply to your letter, dated 30th ultimo.

You still speak of the high prices of food as if they were caused by the misconduct of merchants and dealers, and you allude to the high profits supposed to be obtained by persons of that class.

The fact of these high profits may be doubted as a general rule. No doubt persons who, when prices were low, laid up a store against a time of scarcity, obtain, and deserve to obtain, the reward of their beneficial foresight; but with regard to the great majority who have made their purchases since the rise of price took place, and who turn their capital again and again under the existing state of things, you must remember that the dearness is not confined to Ireland, but that prices are comparatively high at Odessa, in the United States, and the other countries from which corn is procured, allowance being made for freight, insurance, interest of capital, and the other expenses of transit. When you consider the heavy losses we have lately met with, and which must be calculated upon at this season of the year, you will admit that these expenses are not light; and you allude to them in the postscript to your letter as having been sufficient to induce you to advise Relief Committees not to undertake to import cargoes from abroad.

But even if it were a fact that large profits are at present generally obtained by importers, the present high prices would nevertheless be in no respect their fault. Dearness is synonymous with scarcity, and is the check which God and nature have imposed on the too rapid consumption of an insufficient supply of any article. I beg of you to consider what would be the consequence if, by any means, we were to have the prices of a year of plenty, or moderate abundance, with the stock of a year of decided scarcity. The really important question to the local community is not what the original cost price of the article was, or what the profits of the merchant are, but what the stock of food now in the district, or which may shortly be expected to arrive, is, as compared with the demand for it? Prices vary with the relation which these two elements bear to each other, and setting aside altogether the interest of the merchant, it is in no respect for the interest of the community that this natural relation should be disturbed.

"Let me fall now into the hand of the Lord, for very great are His mercies; but let me not fall into the hand of man"—is a feeling common to all mankind. It is hard upon the poor people that they should be deprived of the consolation of knowing that they are suffering from an infliction of God's Providence, to mitigate which much has been done by the Government and by the upper classes, while nothing, as far as I am aware, has been done to aggravate it, with the exception of the outrages which have been committed on the works and on the stores of food in progress on the high roads. It is most injurious and dangerous, both to the people themselves and to every class of society, that the

multitude should be taught to regard those as their enemies who are in truth the most active agents for their benefit; and the needless dispute and hazard to the mercantile profession from such popular delusions, by preventing new persons from entering the trade, and discouraging those who are in it, must have a strong tendency to produce an artificial enhancement of prices.

You and your able assistant, Mr. Inglis, are rendering excellent service to the Government and country by the prudent management of the depots under your care, and by stimulating and assisting the Relief Committees to increased exertions; and the instructions you have recently received to promote to the utmost possible extent the establishment of soup-kitchens in the localities in which they are required, (donations being made in aid of the funds raised by the local committees, and in some cases of those placed at their disposal from other quarters, in a more liberal proportion than has ever been the case heretofore,) will much enlarge the sphere of your usefulness.

MR. TREVELYAN TO SIR R. ROUTH.

December 30, 1846.

I HAVE more than once had the satisfaction of conveying to you the approbation of the Chancellor of the Exchequer of the great, and under all the extraordinary difficulties of the case, successful exertions which you have made to meet the present remarkable crisis, and I have now the pleasure of sending you an expression of the similar favourable opinion entertained by the First Lord, as stated in a letter from Lord John Russell to me, received this morning.

The only remark I have to make is, that these gratifying expressions of the approbation of Her Majesty's Ministers apply not only to yourself, but also to the many able officers who are acting under you.

Extract.

"As we are coming to the end of the year I wish you would express to Sir R. Routh and Colonel Jones my warm approbation of their indefatigable exertions in the performance of the arduous and unexampled duties which they have had to discharge."

MR. TREVELYAN TO MR. LABOUCHERE.

December 31, 1846.

THE Chancellor of the Exchequer is decidedly favourable to the plan of meeting these cases of extreme distress in Ireland, which cannot be met either by the Public Works or the poor houses, by making large proportional additions to the local subscription of the Relief Committees, by which the resources of the county are drawn out, a test of destitution established, and a security obtained for the proper and economical expenditure of the money.

Sir R. Routh some time ago, published an official notice, that such local subscriptions would, if necessary, be doubled, and I have since informed him that they may, if the cases be really urgent, be more than doubled. Where the destitution is extreme, we would give twice as much, or even three times as much as the local Committee.

SIR R. ROUTH TO MR. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, December 31, 1846.

ONE of our late arrivals at Cork has absolutely refused to go to Sligo or Ballina, and, as her cargo was hented, we have sent her to Limerick as the nearest port.

When the "Rhodamantus" has performed her present voyage to Clifden and Belmullet, I wish you could spare her to take a cargo of barley-meal and pease to Sligo. It is required for the soup-shops in Donegal and Mayo.

There was a depot within three miles of Dungloe, at Barton Port, from whence we are issuing; and two cargoes of meal must have been arriving about the time that the benevolent Quakers, then on their tour, must have addressed their letter to Lord Morpeth.

The coast of Donegal is iron-bound, and the weather so severe, that in our last shipment to Burton Port we lost nearly half the cargo. I find it better during the winter months to rely on the whole grain, which can be used as explained in pages 6 and 7 of the pamphlet on cheap food, which the writers to Lord Morpeth do not appear to have been aware of. When sent in small quantities it is not so exposed to spoil as the meal. It is quite a task to get the northern depots stocked.

The "Andromeda" is now anchored in Killibegs, and we have the "Lucifer" steamer just arrived, and the "Warrior" returned from being refitted, and we shall succeed better. I have sent you a hundred more pamphlets.

We are now closing an eventful year, and entering upon another of perhaps a more fearful import. As St. Paul said to his friends, who came from Rome to meet him at Appii Forum to encourage him, "I thank God and take courage;" and with this strong feeling I enter upon my task for 1847.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

January 1, 1847.

I HAVE read with much satisfaction your letters, dated the 28th and 30th ult., enclosing copies of Instructions issued by you to Messrs. Bishop and Hewetson.

The calamity has become of such a pressing and critical character, that none but measures of the most direct and decisive kind are sufficient to meet it; and it is necessary for the Government to exercise as much liberality as may be consistent with the paramount object of drawing out local exertion and local resources.

The measures described in your Instructions to Commissary-General Hewetson and Assistant Commissary-General Bishop have, for the most part, been already approved in detail; and I have now only to add, that we believe you are quite in the right track, and that we hope you will continue to follow it out under the directions of the Lord Lieutenant and Mr. Labouchere, until every part of Ireland in which severe destitution exists has been organized in the same manner.

The English, or general subscription fund, unaided by Government donations, I conceive to be applicable without any restriction in aid of local efforts of every sort, and to supply the place of local efforts, where they are not to be expected.

I understand the plan prescribed to Messrs. Hewetson and Bishop to be based on the responsibility and agency of the Local Committees, and upon the assistance to be given to them by means of Government donations and grants from the English subscription, and that the scheme is quite independent of our depots, which will remain subject to the regulations and limitations already established.

The subscription is going on very well; six names down for a thousand pounds each, and a good working Committee organised.

MEMORANDUM by Mr. TREVELYAN.

January 1, 1847.

WITH the exception of Longford and Banagher, which are supplied from Dublin through the canals, all our depots are on the sea-coast, or on the Shannon, and the whole of the interior is organized into Relief Committees, on which we depend for the distribution of the supplies from our depots in detail.

I fear we could not, with any prospect of success, or even of safety, undertake to do more than this. The supplies we are likely to be able to obtain will be barely sufficient, with strict economy, to replenish our existing depots; and it must be remembered that, by the present system, the resources of the country are drawn out in a much greater degree than they could be if we had depots of our own scattered through the interior; for wherever a Government depot is established, the people can, with difficulty, be brought to make any exertion for themselves; whereas, if there be a Relief Committee drawing its supplies from any quarter where they are to be obtained most conveniently and cheaply, whether Government depot or private dealer, the upper classes are forced into activity, and such supplies as the country affords are made the most of.

The machinery for supplying and superintending the existing depots, also, vast as it is, is manageable, and I hope we shall get through without the discredit and suffering arising from depots, upon which the people have been taught to depend, becoming exhausted; but if we had to make any considerable increase to the number of our depots, and, above all, if we had to scatter them over the in-

terior, where they would be liable to all the accidents connected with land-carriage and starving mobs, our machinery would be no longer capable of being properly regulated, and we should incur a responsibility which we could not answer.

The assistance given by our depots will be stretched to the utmost limits consistent with safety; and Sir R. Routh is fully aware that he is authorized to double, and, if necessary, to more than double the funds, raised by the Relief Committees; and we are endeavouring, by every available means, to strengthen his establishment for the superintendence of this and the other means of relief.

MR. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

January 1, 1847.

THE "Avenger" steam-frigate, mentioned in the accompanying letter from Mr. Erichsen's Plymouth correspondents, is one of the powerful Admiralty steam-vessels, which have been appointed to carry over meal from England to Ireland and Scotland; and if you wish additional supplies to be thrown into any of the remote depots which are not accessible to sailing-vessels, this will be a good opportunity, and you have only to inform me in what proportions you wish the meal to be left at different depots.

I believe this vessel will contain as much as 400 or 500 tons, and it is expected that she will clear out the whole remaining stock at Plymouth.

I shall, for the present, order all the available supplies to Limerick, when you do not give another destination; that is, supplies of *flour*, for any grain that may arrive will be sent to Ballina, Sligo, and Galway.

MR. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

January 2, 1847.

THE "Avenger" can go with a cargo of Indian corn-meal to Sligo, if you think proper, but we have no barley-meal at Plymouth, where she is loading; and as for peas, they are too expensive for us to supply them as a general rule, and we only got a small quantity to fill up the first cargoes to Clifden and Belmullet.

I have just had a very satisfactory interview with a gentleman on behalf of the London Committee, and I think, from what passed, we shall work with them to our mutual advantage.

They will be glad to avail themselves of all the assistance we can give them, and as the whole of Ireland is now organised into Relief Committees in communication with you, either through your Inspecting Officers or those of the Board of Works, you will be able to give them all the assistance they can require.

I suggested that they should correspond direct with you, and that they should recommend parties wanting assistance from them to send their applications through you, in order that no time may be lost in making references.

The Committee are anxious to know what is the total sum which has been subscribed by the Relief Committees during this season of relief. I said that that we had only a return of that portion which was intended to be laid out according to our rules, but that you would probably be able to furnish an estimate of the whole.

Pray do this, and send it to me as soon as you can, and also tell me what was the whole amount subscribed last season, and the amount of the Government donations.

Would not the purchase of boilers and hand-mills be a good way for the Committee to lay out a portion of their fund, and, if so, what kind of such would you recommend?

MR. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

January 2, 1847.

I HAVE compared the prices charged at the depôts, as stated in your letter of the 28th ultimo, with such data as I had at hand, and I see no reason to object to them, but they must be considered liable to alteration according to time and place.

Deputy Commissary-General DOWDIE to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Sligo, January 2, 1847.

THE people in this part of the country are continuing to struggle through their privations peaceably, without any prominent events. The Public Works continue to be their only source for employment and subsistence; and the very high price of all kinds of bread-stuffs, Indian meal being 18*l.* to 19*l.*, and oatmeal 22*l.* to 24*l.* per ton, confines great numbers of them to only one meal per day. The poor-houses are overflowing, and there is much diarrhoea and dysentery amongst the inmates, with an unusual degree of mortality.

The supply of food in the hands of the trade at Sligo, which is the port of entry for several of the neighbouring counties, has been adequate to the demand since the 5th of November, when I closed the Government depots, issuing only to the Committees in the county Donegal, and having thereby succeeded in amassing more than 2,000 tons of corn and meal, which are being dispersed amongst our several out-stations for coming events. I still entertain the belief, which I have before expressed to you, that the trade here will fulfil the expectations they have held out of a regular succession of importations, the casualties of wind and weather permitting.

The sale of arms in this part of Ireland is not considered to give any cause of alarm. Many purchase in self-defence against the marauders of long winter nights, whilst others attach an importance to the possession of a gun.

The late Treasury Minute has given the greatest satisfaction, but we have still to see if the landlords will take the field, so as to draw off the population from the public to reproductive works.

We are doing the best we can to establish soup depots. There has been one in Sligo for the last month, which I frequently attend, and where three pints of excellent soup are given for a penny. It is worthy of notice that the poor seldom apply except with tickets gratuitously given to them, as out of an average of 400 to 450 portions sold daily, not more than 18 to 20 are paid for in money. There is a difficulty in establishing them in some parts of Donegal, from the entire want of every kind of vegetable, even a turnip or cabbage.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, January 2, 1847.

FIRST let me thank you for the very handsome expression of opinion from Lord John Russell; and I am sure you will not doubt our anxiety to deserve it by every exertion in our power.

We have a demand for pease and beans, chiefly to assist in the soup-kitchens; but it is not necessary that they should be of the first quality, if Mr. Erichsen should see a good opportunity of purchasing them.

I have an application, amongst others, from Mr. O'Connell for two tons of each; and I am sure that a cargo would be very well received at Limerick or Kilrush, for distribution on the Kerry coast and interior.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS referred by the Under-Secretary for Ireland to the Commissary-General, from 14th to 16th December, 1846, both days inclusive.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
D 9480	Down	Dromore District.—The Chairman of a Committee appointed to collect subscriptions for relief purposes, applying for Instructions with a view to obtain a grant. Copies of Government Instructions forwarded, showing that these bodies must be constituted by the Lieutenant of each county, and requesting application to be made to the Lieutenant of the county Down.
D 9388	Kerry, Barony of Iccoragh.	Glenbeagh Committee apply for a grant in aid of subscriptions collected. Informed that the Commissary-General is as yet unable to recommend a grant, as the Lieutenant of the county does not appear to have appointed the Committee; and that if an application to his Lordship, a Committee be appointed, the Commissary-General will be prepared to forward a recommendation, provided the whole Relief Fund shall be applied conformably to the Government Regulations.

COMMISSARIAT RELIEF OFFICE.

RETURN of CORRESPONDENCE from 14th to 16th December, 1846, both days inclusive.

I.—APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.	Subscriptions.	Grant Recommended.
8129	Clare, Barony Lower Tulla.	Kilkeog Committee . .	£275 10 10	£158 0 0
8150	Wexford, Barony Searawalah.	Newtownbarry ditto . .	124 2 6	62 0 0
8050	Kerry, Barony Trughanacmy.	Trillick ditto	931 11 0	475 0 0
8163	Cork, Barony Muskerry West.	Ischigeelagh ditto . .	156 10 0	78 5 0
		Totals	£1501 14 4	£753 5 0
8079	Wexford . . .	Clabonon Committee, paying for a donation from the India Relief Fund, in aid of 130L collected, to purchase provisions for sale at a cheap rate.		
		<p>Acquainted that the Commissary-General has not any power to recommend donations from that source, which is not at the disposal of Government, but that as there have been local subscriptions placed at the disposal of the Committee, he will be prepared, on receiving a list of them, to recommend a donation to be added by the Lord-Lieutenant, provided the whole Relief Fund shall be applied conformably to Government Regulations.</p>		
8237	Donegal . . .	The Rev. J. Scott Porter, inquiring whether a Relief Committee is formed for Templemore parish in Donegal, subscriptions having been collected for it in Belfast, which it is proposed to send to the Local Relief Committee.		
		<p>Acquainted that there is a Committee, constituted according to the Government Instructions, of which the Rev. V. P. Griffith is secretary, and referring to inclosed copies of Instructions for guidance in administering relief.</p>		

II.—COMMUNICATIONS RELATIVE TO DEPOTS, FOOD, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
8150	Cork	West Carberry Committee, forwarding a resolution requesting permission to contribute to a soup-kitchen, and to provide coffee for the destitute poor.
		Informed that the Relief Fund may be most usefully employed in providing soup for sale, but that it cannot be necessary to provide coffee, when this is done in every parish by a vote of vestry; also, that it is to be borne in mind, that food cannot be sold at less than the price, without giving gratuitous relief, which is limited to the infirm poor for whom there may not be room in the workhouse.
8178	Roosterman . .	Committee for Tagraconnell, &c., inquiring whether they can be assigned part of the local police barracks for store, as it was used for a depot.
		Informed that no part of a police barracks can be so appropriated, except by permission of the constabulary authorities; and that it is recommended to Committees to place all the food provided with individuals of character for sale, at prices sufficient to repay the first cost, with all charges, and 5L per cent. for storing and selling; observing that papers on the means of providing cheap food will be immediately supplied to Relief Committees.
8264	Tipperary . . .	Thurles.—The Archdeacon of Cashel forwarding a receipt for cheap soup, and a copy of "Count Russell's Essay on Food."
		A letter of thanks written, with papers prepared in this office, on the means of providing cheap food.
7846	Waterford . . .	City Committee, inquiring whether 50L from the Relief Fund may be appropriated for providing cheap food.
		Informed, that it is presumed the intention of the Committee is to provide food for sale under cost; and that as this involves partial gratuitous relief, it cannot be sanctioned, except in the case of the infirm poor, when the Union workhouse is full. Attention drawn to papers on means of providing cheap food.
7916	Clare	Ross.—Rev. C. Fitzgerald, Vicar of Clondaged, pointing out (in a letter to Lord John Russell, a copy of which referred by the chief-secretary) the public benefit that would arise from supplying him with 20 tons of seed potatoes, and half the cost of planting them (100L) in poor soil, which he would provide gratuitously.
		Acquainted that there are not any funds placed at the disposal of Government for providing seed potatoes, or for carrying on agricultural industry, which latter is so peculiarly the interest of the owners and occupiers of the land, that its promotion should be left to their exertions.

Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

III.—APPLICATIONS FOR SEED RYE, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7944	Roscommon . .	Elphin Committee inquire when the seed rye, &c., may be expected, &c. Informed that the seed having now arrived, the cost price and arrangements for distribution will be immediately announced.

IV.—LOCAL COMMITTEES, &c.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
8214	Roscommon . .	Committee for Clonfulaugh, &c.—The Board of Works forwarding copies of communications from their Inspecting Officer and a local magistrate, stating that a member of the Committee is charged with having accepted money for getting persons employed on the Public Works. A letter addressed to the Lieutenant of the County drawing attention to the statement, and observing that there would be an advantage in promptly expunging the name of any such member from the list of the Committee, and appointing another, if the charge be well founded; also, that it rests with him and the Vice-Lieutenant who formed the Committee, to make any change the facts of the case shall warrant.
8187	Armagh . . .	Portadown referring to a meeting proposed for the purpose of forming a Relief Committee for Portadown, and requesting Instructions. Acknowledged, forwarding some copies of the Instructions for the formation and guidance of Relief Committee, showing that all such Committees are now formed only by Lieutenants of counties.
97 8156	Tipperary . . .	Lieutenant Colonel Douglas reporting his attendance at the Nenagh Committee; the condition of the people; scarcity of food, &c. Original with Commissary-General.
29 8157	Tipperary . . .	Nenagh.—Lieutenant Colonel Douglas reporting further progress. Paper with Commissary-General.
4 8159	Wexford . . .	Captain Stoford reporting visits to Committees in the Barony of Ballyhickin, &c. With Commissary-General.
5 8160	Wexford . . .	New Ross.—Captain Stoford reporting further progress. Paper with Commissary-General.
7 8161	Cork	Assistant Commissary-General Bishop transmitting letter from the Mayor of Cork, requesting a supply of biscuit, &c. Papers with Commissary-General.
8 8162	Cork	Barony of West Muskerry.—Mr. Bishop reporting on the condition, &c., of Kilmurry, Kilmichael, Inchigatha, Ballyconcey, Kilmarmory, Aghenagh, and Mill-street districts. Paper with Commissary-General.
8347	Galway . . .	Assistant Commissary-General Millikin reporting the result of his attendance at the Special Committee. Paper with Commissary-General.
8153	Mayo	The Board of Works forwarding copy of letter from a Deputy-Lieutenant of Mayo, representing the inefficient number of magistrates, &c., on Relief Committees in the county. It was suggested that the matter should be brought under the notice of the Lieutenant of the county, who can enlarge the Committees according to the Government Regulations, by adding magistrates or other gentlemen at his Lordship's discretion.
8300	Clare	Transmitting Lieutenant of the county's appointment of the Kilmurry Bunkane Committee, and requesting the necessary books, &c. Noted and books forwarded.
8307	Kilkenny . .	Inspecting Officer of Board of Works applying for copy of Instructions to Relief Committees. Sent.
8206	Clare	South Feakle Committee applying for Instructions. Treasury Minute, and additional copies of Instructions sent.
8188	Monaghan . .	Vice-Lieutenant of county furnishing name of chairman and secretary of the Committee for barony of Lower Duleek. Noted, and books sent.
8181	Cavan	Secretary of Bally James Duff Committee applying for copies of Circular, relative to scrutinizing applications for employment. Sent.
8289/ 8186	Tipperary . .	Newport District Committee applying to have books and papers sent to them; also to the Sub-Committee for Kilkenny and Kilsall. Sent.
8194	Tipperary . .	Secretary of Committee Clonilla, &c., notifying authority to reassemble, furnishing particulars, and requesting books, &c. Noted, and books sent.

COMMISSARIAT.

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Return of Correspondence, &c.—continued.

IV.—LOCAL COMMITTEES, &c.—continued.		
No.	County.	Locality, &c.
8210	Fermanagh . . .	Kesh Committee.
8226	Fermanagh . . .	Clonkelly Committee.
8204	Galway . . .	Chairman of Oughterard Committee.
8185	Limerick . . .	Cappagh, &c., Committee.
		Sent.

Applying for books and documents.

V.—PUBLIC RELIEF WORKS.

No.	County.	Locality, &c.
7819	Monaghan . . .	The Reverend J. Mallon, P. P. Eigle, barony of Trugh, respecting the want of additional works for affording employment.
		Informed that if application have not yet been made to the Lord-Lieutenant to order a Preventment Sessions for the district, this should be done; and with respect to the delay in commencing works already presented for other parts of the barony, that the Board of Works should be addressed.
8342	Longford . . .	Committee for Templemichael parish having complained by deputation that some inhabitants of Clonguish are employed on works within the parish, who have means of subsisting without employment on the Public Works, and that the really destitute are excluded.
		Answer written to chairman of Clonguish Committee requesting inquiry into the facts, &c.
		See copy annexed.
7847	Armagh . . .	Lurgan.—Medical officer of Dispensary forwarding a copy of the managing Committee's Report for the year.
		Acknowledged, stating that the meetings of the Central Board of Health were discontinued on the 15th of August last, and have not been resumed.
7882	Galway . . .	Meelough.—Widow applying for relief, and requesting a reply addressed to the care of the person employed to write for them.
		Writer acquainted that, in the same handwriting, similar applications have been made, as if on the part of other widows in the same part of the country, and that this office is not provided with funds for affording relief, but is to superintend the arrangements under which Relief Committees can have persons employed on the Public Works, or farm funds to purchase supplies of food for sale; that it is therefore requested he will not in future mislead the poor women who employ him to write, but let them apply to the Relief Committee for their district.

Mr. STANLEY to Mr. MASTER.

Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
December 16, 1846.

It having been represented that some inhabitants of Clonguish Relief District are employed on works in the adjoining parish of Templemichael who have means of subsisting without employment on the Public Works, and who exclude from those sources of relief destitute persons in Templemichael district that cannot obtain subsistence if not employed.

Commissary-General Sir Randolph J. Routh requests that you will have inquiry made into the facts, and cause the Clonguish list of applicants recommended for employment to be strictly revised, without delay, the Committee taking care that none shall be left on the list but such as, without employment on the Public Works, would be actually destitute of means of support, they having no other resource.

Captain HILL to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Newcastle, County Limerick,
Sunday Afternoon, January 3, 1847.

I HAVE just parted from Mr. Lloyd, J. P., chairman of the Kilmeedy Relief Committee, in the barony of Upper Connello, whose house was assailed on Monday evening last, by two guns being discharged through the windows into two of the rooms.

Mr. Lloyd has a property of about 600 acres near Kilmeedy, where he has resided for nearly 30 years; everybody speaks of him in the highest terms, and he really appears to have been a most kind-hearted, benevolent man.

The Rev. Edward Molony, Roman Catholic Priest, has acted as treasurer of the Kilmeedy Committee.

Mr. Lloyd, in his capacity of chairman, appears to have opposed the priest with some firmness, respecting persons being admitted on the Public Works who were not destitute; but still there was no breach of friendship and cordiality between them. On Sunday last, Mr. Molony's curate is represented to have addressed his congregation in allusion to the Public Works, and pointedly, though not directly, to denounce Mr. Lloyd.

On Tuesday last, the 29th ultimo, the local magistrates assembled in this town at an Extraordinary Session Meeting; and I am informed they were unanimous in opinion, that the outrage committed on Mr. Lloyd's house was occasioned by the language used by the Roman Catholic curate in the church.

Mr. Lloyd positively refuses to act any longer as a member of a Relief Committee, and he informs me that the Rev. Mr. Willis, rector of Cocomohicle, secretary to the Committee, has also resigned.

In the Kilmeedy district, Mr. Lloyd is the only resident proprietor—indeed the only gentleman living there; therefore, by the resignation of the chairman and secretary, it will be difficult to form a body capable of being regarded as a respectable meeting; but I hope the attention of the Lieutenant of the county will be directed to this district; I propose writing to Lord Guiltmore, the Vice-Lieutenant, who is living near Bruff, on this subject immediately.

This is a poor district, the quantity of provisions in the neighbourhood is very small; but still the people appear healthy, and I have not heard of a single death from starvation.

The Relief Works are sought after by all classes, and cultivation neglected; every day now lost is of irretrievable importance. Between this and Limerick I was delighted to see a little commencement: a few ploughs were at work; and, on the large estate of Lord Dunraven, near Adare, more order and comfort appeared than in any part of this country that I have seen.

Intimidation is getting to that height as to paralyze the functions of many who hold civil authority: the small farmers, cottiers, and lower class form so great bulk of the population, without a proportionate connecting link with the other grades of society, and their minds have been so much disturbed by political parties, that, in a trying crisis like the present, it is impossible to say what each day may produce.

A feeling prevails that Government are purposely keeping up the price of food, and trying to benefit merchants, &c., at the expense of the people; it is impossible to convince many, who ought to be reasonable, that a scarcity exists in other countries besides Ireland.

Presentment Sessions are to be held on Tuesday for the barony of Upper Cornello, and it is fully expected the presentments will be made for reproductive works in conformity with Mr. Labouchere's letter; my utmost exertions have been used to convince the cess-payers and gentlemen whom I have met of their mistake in supposing they would not be called on to repay the expenses of the Public Works: this idea has extensively prevailed; but I do hope the whole country is now becoming alive to the ruinous expense of money and labour on non-productive works. The abuses of putting names on lists of workmen who ought not to be employed are so closely concealed that it occupies much time to investigate each case. In many Committees the priest makes out the labour-list.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Sunday Morning, Dublin, January 3, 1847.

I sit down to answer your letter of the 1st, concerning the "Avenger." You are aware, in the first place, of the storage at Limerick, in addition to which there is a store of the capability of 1000 tons very conveniently situated, which we can put our hands upon, and which, with your leave, I should recommend.

I shall also have store room at Galway next week, and I shall have room in the "Andromache" store-ship at that port, which I shall lay before you early in the week.

The ports in Mayo, Sligo, and Donegal, will not admit so large a ship as the "Avenger," and we must make use of lighters to discharge her. But we have the "Andromeda" there, which can store about 300 tons of meal, and this store-ship lies at Killibegs, and the "Avenger" can go alongside of her, and then deliver the remainder of her cargo by lighter at Sligo.

If you could send an assorted cargo by the "Avenger," to the order of Deputy Commissary-General Dobree, and consigned to Killibegs, of, say 300 tons, barley meal, and the rest in pease and beans, so that we may carry out the soup system in the north-western counties of Mayo, Sligo, and Donegal, I think this arrangement would be highly advantageous. There is so much difficulty and real risk in sending sailing ships to that part of the coast, that we must assist Mr. Dobree with steamers during the winter months.

This would render it unnecessary to send the "Rhadamanthus" to Sligo; but I would ask one trip of this steamer to Westport, with an assorted cargo also of barley meal, and pease and beans, say half and half, or two-thirds, and one-third of the two latter.

I think we shall be obliged to have some internal depots in Mayo, where, I think, there will be a great deal of distress; indeed, if I had a disposable officer now, I would form a depot at the head of Lough Corrib, dependent on Galway.

Arrangements are in train for extending a sufficient constabulary force to the islands of Claire, Boffin and Innis Tunk, situated off Clew Bay.

There is a very bad part also between Belmullet and Ballina, in the baronies of Erris and Tyrawley; but I shall wait Mr. Adams's report on that district, which, without a village between Crossmolina and Belmullet, is extremely populous.

The increased liberal scale of the donations is working its beneficial progress as fast as we can expect; and if I have not gone further yet than the pound for pound, it is because the occasion has not presented itself; and while that is working so well, and the Committees so thankful and satisfied, it is as well not to do more than is enough.

But I do expect several subscriptions that will require this liberality, and no occasion shall be lost in manifesting the generous intentions of Government on these occasions. I conceive that there is a difference between a rural district subscription and a town or village subscription—the latter being by far the most entitled to all liberal consideration, from the greater denseness of the population.

I have received a short note from the Chancellor of the Exchequer desiring every reasonable liberality; but stating his opinion that there should be a local subscription, as a test of the scarcity, and as a guarantee of the right application of the funds.

I am glad you approve of gifts, mostly anonymous, which are sent to sundry resourceless districts, being admitted as parts of a subscription.

Commissariat Clerk ROBYNS to Mr. TREVELYAN.

*Commissariat Dublin,
January 3, 1847.*

THE people in this neighbourhood are at present very peaceable, that is to say, in the immediate vicinity where the influence of Lord George Hill and Mr. McFadden, the Catholic clergyman of this parish (Tullaghobegly), is felt; and even in the more remote districts, they are far from riotous.

Lord G. Hill lately imported a cargo of corn, which is selling, when ground into meal, at from 14s. to 16s. per cwt. The demand for it is very great, as there is no other food in the country; and it will be exhausted this week, when the people will be dependent on the Government depots, as there is no market nearer than Letterkenny, a distance of 25 Irish miles. There is a monthly fair at Dunglow, but very few provisions are sold.

Most of those people that have any grain are threshing it out for food, instead of saving it to pay their rents, and for seed; and, I much fear, will not be able to meet the demands of their landlords, and that there will be a great deficiency in the cropping season.

There is only one man who is at all likely to import anything, and he seems to fear the Government is underselling, in spite of my assurances to the contrary; but even if he did purchase one or two cargoes, they would not meet the demand.

A Relief Committee has been formed in this neighbourhood, of which Lord

George Hill is Chairman, but they have not yet met; so that I have no means of knowing the means they intend pursuing for the relief of the poor; they might do a great deal of good by setting an example of sowing early vegetables, and discontinuing the growth of the potato, which would be again liable to failure, and encouraging the cropping the land with barley, oats, and rye, which would suit this soil—mountain and reclaimed bog; but the farms are very small, the portion under cultivation being seldom more than two or three acres, and that is done universally by spade-labour.

MR. TREVELYAN to SIR R. ROUTH.

January 4, 1847.

IN my letter to you, dated the 1st instast, I stated that the addition made from Government funds to subscriptions *from a distance* should be strictly confined, according to the original proposition, to those cases in which there are no local resources, and local subscriptions are not to be expected.

I am now desirous to inform you that you are at liberty to make additions from Government funds to such subscriptions, in every case in which you, acting under the authority of Mr. Labouchere and the Lord Lieutenant, may consider it desirable and proper; only taking care not to exceed, in reference to this class of subscriptions, the proportion of pound for pound. That is to say, for every pound subscribed by private parties, although they may be neither residents in the locality to be relieved nor possessed of property in it, it will be *at your discretion* to add another pound to it; not of course pledging yourself to do it, and never doing it in any case in which you think it ought not to be done; but being perfectly free to do it whenever the circumstances appear to you to render it proper.

I trust that this extension of the original Instruction, may be attended with beneficial effect in the present lamentable state of Ireland.

SIR R. ROUTH to MR. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, January 4, 1847.

WE had, as you recollect, last year, only four main depôts, Sligo, Westport, Galway, and Limerick, on the west coast, and two on the Shannon, Banagher, and Longford. These were under Commissariat officers. This season we have under Commissariat accountants the following depôts:—

Dunfanaghy, county Donegal.	Kilrush, county Clare.
Bunbeg "	Limerick, county Limerick.
Burtonport "	Tarbert, Madagascar.
Killibegs "	Dingle, county Kerry.
Sligo, county Sligo.	Cahirciveen, county Kerry.
Ballina, county Mayo.	Castletown Berehaven "
Belmullet "	Skibbereen "
Wesport "	Banagher } River Shannon.
Clifden, county Galway.	Longford }
Galway "	

We have three constabulary depôts in county Roscommon ready to be supplied and opened a little later, I mean Castlereaugh, Roscommon, Strokestown; and I propose to have a Commissariat depot at the head of Lough Corrib at Cong as soon as we are ready to fill it from Galway. With regard to any other minor arrangements, we shall be governed by circumstances as the service advances.

We must always recollect, also, in comparing the two seasons, that we begin this year in the month of December; and last season we began to issue in the month of May, at the end of that month. Mr. Labouchere tells me sometimes that he sees me so cool and so calm, that he thinks I understate the difficulties; but indeed it is to this feeling, the result of long experience in the care of large masses of men, that I owe any facility I may possess in the execution of this serious duty.

As new matter will continually arise as we proceed in this business, I have thought it proper to accompany the Instructions to Captain Bellew with a letter, of which the enclosed is a copy.

Mr. Hewetson applied to me to know how he was to act in his communications with Committees who never exerted themselves, in reference to the letter addressed to him with respect to the soup system and subscriptions.

I send you my answer to him. You will probably give me your ideas on the subject.

I understand that too much money is finding its way to Skibbereen, and that some of the poor, after suffering from hunger, have become sick from the sudden change to abundance. I think this is a proof of the advantage of these subscriptions going through a head-quarter channel.

You will see that we have at Killibegs store room for 500 tons disposable. About the same on board the "Andromeda," and about the same the remaining part of the magazine at Sligo, of which we now only occupy one-half, and about 600 tons at Ballina. In all, you may calculate on store room for 2000 tons, in case of need, and means of filling it.

ENCLOSURE.

Sir R. ROUTH to Captain BELLEW.

The Castle, Dublin, January 4, 1847.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the Instructions to Inspecting Officers acting under the orders of the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury; and I request you will undertake this duty for the county Roscommon, fixing your headquarters at the town of Roscommon, and with a view of extending your inspection hither to county Leitrim as soon as circumstances will permit it.

The destination of the county which you are now about to inspect is of a nature to exercise your best attention to the means of affording relief.

The high prices of Indian corn, of wheat, and oatmeal, make it necessary that we should turn our views to the provision of some cheaper food.

We are, accordingly, establishing with much success at Skibbereen, and the other localities on the south-west side of the coast, soup-kitchens, for distribution to the poor.

Where one establishment is sufficient, it is usually placed in the centre of the village; and when two are required, one at each extremity.

A policeman is placed in charge to see that the ingredients prepared for the soup are put in it, that the distribution commences every day at 12 o'clock precisely, and that good order is preserved; and an arrangement is usually made for a supply of gruel for the sick.

You are requested to advocate this system as much as lies in your power, and also to call upon the principal inhabitants to subscribe; and you have authority to promise a grant from the Government of an equal amount with the subscription.

The Government Regulations allow of gratuitous issues to the infirm poor, to widows, orphans, and to children where the supporting member of the family is incapable, from sick ness or other cause, to maintain them.

To persons requiring relief on such grounds, the food is a free gift of charity; but when the Committee sell, it is not desirable to do so under cost price; for our object is to maintain the funds of the Committee as unimpaired as possible, so as to make them applicable to the whole season.

If any case, where a small subscription only can be raised, should appear to you of great emergency or distress, you will not fail to represent it, so that the extent of the grant may be brought under special consideration, and be recommended more in accordance with the amount of distress than the amount subscribed.

As your report in such cases would have considerable influence on the donation to be given, you will be careful to form your opinion on good grounds, and after full evidence of your own examination, confirmed through several sources.

A communication will be made to the Lieutenant of the county, announcing your appointment, and soliciting his co-operation, should any occasion arise to require his interposition.

I beg your particular attention to the formation of the Committees, and requesting you to press upon all the necessity of preparing the land for the coming harvest, of sowing a sufficient quantity of grain for the increased demand, and the danger of continuing, in its present extent, the pasture system of Ireland.

In conclusion, I recapitulate the immediate subjects requiring your attention:—

The establishment of soup-kitchens;

The urgency of local subscriptions; and

The liberal aid which the Government are disposed to afford to them.

These subscriptions are a test of the scarcity, and a guarantee for the good management of the funds, which we cannot look for unless the Committees have a local interest in the expenditure.

MEMORANDUM to Commissary-General HEWETSON.

Dublin Castle, January 4, 1847.

UNDER the circumstances which you describe, I recommend you to call a meeting of the proprietors, to explain to them the state of the country; to state the liberal intentions of the Government to give a grant equal to the amount subscribed when the warehouse is full; to explain to them that this grant is tantamount to selling them the supply at half-price, as their funds being doubled, go twice as far in the purchases they require.

Point out to them also the dreadful responsibility the whole country will incur if they neglect the cultivation of the soil.

The transition from potatoes to grain requires a tillage in the comparison of three to one between grain and potatoes.

All this requires a corresponding increase of labour, and wages so paid are a mere investment of money, bringing a certain and large profit.

State that the pasture system of Ireland must be abandoned or modified; it is no longer possible to confine such vast extents of soil to grass and hay, when the same space judiciously cultivated will suffice for three times the number of cattle, and afford besides sustenance to man.

The destiny of the country is in the hands of the people; it is by their industry only that it can be retrieved.

It is useless to talk of emigration, when so much extra labour is becoming indispensable to supply the extra food.

Let that labour first be applied, and then it will be seen whether there is any surplus population, and to what extent.

If industrious habits can be established, and the waste lands taken into cultivation, it is very doubtful whether there would be any surplus population, or even whether it would be equal to the demand.

Providence has given everything, and it requires nothing but industry to apply it; and if the country cannot be awakened, it is only a succession of suffering and calamity that awaits it until the people shall be roused to a sense of their danger.

Mr. HALY to Sir GEORGE GREY.

British Association for the Relief of the Extreme Distress in the Remote Parishes of Ireland and Scotland.

*Temporary Committee Room at Messrs. Rothschild's,
St. Swithin's Lane, January 4, 1847.*

I HAVE the honour to enclose, for your information, an address issued by the Association, which has been formed under the above title, for the purpose of affording relief for the calamity with which our sister Kingdom, and the extensive districts in the Highlands and islands of Scotland are afflicted, and of co-operating, if practicable, with Her Majesty's Government, for that object.

I am desired by the Committee to solicit from you, as Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, such aid and information, by returns and other documents, as may from time to time be necessary or useful to the Committee in carrying out their plans, and with a view to secure, as far as possible, the funds from being misapplied.

And I am directed to say that the promise of such assistance from you would be most cheering to the Committee in the laborious task they have undertaken.

ENCLOSURE.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION for the Relief of Extreme Distress in the Remote Parishes of IRELAND and SCOTLAND.

COMMITTEE.

Right Hon. Lord Mayor.
T. Baring, Esq., M.P.
C. J. Bevan, Esq.
F. Carlston, Esq.
J. J. Cummins, Esq.

R. Carris, Esq., M.P.
S. Gurney, Esq.
Robert Haubury, Esq.
H. Kugescote, Esq.
S. J. Lloyd, Esq.

W. G. Prescott, Esq.
Hon. Stephen Spring Rice.
The Baron L. Rothschild.
Abel Smith, Esq., M.P.
G. R. Smith, Esq.

With power to add to their number.

Information having been received of the most distressing character, and of undoubted credibility, of the rapid progress of famine and utter destitution in many remote parishes of Ireland and Scotland, in which there are but few families who can be considered as the resident gentry, and who are therefore exposed to urgent and overpowering demands for the smallest supplies of the necessaries of life, by the starving population, to an extent far exceeding any means within their power, it has been determined, in dependence upon God's blessing, to form a Committee in London for the purpose of aiding the efforts made to relieve the multitudes who are suffering under the present awful calamity.

The Committee propose to apply the subscriptions that may be interested to their care, either in sending supplies of food to Ireland and Scotland, or in such other manner as may secure a conscientious and faithful administration of the funds, to the relief of the most necessitous and the most deserving, in strict conformity with the rules which shall be laid down by the London Committee.

The relief proposed will be afforded by the distribution of food, clothing, and fuel, but no case shall money be given to the parties relieved.

The sick and infirm, "the fatherless children and widows," who, alas, constitute a very numerous class of the sufferers, and who are in a great degree beyond the reach of the Government plans of relief, will be the principal objects to which this Committee will direct assistance to be given. Should it be in any case practicable, some return in work, of an agricultural or other generally useful nature, will be required from the individuals relieved.

The Committee abstain from pressing their application by introducing extracts from the distressing communications which they have received; the appalling nature of the visitation with which it has pleased God to afflict so large a portion of our fellow subjects is now a matter of public notoriety, and to enlarge upon it would be needless. They prefer to rest upon the strong conviction that there are a large number of benevolent persons fully acquainted with the distress, and ready to bestow their bounty whenever a channel is presented to them, through which it may be applied, and secured as far as possible from the danger of being abused.

Persons feeling a peculiar interest in any particular districts in either Ireland or Scotland can direct that their contributions should be applied to the relief of such districts, which will be strictly observed by the Committee.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, January 4, 1847.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury the weekly return of the Commissariat depots in Ireland, and also a statement of the amount 13,077*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* of donations, and of the sums subscribed up to the 2nd instant.

ENCLOSURE.

WEEKLY STATE OF PROVISIONS, &c., in the several Depôts in Ireland, on the evening of Saturday, January 2, 1847.

DEPOTS.	Quarters of Eight Bushels each of						Cats. of Salt.	Sacks of 280 lbs each of					Bags of 112 lbs. each.
	Indian Corn.			Egyptian Wheat.				Indian Corn Meal.	Oatmeal.	Wheat Meal.	Barley Meal.	Egyptian Wheat Meal.	
	In Port.	In Store.	With Millers.	In Store.	In Store.	With Millers.	In Store.	In Store.	In Store.	In Store.	In Store.	In Store.	
Lisrick	7,462	..	..	..	..	..
Killesh	37	..	..	..	..	..
Malaga	(on 20th ultimo)			..	..	..	..	1,134	384	..	..	..	1,654
Sligo	(on ditto)			..	..	..	..	924	..	..	..	..	519
Dingle	1,435	..	..	..	..	83
Cahir	392	..	..	..	..	979
Cadestown*	259	..	..	..	..	..
Galway	3,147	9	..	..	..	10
Wexford	720	677	..	..	..	..	1,199	24	..	..	..	..
Cork	380	..	..	..	..	400	..	..	..
Belmont	68	..	..	230	..	101	40	..	400	162	..	62
Sligo	2,728	..	551	4	..	1,212	..	1,213	..	..	..	7	137
Bellin	359	..	..	..	..	..
Killybegs	1,329	73	..	..	..	..	206	..	..	..	..	..
Bantry	814	..	..	..	..	..	762	..	..	..	..	..
Bantry	1,432	..	..	..	..	..
Dublin	1,456	870	148	6,289	..	509
Bungay	413	..	..	360	..	..
Longford	135	196	..	556	..	264
Castlereagh	16	..	..	..	..	180
Kilcock	16	..	..	..	..	200
Barbeg	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Barbeg	500
Totals	2,728	2,531	1,301	4	609	1,212	101	32,056	1,489	948	7,397	7	4,198

* Consignment from Harbourside.

"Lepanto" and "Manchester" arrived at Galway, cargoes damaged and contents not ascertained.
210 quarters of Indian corn in transit from Killybegs to Banbeg.

RECAPITULATION OF REMAINS on the 2nd JANUARY, 1847.

6,560 quarters of Indian corn at 5 <i>l</i> . per ton . . .	1,312 tons.
600 quarters of peas, at 5 <i>l</i> . per ton . . .	120 "
1,216 quarters of Egyptian wheat, at 5 <i>l</i> . per ton . . .	243½ "
22,056 sacks of Indian meal, at 8 <i>l</i> . per ton . . .	2,757 "
1,487 sacks of oatmeal, at 8 <i>l</i> . per ton . . .	185½ "
948 sacks of wheaten meal, at 8 <i>l</i> . per ton . . .	118½ "
7,304 sacks of barley meal, at 8 <i>l</i> . per ton . . .	924½ "
7 sacks of Egyptian wheaten meal, at 8 <i>l</i> . per ton . . .	⅞ "
4,788 bags of biscuit, at 20 <i>l</i> . per ton . . .	239½ "
316 quarters of Indian corn in transit to Buncbeg . . .	43½ "

Total . . . 5,944½ tons.

The Castle,
Dublin, January 4, 1847.

R. J. ROUTH, *Commissary-General.*

DONATIONS ISSUED under the authority of his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant to Relief Committees, in aid of SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Date.	Name of Committee.	Donations.			Subscriptions.		
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
1846	Amount brought forward . . .	11,504	16	0	20,977	4	2
December 28 .	Clare Abbey and Kilmac District, County Clare . . .	40	0	0	40	0	0
" "	Kilnasilla District, County Tipperary . . .	135	0	0	135	0	0
" "	Skryne District, County Meath . . .	200	0	0	206	0	0
" "	West Ballynashill District, County Galway . . .	22	0	0	22	0	0
December 30 .	Swinsford District, County Mayo . . .	17	0	0	17	0	0
" "	Charlemont District, County Armagh . . .	190	0	0	198	7	0
1847							
January 1 .	Carrickbeg District, County Waterford . . .	40	0	0	40	0	0
" "	Clonaa District, County Limerick . . .	339	0	0	339	0	0
" "	French Park District, County Roscommon . . .	300	0	0	300	0	0
" "	Killarney District, County Leitrim . . .	40	0	0	65	15	6
" "	Rathdown District, County Wicklow . . .	250	0	0	347	11	0
	Total amount . . . £	13,077	16	0	23,088	5	8

Dublin Castle,
January 4, 1847.

R. J. ROUTH, *Commissary-General.*

MR. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

Treasury, January 5, 1847.

THE accompanying description by Mr. Hugh Parker, of the state of the population in the remote districts to the west of Skibbereen, is the most awful I have yet seen, and it makes me, as well as you, anxious to hear what progress Mr. Bishop is making in his mission to that quarter, for the extension of soup-kitchens. I lament to have to express my opinion that this rude expedient of the public kitchen, is the only thing which stands between multitudes of our fellow countrymen and death, and we are very anxious that it should be carried to the utmost possible extent in the districts in which it is required.

ENCLOSURE.

MR. PARKER to Lieutenant-Colonel JONES.

December 31, 1846.

I HAVE just returned from a tour of inspection to the West; I remained in Scull parish a few days; I also went to Crookhaven, &c., and I feel sure, although somewhat irregular, you will excuse my relating as briefly as possible what I have observed.

The parish of Scull is very extensive, lying between Roaring Water Bay and Dunmaus, and contains about 18,000 inhabitants; and of these, at least 16,000 are in a state of utter destitution, and most of the remainder will be similarly situated as soon as the little stores they have are consumed.

Taking the usual average of five in a family (and here it is somewhat greater), a proportion of one out of every destitute family on the relief lists would make the number of persons to be employed amount to about 3200. At present, 1150 have been employed on the Public Works, so that about 2000 remain unemployed, but I trust work will be found soon; but employment will be of little use without food, and how the people are to live it is impossible

to say; it is on this subject more particularly, but which does not strictly belong to my duties, that I am induced to write to you.

A great number of people must inevitably be swept off by starvation, and by diseases arising from starvation, such as bowel complaints, scurvy, dropsy, and fever. Food is daily becoming scarcer and much dearer, and where are future supplies to come from? Hitherto Skibbereen, with its immediate neighbourhood, has been the peculiar object of solicitude, but Skull as well as Kilmore, the neighbourhood of Dunmaus Bay, Carigboy, and the promontory of Sheephead, are equally badly off; they are farther removed from assistance, less noticed, have not participated in the benefit of money subscriptions, and there are no gentlemen to relieve them. Dr. Trail, rector of Skull, and chairman of the Relief Committee, is exerting himself to the utmost to relieve the distress; he employs about fifty men on his own premises in every way he can; has soup-kitchens constantly at work, sells meat at reduced price in his own house, but all will not do. Individual charity will not go far; his doors and windows are beset by miserable wretches, and Mrs. Trail and family are worn out and exhausted by their incessant exertions. The people now drop off very fast, and deaths increase daily.

I have been to Galore, Crookhaven, Rock Island, &c., all in the parish of Kilmore, containing about 7280 inhabitants; the distress is equally as great, the deaths as frequent. Mr. Mottee (a friend of Mr. Owen of the Board) is exerting himself to the utmost in affording relief; he is chairman of the Relief Committee.

From what I have witnessed (and Captain Reid, who is on a tour, revising Relief Committee lists, agrees with me), it appears absolutely necessary that a large provision depot should be established at Skull or Crookhaven; at the latter place is a good harbour, with four and five fathoms of water; there is also a strong coast-guard, with a Lieutenant of the navy, so that the stores would be protected, and it would be easy to transport by boat the supplies for Skull as required, and a large vessel can anchor off Skull, also in six to seven fathoms water. It would be well if an active Commissariat officer was appointed to watch over the necessities of the people in these remote parts. Rice is light, and its use should be encouraged; it has been found very useful in affording relief to those afflicted with diseases arising from starvation, so that, in addition to meat, a supply of rice would be advantageous.

There is no corn for seed; hitherto, potatoes have alone been cultivated, and now no corn can be procured for seed but if seed is not sown, the state of things next winter will be worse than this.

In the promontory of Kilmore and parish of Skull, no very extensive system of drainage, with some exceptions, can be advantageously carried on; a more wretched, rocky, wild country I never saw, yet there is a large population. I have visited the poor in these parishes, and the scenes I have witnessed are dreadful; death seems stamped on the faces of thousands; in many places I could with difficulty more, I was so beset with hundreds imploring assistance.

I am quite positive that unless something be speedily done by throwing in supplies at a moderate price, by affording gratuitous relief, or by affording immediate means of emigration for the most destitute the bulk of the population must be swept off.

The desolation is indeed complete; the people seem harmless and inoffensive; political agitation has hardly reached them, and the inhabitants of these remote south-western parts are fit objects for the especial protection of Government.

MR. TREVELYAN TO LORD MORPETH.

January 6, 1847.

It has occurred to me that Mr. Trimmer, of the Geological Survey, might with advantage be employed for a few months as one of our Inspecting Officers of Relief Committees in Ireland, with especial reference to the sound advice on agricultural subjects which Mr. Trimmer is so well qualified to give to the country gentlemen and farmers in the present anomalous and dangerous state of that, in Ireland, above all other countries, essential branch of industry.

The accompanying copy of the instructions to the Inspecting Officers will show your Lordship that the inquiries they are directed to make include the present state and prospects of agriculture.

You will also see from the accompanying note from Sir Henry De la Beche, that he has no objection to Mr. Trimmer being employed for a time on this service, provided the whole of his emoluments are defrayed from funds applicable to it.

My object in now writing to your Lordship is to ascertain whether you have any objection to the proposal, and, if you have not, I will instruct Mr. Trimmer to proceed to Ireland as soon as he can be relieved from his present duties.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

January 6, 1847.

THERE is a good deal of alarm in County Mayo, and in that part of the country (but I believe, indeed, it is not confined to that county) that there will be a great insufficiency of seed.

Mr. Labouchere spoke with me on the subject, and I stated that I did not think it was physically possible for the Government to meet such a demand, above all, at this season of the year.

The people, to avoid paying the high price of provisions on the spot, have most improvidently consumed, or are consuming it; and at the last moment, this claim, like every other, is addressed to the Government.

They say half of the County Mayo will be without oat seed.

Lord Ross, from Parsonstown, King's County, writes word, that he has carefully caused the whole of his neighbourhood and of the county to be examined, and the result, which he believes to be correct, leaves on his mind the conviction, that there are not more than six weeks' provisions in that county.

I suggested to his Lordship, to call a meeting of the proprietors and principal gentlemen, to consider on the best means of meeting this approaching disaster, and by subscriptions amongst themselves, by widely distributing the establishment of soup-houses, by assisting the people with seed, to endeavour, what indeed is imperatively necessary, to secure our passage through the winter. He is an excellent man, and his judgment and character, will do much for the county to which he belongs. Lord Ross adds, that the farmers were, in many instances, neglecting the cultivation of the land. I will send you his letter and the reply.

I find from other sources that the small farmers and cottiers, though they are doing nothing to their land, are pertinaciously adhering to it, and will not give it up. Events will do it for them.

I find I cannot keep up our correspondence with the Committees in the Relief Office with our present establishment, and we shall require two additional clerks, for which I request your authority.

I propose to give you the exact account of everything up to the 31st December, and an estimate from 1st January to August; I have all the accounts in, except Mr. Dobree's, and I shall have his, probably, to-morrow.

I make a point of having everything up to the day.

Mr. Labouchere is quite pleased with your letter to me about the grants. You may rest assured that I shall use all discretion.

Mr. Adams started this morning for Mayo. He will make Westport his headquarters at first, and from thence visit all the more southern points of the county, and then the north-west and Belmullet. After which he will go to Sligo, and visit our Commissariat outposts and County Donegal, and then return to Dublin and assist us here.

Mr. Bishop did not receive my letter of the 26th December until the end of the month; but he reached Skibbereen on Monday morning, and will put all that difficult western promontory on a right footing.

I write to him to-morrow, with further means, which I hope to get placed at his disposal.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

January 6, 1847.

I now proceed to reply to your letters of the 2nd and 3rd instant.

I have written to the Admiralty, to request that a good supply of barley meal may, if it is not too late, be put on board the "Avenger," and that she may be consigned to Killibegs, where the bulk of her cargo is to be transferred to the "Andromeda" store-ship, and she is then, if Mr. Dobree should so direct, to deliver the remainder by lighter at Sligo.

I cannot send any pease or beans by the "Avenger," for there are none in store at Plymouth, where she is now loading, nor are any, I believe, to be procured there.

With regard to barley meal, till the receipt of your letters under acknowledgment, I considered it a matter of indifference whether the "Avenger" was loaded with Indian meal or barley meal, both of which we have in store at Plymouth;

but directions have now, as above stated, been given for as much barley meal to be put on board as possible.

When the "*Rhadamanthus*" returns from her trip to Clifden and Belmullet she shall be sent to Westport, as suggested by you, unless she should be required for some more pressing service; and I will endeavour to have an assorted cargo of barley meal, pease, and beans, ready for her.

There is a good quantity of pease and a small quantity of beans on board the vessel now on its way from Malta to Limerick, with the first result of the exertions of our officers at Malta; and you can supply Mr. O'Connell with some of these. Pray let me know what is thought of the beans, as they are sent by way of experiment.

I quite approve of your hiring additional store room at Limerick for 1000 tons. Three of our vessels laden with Indian corn are now on their way from America to Galway, and it is, therefore, well that the "*Andromache*" store-ship is ready at that port.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

January 7, 1847.

WE HIGHLY approve of your instructions to Captain Bellew, which appear to embody in a very satisfactory manner the liberal practical extension lately given to our relief measures.

But in your reply to Hewetson, I fear that you entered upon controverted points in the remarks you have made upon the pasture system of Ireland and emigration, and you will not be offended with me for suggesting that you should caution him to be careful how he enters upon these subjects, and direct his attention more entirely to the objects to which you have so prominently alluded in your letter to Captain Bellew. Emigration, under certain circumstances and to a certain extent, is an important resource, and the Government are taking some well-considered steps on the subject; and as for the question relating to pasture land, it is a controversy of centuries, and the real truth I take to be, that a disproportioned extent of pasture land is rather a symptom than a cause of a backward state of cultivation, and that as the main object of introducing a proper rotation of crop advances, the extent of pasture land becomes necessarily and properly diminished.

Sir W. SOMERVILLE, M.P. to Mr. HALY.

Whitehall, January 7, 1847.

I AM directed by Sir George Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th instant, in which you enclose an Address, issued by the Association for the Relief of Distress in Remote Parishes of Ireland and Scotland, on the part of the Committee, and solicit the aid of the Secretary of State in carrying out their plans. I am, in reply, to request that you will inform the Committee that Sir George Grey will have much satisfaction in affording them all the information and assistance which it may be in the power of the Government to give, with a view to further the benevolent intentions of the Committee, and to secure the due application of the funds placed at their disposal.

Sir George Grey regrets to state that cases of extreme destitution are very numerous in some districts where there are comparatively few local resources available for the relief of the people, and he has no doubt that in these districts especially, the assistance which may be afforded by this Association will, in connexion with the measures adopted by the Government, have a most beneficial effect in mitigating the severity of the suffering which prevails. Sir George Grey will be happy to place the Committee, or any person appointed by them, in communication with the officers employed in Ireland and Scotland, in carrying out the relief measures of the Government; and he has directed that the Committee shall be furnished with all the information received by the Government, which is calculated to be useful to them in the prosecution of their object.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, January 7, 1847.

I RECEIVED your letter about Skibbereen. I had seen it before. The writer is in some error. He says there are 3200 heads of families, of which 1150 are employed, leaving 2150 unemployed, which at 5 per family amount to 10,750, not 16,000. Again he says it is all want of food; whereas, at Skibbereen, five miles or thereabouts from Schull, there is a Cork house, George and Co., whose agent is Mr. Swanton, who are proprietors of two large mills, and are retailing meal in any quantity required; and our store is also open. So that food is not wanting, but rather the money to buy it. The rector at Schull had also received a subscription from England, of 50*l*., which he refused to place in the hands of the Committee, but was distributing soup.

Only one of our soup kitchens was at work by last advices from Skibbereen, the second could not have arrived from Cork. It was feeding about 1500 persons daily. I have not yet had my report from Mr. Bishop; but he had 75*l*., a subscription sent anonymously to us, with which he was to begin to encourage a local contribution, which had been already very favourably commenced at Baltimore. Schull district contains 40,000 acres, or thereabouts, yet no proprietor seems to come forward.

The proprietors of the Skibbereen district draw an annual income of 50,000*l*. from it. The estimate I procured was as follows:—

Lord Carbery	£15,000
Richard H. H. Beecher, Esq.	4,000
Mr. Newman	4,000
The O'Donovan	2,500
Rev. Michael Beecher	1,000
Messrs. Townsend and Wright	1,500 a joint estate.
Mr. Townsend (Whitehall)	2,000
Mr. French	1,000
Mr. S. Lavis	1,000
Sir Wm. Rixon Beecher (on whose estate stands the town of Skibbereen)	10,000
The Rev. Stephen Townsend	8,000
Lord Audley's estate, let for 400 <i>l</i> . per annua, now in the hands of trustees	
	<hr/> £50,000

Schull has also two towns in its district.

Ought such destitution to prevail with such resources, allowing that I am misinformed in some of the points.

However, I dare to say, we shall settle the whole of that district very well.

I send you enclosed a report of Cong. It was written last year; but it will give you some idea of the place, situated in the midst of the mountainous districts of Galway, Mayo, Connemara, and more exposed to distress than any I know.

I find from the Ordnance Storekeeper, that he must have an order to deliver to me the 150 tons of beef and pork, for which I shall apply officially. It will do admirably for the soup kitchens.

Mr. Erichsen sent to me a sample of Russian rye flour. I have had a small loaf made of it, and I think it most excellent. I am of opinion that rye bread, with one-third wheat, is the best bread that is made; but without any mixture it is excellent, and its cultivation ought to be more encouraged.

I strongly recommend, as this is to be obtained at 20 per cent. less than other grains, that you should instruct Mr. Erichsen to purchase a large quantity.

In America it is very generally mixed with the Indian corn bread, and improves it very much. Be assured that it is an importation worthy of encouragement, and it cannot fail to be well received here. I had two little biscuits made with the sample, at the same time as the loaf, and I send them to you, but they can hardly be so good as the bread.

TREASURY MINUTE.

January 8, 1847.

TRANSMIT copies of the following documents to Sir R. Routh, and state that he is already aware that it is their Lordships' desire that effectual relief should be given to the inhabitants of the district in the neighbourhood of Skibbereen, in which destitution of an aggravated kind has been proved to prevail; that for this purpose the Local Relief Committees should be stimulated to the utmost possible exertion; that soup-kitchens should be established under the management of these Committees, at such distances as will render them accessible to all the destitute inhabitants, and that liberal donations should be made on the part of the Government in aid of the funds raised by a local subscription; or, in case no adequate subscriptions are to be expected from local sources, in aid of sums contributed from other quarters.

Their Lordships wish to be furnished at the earliest practicable period with a detailed report of the measures which have been taken under Sir R. Routh's directions for the above pressing and important object; and they desire that it may be particularly stated who the principal landowners in the parishes in which the greatest destitution exist are, and what sums of money they have contributed, and what other steps they have taken towards its relief.

Transmit a copy of this Minute to Sir W. Somerville, for Sir G. Grey's information.

ENCLOSURE.

Mr. CAULFIELD to Sir G. GREY.

*Creagh Rectory, Skibbereen,
January 4, 1846.*

KNOWING your anxiety for information as to the state of this country, and Ireland generally, I make no apology for venturing to write to you. It is almost impossible to conceive anything like an accurate idea of the state of our people, unless by careful inquiry and personal investigation. The poorhouse gives but a feeble test of our destitution, not affording accommodation to those who now seek admittance. It contains 960, though built for 800. In the fever hospital, which I inspected last week, 136; in the infirmary, 128; deaths in December to the 28th, 135; in November, 83; in two months, 218; in corresponding period last year, 7. This is only an index of the mortality that prevails. The burial-grounds are being changed in appearance, in some cases enlarged, and were hired to dig graves for all who are brought, for the bodies were not sufficiently interred. In the small burying-ground near Skibbereen, eight bodies were interred within an hour. Very few now attend funerals, which is strange in this country. Fever has yielded in a great measure, and dysentery very sudden and fatal in its attacks, the patient being sometimes carried off in a few hours. Rice is found effectual in checking this, when it does not arise from actual starvation. The scenes we witness are very terrible. In a remote district in this parish there are on the property of a wealthy nobleman (munificent in charity) 200 destitute persons, many living in hovels not fit for dogs. These people have paid no rent for many years, yet they exist in squalid misery. If the landlord ejects in such cases he is represented as most unfeeling; and yet he is blameable for the miserable condition of his tenants. A house was pointed out in a glen in which there was fever. I found 13 there, 5 lying on some dirty straw (men and women, covered with their clothes), and 5 more in a place called a room, so dark that it was difficult to distinguish anything. Two appeared to be dying. A girl, recovering, was the only person able to crawl about, and two little children, also recovering, sat by some embers of fuel. There was no food in the house—not even a drop of milk; nothing but water; nor any one to attend the sick. No one would venture near the door. In another hut there were 8 also in fever; but these had one old woman to attend them, and they were equally destitute. These were all, of course, Romanists. Similar scenes are on every side. The misery is beyond description!

In the town of Skibbereen, on a hill, where there are some wretched huts, the body of an old man lay for several days beside his son in the bed, there being no one to remove it. It was nearly putrid when discovered by the dispensary doctor. There was no one in the house able to move or crawl out to make known the circumstance!

The distress is only, it is to be feared, at its commencement; and if aid be not speedily afforded, it will come too late to multitudes. The whole food of our people is now nearly consumed; and, at this moment, two-thirds of the people are without resources, at least 60,000 people in this Union are bordering on destitution. In one parish alone, at the very lowest computation, 5,000 people must die of starvation, if aid be not largely afforded. The rector informed me that 15,000 people are now without food, 1100 only being employed on Public Works. Those who were considered wealthy farmers hitherto are now declared to want. It is the case with my parishioners, whose circumstances I know. There are none here who would be called farmers in England. It is calculated, in the report of Mr. Griffiths (I think) that there are 310,000 holdings in Ireland of not more than 5 acres; and 250,000 over 5, and not more than 15 acres. In the former case, with some few exceptions. The

holders and their families are this year reduced to beggary, amounting to 1,550,000; and, in the second case, many to ruin, and all to very great distress, amounting to 1,250,000; giving a total requiring not merely relief, but the means of subsistence for 8 months, of 2,800,000. At least 2,000,000 of people in the course of one month will be in extreme destitution. This presents a mass of wretchedness most appalling.

Two means of in some degree alleviating this misery, and rendering permanent benefit to this country, I should wish to lay before you, but feel unwilling to trespass upon your time, which is so valuable, by going into details. Relying on great kindness, which I have already experienced, I beg you to excuse my presumption in addressing you.

MR. NEWMAN to Sir G. GREY.

*Danvers House, Cork,
January 4, 1847.*

HAVING last week visited the western district of the county of Cork for the purpose of distributing some money intrusted to me for the relief of our starving population, I beg leave to enclose a statement of particulars. Believing you are anxious to know the real state of the distress, I hope you will excuse the trouble of this communication:—

Skibbereen Poorhouse, visited on Wednesday, 30th December, 1846, by the Dean of Cork, and Rev. Messrs. R. B. Townsend and Caulfield.

In fever	136
Ditto convalescents	25
Infantary cases, chiefly dysentery and swelled limbs	128
Other individuals	671
Total	960

Deaths in November and December:—

1845 only	7
1846	2181

Many of the above came from Skull, Crookhaven, Aghadowa, Tullagh, Caharagh, and other parishes in the Skibbereen Workhouse Union.

On Thursday, 31st instant, I visited the village of Ballydehob, in the parish of Skull. Mr. Triphook, perpetual curate of Ballydehob, said he had visited 13 Protestant families in dysentery, near his house; in one house (where there was a large family), not one was able to get out of bed to open the door.

Dr. Traill, rector of Skull, said the deaths had so much increased, they were obliged to take an additional half acre of ground to add to Skull churchyard, and to keep two men at work to make graves; also, that the greater number were buried without coffins, to save expense.

Major Parker and Captain Reid (on the part of Government) spent the greater part of last Wednesday examining the houses of the destitute and sick near Skull village, and they declared to Dr. Traill they had before heard of the great misery in that district, but now they saw it with their own eyes, and believed it.

In several other parishes there was also very great distress. In the parish of Kilsarkin, near Berehaven, the people were living for some weeks on one meal a-day, on sea-weed; but they have since got some aid by Public Works, and also by two soup-boilers, supplied from the money intrusted to me. In various places I saw numbers employed under the Board of Works; but there is a great number of sick and disabled persons, who derive no aid from the Public Works.

Commissary-General HEWITSON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Limerick, January 8, 1847.

CAPTAIN MANN has been dispatched by me (from his local knowledge) to run through Clare, to see the Committees, and to impress upon them the necessity of greater exertions, more especially the establishment of soup-houses, in aid of which the Government will so liberally come forward. I send copy of his last private despatch. It is my present intention to propose the re-establishing of the small depot we had last year at Clare Castle. I have lately issued from Kilrush, to Committees in the worst localities, to the extent of 60 tons of meal, which I wished to be used, and it was most thankfully received. The depots on the south-west coast, from Skibbereen to Dingle inclusive, are now open two days in the week, for issues to Committees in remote mountainous and poor districts; and I am about to employ the "Alban" and "Comet" steamers from hence, to fill them up. I have dispatched Mr. Inglis this morning to a locality on the borders of this county and Tipperary—Kilteely. The enclosed is copy of a letter addressed to me by the engineer officer employed there under the Board of Works. He called on me in person. I desired him to commit his report to

writing, and have written to Lord Guillemore, the Lieutenant of the county, to stir in the business, and get either a proper Committee appointed or hand the parish over to the nearest efficient one. I intend, in some shape, on Mr. Inglis's return, to afford aid; but I fear there are too many places similarly situated—Landlords either absent, or, though present, as well as Committees, not sufficiently active. It is not right I should be so called upon to urge what is their duty to perform, but so it is.

I am glad to see I shall have my store-houses soon filled. A vessel with corn, the "Newport," from Genoa, which ought to have gone to Sligo, according to her charter-party, but refused, is now in the Shannon. I shall give Committees corn *whole*, but our present stock of meal must be first used. Mill power, you are aware, we have none (I am glad to say) available here, all being in use by the trade.

I wish you could get me a good and seaworthy dockyard lighter, capable of carrying 50 tons, for service in the Shannon and Fergus. The command of handy transport will now be all important. She might load with meal or biscuit from Plymouth, not to come empty.

Soup-houses (I am leaving no stone unturned to effect this object), up to my last report, are in operation in the cities of Cork and Limerick, at Skibbereen, Kinsale, Castletown Berehaven, Killarney, Tralee, Dingle, Ennis, and preparing at Clare Castle, Ennistymon, Corofin, and Killybegs; and I hope soon to announce many more. They are, in every point of view, a most excellent and beneficial resource to the poor. The Friends' soup Committee in this city, a private charity of the Quakers, intend cooking the whole corn (Indian) in the way I wish, with a view to bringing it into use among the people.

The Fergus river becomes so narrow at Clare Castle, I cannot send our steamers there; they cannot turn safely to get back. Many of our steamers also cannot get up to Limerick, but remain in the pool. These, with others, are cases calling for the employment of the dockyard lighter I ask for. Arrivals are dropping into Cove and the Shannon. Prices as before.

ENCLOSURE.

Captain MANN to Commissary-General HEWETSON.

Ennistymon, January 5, 1847.

I had intended to sit down quietly, and send a report of proceedings up to yesterday; but after leaving Ennis my work began indeed. You have had notes, as I told you, of what happened as it occurred, and to that moment nothing very particular did turn up; but my visit since to the mountain districts has opened my eyes, and it is there distress, misery, and fear of starvation is met at every turn. I have not procured supplies, because it is utterly out of my power to do it until I see and talk with you. All I promise is to represent. It is out of my power to sufficiently describe the thankful manner in which the good men of the Committees have received the offer of the donation and the proposal of issuing soup; and I cannot tell you in a letter the value of the suggestion. Here, in this miserable neglected place, I met, in a narrow street, four coffins on cars leaving it. The surgeon says deaths are on the increase. I have met the Committee, who, up to this moment have no subscriptions, and candidly told me nothing but Public Works had been done for the wretched.

I have appealed to their humanity and character, pointing out the frightful consequences of neglect of the poor, and the eternal disgrace that must rest on such conduct. They profess to be amazed. I tell them, "You, who cannot give money, give your broken men, a few turnips, cabbages, or what you can, and induce your wives to come forward and help." I met J. O'Brien, M.P., Chairman of Killybegs, to-day; and those who heard me, say he cannot forget me. It was done kindly and courteously, but it was done in the spirit of my instructions. More good, I hope, has been done than you expected or I hoped. The feeling of despair described by Captain Wynne was because the poor have no confidence in their natural protectors, and require some kind words and explanation from those under Government. I cannot finish an official letter to-night. My work from daylight to dark is to hunt out Committees and see leading persons. That, and coarse lodging pulls me. Soon as it is light to-morrow I will start for Miltown and Killybegs, and I hope to be home at night. There you shall have a report; if long, do not find fault. I will just settle matters and come to you, and personally tell you the state of matters about the rural districts, where our help must be sent—Corofin, Killybegs, and here soup-kitchens will be established *tomorrow*. Independent of the immense benefit to the poor, it is popular with others; and the benevolent and liberal offer from the Government has taken them by surprise, and caused, as they say, an excitement and inducement, to act. This property is let in small holdings, and in *Chancery* mostly.

I have found a Committee in the remote district of Killybegs, a credit to their country, working and doing good with their subscription, 100*l*. Keeping so strictly the rule of cost

price as to add themselves, in very distressed cases, the difference—while weighing out what they imported from Galway—from their own pockets; and they are only decent persons. The offer to them appeared a godsend, and the M.P. for Limerick was present when the secretary thankfully acknowledged it, with absolutely tears in his eyes. I would go to Barrin, but I must get home, where, I hope, a letter will reach me; after Miltova, I got into the Kilrush Union, where the union-houses are not full.

As to Clare Castle, the words of the Committee are, "Put some meal there if you will not issue it, but let us know just there is something to prevent our starving." The deficient supply of the merchants has created a feeling of absolute horror. Deal with Ennis or Kilrush, and give only a shill to the rural remote districts, is what they say, with the exception of that impudent priest of Kilmecody, who will be under examination, on a charge preferred by Captain Wynne, in a few days.

I fancied, by your last note, that you feared I shall commit myself in promise of supplies; do not fear.

Lieutenant INGLIS to Commissary-General HAWETSON.

Limerick, January 7, 1847.

MAY I request your particular and early attention to the following matter.

On a late visit to a district of the county which is comprised in the Kiltedy Relief district, situate around the village of Kiltedy, and extending into the baronies of Small County, Cosmogh, and Clannwilliam, I have found a population reduced to such utter and extreme destitution, with the prospect of daily increasing poverty, that I greatly fear, if their condition be not very shortly amended, whole sale starvation must ensue.

The particular disadvantages under which this district labours are the following:—

- 1st. Its proprietors are all non-residents.
- 2nd. Its population is dense, and most poor.

The consequences, therefore, are these—that, with the exception of the employment given on the Public Works, no sort of relief can be extended to the people, and the Public Works cannot wholly provide for their wants.

There being no proprietors resident, the Relief Committee, notwithstanding the exertions and good intentions of its members, is insufficient. Rev. Mr. Madden, P.P., is chairman, Rev. Mr. Davern, R.C.C., is secretary, and a few farmers of the neighbourhood are the members.

During last summer a sum of about 100*l.* was collected, principally by an assessment of 1*s.* per acre, to this was added 80*l.* by Government donation.

A sum of 7*l.* 8*s.* alone remains of this on hand, which, with 15*l.* Indian Relief subscription, now forms the whole capital of the Committee; and, from all I can hear, there is little prospect of any further subscription.

They are, therefore, prevented undertaking any retail of provision. The village of Kiltedy being wretchedly small and impoverished, there is no provision in it whatever, and the only store of any kind is in a small village called Herbertstown, more than five miles from some parts of the district, and three miles from the nearest portion. On this store there is a heavy and increasing drain from other quarters, and the cheapest food they can purchase is whole meal, for which they pay 2*s.* 6*d.* per stone, at the lowest rate; there is no Indian meal.

Hence, even were the Public Works sufficient to support every family, their difficulties are great, and their position most precarious. But when it is remembered that, with the present rate of provisions, very few families indeed draw wages enough for its support, and many, much distressed, draw none; their position clearly becomes one of imminent and extreme danger; and such is this position of very many families at the present moment in the Kiltedy Relief district. The scene on my visit was distressing. I have not, during the last 11 months in Ireland, witnessed such distress as in Kiltedy on Tuesday last; and I have been a good deal through the western counties. On my last visit (about a month since) there was an appearance of health and strength among the people. On Tuesday, death was too clearly depicted on the majority of the countenances around my car in the street, and their cries too forcibly described their sufferings.

I would beg to add the following description of a scene I myself witnessed in this locality. Were it an individual case, so much weight might not be attached to it; but when I am told that it is one only of 20 in that very neighbourhood, and when I know that throughout the country such cases are continually to be found, surely it is worthy of notice, and cannot too seriously be viewed.

A labourer named Edmond Mahony, of this district, shortly after leaving Limerick County Hospital, where he had been some time confined, got employment on a Public Work next his own door. Either through over exertion when in a weak state, or through inherent disease, he was shortly compelled to leave the work, and he has since been confined to his cabin by decline or consumption. His family consists of his mother, his wife, and five children: the eldest of whom is but six years, principally little girls, sickly and weak. Since his leaving the work, these eight persons have had nothing to depend upon. At the last payment the labourers of the work made a subscription amounting to 5*s.* 1*d.* for them, and thus supported them only up to Sunday night. On hearing the circumstances of this case, I proceeded to the cabin, and found them in a state just bordering on starvation. They had not tasted food either on that or the preceding day. The wretchedness of the cabin was fearful, and I verily

believe that ere nightfall, had I not providentially arrived, death would have put an end to the sufferings of these eight human beings.

Such must be the state of things in a district where the proprietors of the soil are never seen, and when provisions are beyond the reach of the people. The state of some of these distant deserted districts is little known; and I sadly fear, that unless some favourable change at once takes place, the destitution of Edmond Mahoney must become the destitution of hundreds upon hundreds, and that all—like his family—will not so easily be saved.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Castle, Dublin, January 9, 1847.

I HAD hoped to send you to-day the report of Captain Mann, who is making a visit to all the Committees in County Clare, for the establishment of soup kitchens, and for raising subscriptions, and I anticipate the best effects, as he knows everybody personally, is much esteemed, and the object of his mission is very popular.

I enclose to you a note addressed to my son Randolph by Mr. Millikin, and you will see he is equally successful in Galway.

In a day or two I shall receive an answer from Mr. Bishop, and which I know will be satisfactory.

Mr. Dobree writes me word, that throughout his district the soup system is extremely popular, and that the people are really exerting themselves to raise subscriptions everywhere.

I make no doubt that my friend Mr. Adams will exercise his usual ability in accomplishing the same object.

I have a letter from the Committee at the South Sea House, London, asking for advice and assistance, and I have given it to them as far as lay in my power.

I hope to have my estimate and report ready by next week.

I have now nine hundred and thirty Committees in correspondence with me.

In your letter of the 2nd, you ask me for a list of subscriptions by Committees (not subscribed on our regulations), but I find that I have no sure data to go on, for as they do not apply to me, I receive no details of the amounts.

The subscriptions to 12th August, last season	£105,000
Donations	70,810

This season—

Subscriptions	£25,166
Donations this morning, 9th January	15,687

But you should recollect that the mass of the subscriptions last year was received towards the end of the season.

The purchase of boilers would be most useful for the Committees to make, more so than the hand-mills at the present moment, as the soup, being the cheaper food, is the most in demand. I have no good opportunity of trying the French hand-mill before practical people; but its bulk is against it, from the difficulty of conveyance.

I have a letter from Messrs. Cuhitt and Co., advising their having sent one of the new iron quern mills, on which I shall report.

I send you enclosed a letter from Lord Ross. It is a very sensible letter from a very sensible man, and I am quite sure gives a true picture of the country. I recommend you to read it with attention.

He has mistaken what I have said, respecting a call of the proprietors. I did not allude to the county, but to the district in which the Committee acted, for the purpose of raising subscriptions and establishing soup houses, and feeding the poor and helpless.

We shall have a difficult duty to carry the people through the winter, say to the 15th April; and in doing so, are we to deal otherwise with the question of prices than we now do? This is an important consideration.

The people cannot purchase at our prices to the extent they require, and it is with this view I am encouraging soup kitchens. If we reduce our prices, and drive away the trade, will it be better? I wish you could suggest any plan to meet a sudden demand, without upsetting every principle on which we are acting, which would lead to worse results.

I enclose the Cork daily list, since which seven maize-laden vessels have arrived in addition, all from Continental Europe, for orders. Prices still for Indian

corn, 17*l*. to 17*l*. 10*s*.; meal, 19*l*.; oatmeal, 22*l*.; wheat, 42*s*. to 46*s*. per barrel; wheaten meal, 19*l*. to 20*l*.; flour, 17*l*. to 26*l*. A cargo of flour from Montreal sold at 4*s*. per barrel. The trade inclined to purchase, in anticipation of further advance.

ENCLOSURE.

MR. MILLIKEN TO MR. R. ROUTH.

Egmont, January 7, 1847.

I LEFT on Monday morning, visited Athenry and Loughrea Committees. Came on to Ballinasloe, and am now visiting all in this district. The soup-houses take admirably everywhere. At Ballinasloe they have subscribed 200*l*.; at Athenry, 70*l*.; Oramore, 150*l*.; Headford, by Captain St. George, 430*l*.; here, in half an hour, 50*l*.; and they are going about increasing. From my going over to Galway on Friday to open tenders for stores, I did not get my letter that had been forwarded to Tuam until I returned there on Saturday, and only got yours and two officials last evening. I am just going to start to Lawrencetown to meet the Committee; to-morrow, Woodford; Saturday, Portumna; and Sunday, Mountshannon; and return to Galway on Monday, to make up the report for Mr. Trevelyan.

LORD ROUSE TO MR. STANLEY.

Castle, Parkinstown, January 7, 1847.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th, and beg to say that in my letter of the day before, I merely stated the most prominent facts. I did not enter into particulars because I thought that it was little more than a matter of form to write at all, conceiving that the Commissary-General must have had a mass of information of a similar character from a large portion of Ireland through the police authorities, the stipendiary magistrates, and the Inspecting Officers of the Board of Works. In point of fact there are other districts where the supply of food, I am persuaded, is still more deficient, and there are some where the supply is completely exhausted. For instance, for the last three weeks, I believe, there has been little or no corn in the parish of Sussagh. There little or no rent has been paid, the land is very much subdivided, and the people have consumed the whole produce. At present they are fed principally on foreign corn, sold by a miller at Banagher, who imports it and grinds it, and then disposes of it by retail. About 100*l*. worth is thus sold daily. It is very singular how they procure so much money; but there can be no doubt that, notwithstanding the apparent poverty of the district, much has been hoarded up. How long it will last I cannot tell. I forgot to mention that there are, of course, a considerable number of men on the Public Works, but their wages will go a very little way in accounting for the ability to purchase. As to this district, and I think I may add, this county, there are a sufficient number of men of capital to import the food which will be required; the real difficulty is to obtain coarse food at a price which the people can command, and at the present moment there is nothing of the kind to be had. A great many farmers have already parted with much more corn than they otherwise would have done, in expectation of having Indian meal at one penny a pound, and are now consuming the seed corn. The Relief Committee of this district, which consists of very intelligent men, have been constantly on the look out, but they find they cannot import anything on cheaper terms than the regular traders sell it. They have, however, worked a soup-kitchen for the last six or seven weeks so efficiently that the workhouse now contains but 490 persons, most of whom would at any time be proper objects of charity. It would be very desirable if each Relief Committee throughout the county would at once establish a soup-kitchen, and I will do what I can to induce them to do so.

The Relief Committees in many places throughout the county, where there are not large traders, are procuring supplies of provisions, but where there is a large trader, he, either for his own advantage or as a popular act, sells by retail, and all is accomplished which the Relief Committee could effect.

As to the apathy among the small farmers, those who are best acquainted with their habits usually explain it in this way: they say that our people are not fond of work, and that they now think that something will turn up which will enable them to live with little labour; that they must, under any circumstances, be fed. This, of course, applies to those who are not upon the Public Works. Even among my own tenants, a certain portion of them of course, there is an unaccountable apathy, though they are often visited by the agent, and a very skilful and popular Scotch agriculturist; and the preparations for cropping are decidedly more backward than usual. In this case, however, I have no doubt but that eventually the land will be cropped. The landed proprietors are perfectly alive on this subject, but the smaller proprietors, who have received very little rent, and have no other resources, have not the means of purchasing seed to any considerable extent, or of making any other decided effort.

There are, on a given surface here, including the large estates, ten or twelve times as many proprietors as in England, and they all have their little establishments to keep up, and now are really pinched. A landed proprietor here has very little control over his tenants, and whatever he may effect will be rather by encouragement than compulsion. In England a landed proprietor would at once interfere, and decidedly where the land was neglected; here he cannot.

The quarter sessions are going on here, and I have had an opportunity of conversing with several of the magistrates as to the expediency of a county meeting; they think it would produce excitement and do no good. However, any directions I may receive from Government I will carry out as well as I can. I think something in the shape of a letter from the Lord Lieutenant, addressed to the people of Ireland, pointing out the consequences of neglecting agriculture, might be of use. There is one difficulty with respect to the very small farmers; in very many cases they will not have the means of cultivating the land, being obliged to work for sustenance. In England or Scotland, under such circumstances, they would give the land up, and it would be transferred to a large farmer, who would have the means of tilling it; here the prevailing opinion is that they will hold the land and suffer it to lie waste. As to the difficulty the large farmers experience in procuring labourers, the only practical remedy I know of is, for the officers of the Board of Works to take especial care to employ no more men than is absolutely necessary to prevent destitution, and to make the task of work in proportion to the payment, equal to that which a farmer would require who paid his labourers well; for instance, who paid one shilling a day and food. The farmers, the gentlemen, and the Relief Committees themselves are often under pressure, and therefore great responsibility is thrown upon the engineers and their subordinates. As to meeting the difficulty by enlisting labourers from the Public Works where the farmers were willing to employ them, that, I am sure, would not answer practically at all; no farmer, under such circumstances, could with safety take the labourers. I have spoken to farmers repeatedly on this subject. I forgot to mention, in speaking of the ability of the people to purchase corn, that the deposits in the savings' bank here are about 3000*l*, larger than usual, and that the deposits in the two branch banks are also considerably larger. The flour which has been manufactured in this immediate neighbourhood, and transmitted to the canal, under escort, has averaged somewhere about 100 loads per week; but if the information was of any value, you could at once obtain an exact return from the military authorities.

I have only further to add, that I think, if this county is a fair average of Ireland, you will very soon have six millions of people wholly dependent on foreign supplies.

In the "King's County Chronicle" of yesterday you will see the suggestions of our agriculturist, who is an eminently practical man, and you may possibly glean something from them which will be useful.

MR. HALY TO MR. TREVELYAN.

British Association for the Relief of the Extreme Distress in the remote parishes of Ireland and Scotland.

*Committee Room, South Sea House,
January 9, 1847.*

I AM directed by the Committee to enclose you the accompanying blank form of application for relief from the British Association, a number of which have been forwarded to Commissary-General Sir Randolph Routh, and to request that you will move the Lords of the Treasury to direct that officer to distribute them amongst the Inspecting Commissariat Officers in Ireland, so as to be available to parties wishing to apply for relief to the Association.

ENCLOSURE.

GENTLEMEN,

ON the other side I transmit to you the particulars on which I found an application to you for assistance. In the event of your granting the same, and deeming it expedient to issue any special instructions as to its disposal, I beg to assure you that I and those who are acting with me, will carefully carry them into execution.

I have, &c.

*To the Committee of the British Association, for the Relief
of Extreme Distress in Ireland and Scotland.*

Name of Relief District
In the County of _____ Barony _____
Poor Law Union _____

Extent of District in Statute Acres.	Population of Relief District.	Poor Law Valuation of Relief District.

and two members of the Relief Committee, who informed me that they had only from the old series about 22*l.* of funds in hand, and had not obtained any subscription for the present year; but they promised setting to work without farther delay to see what could be done. I would here remark the hardship that the people in this locality are suffering is owing to the absence of large landholders (being non-resident); and many of them, it was stated to me, not having contributed in any shape to the Relief Fund, leaving the whole charge to parties who are resident, but cannot afford sufficient means. I endeavoured to impress upon the Committee the great advantage of collecting subscriptions for a relief fund, of opening a store for the sale of Indian meal in their village, being so much better calculated for the use of the poor than a whole meal, which they do not understand manufacturing into bread, and which is now purchased by them from a baker at a loss of at least 25 per cent. - Shop-shops cannot be with any advantage established in Kiltelly, there being no market for meal or other necessary ingredients required for making wholesome diet of that kind.

TREASURY MINUTE ON the above.

Write to Sir R. Routh and desire that he will report who the land-owners in the Relief District of Kiltelly are, and what is the probable extent of their annual income derived from lands situated within the district.

Also desire that he will instruct the Inspecting Officer to write to the proprietors, representing to them the distressed state of the district, and suggesting to them to subscribe to the funds of the Relief Committee.

Also desire that he will adopt the same course in all similar cases.

State that the British Association have given 10*l.* in aid of the funds of the Kiltelly Relief Committee, to which he is authorized to add another 10*l.* from the funds at his disposal.

Also state that, in order to relieve the pressure of immediate want in cases of extreme distress, until local subscriptions can be raised, or other proper measures taken, the British Association have been pleased to authorize him to contribute a sum not exceeding 25*l.* on their part when other funds are not available for the purpose, and their Lordships, in every such case, authorize an equal sum to be given from the Government funds in addition thereto.

Desire that Sir R. Routh will make a special report to this Board for the information of the Committee in every instance in which he may consider it necessary to exercise this power.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin, January 10, 1847.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury copy of a letter from Commissary-General Hewetson, submitting a report from Captain Mann of the state of county Clare, which I shall take care and follow up.

I have requested Mr. Hewetson to re-establish the depot at Clare Castle.

I have also desired him to bear in mind that he has full authority to open his depots and supply the demands made upon him, using his own judgment and discretion, lest a reference to me might occasion any delay of serious consequence, but to keep me well informed, that their Lordships and the authorities here might have due cognizance of our proceedings.

I beg your attention to the last paragraph of Mr. Hewetson's letter, requesting that a dock-yard lighter, capable of containing 50 tons, might be attached to his depot, and which certainly would be of great advantage, if such a vessel could, without inconvenience be assigned by the Admiralty to this service.

ENCLOSURE.

Commissary-General HEWETSON to Sir R. ROUTH.

*Commissariat, Limerick,
January 9, 1847.*

WITH reference to that part of your letter, No. 333, of the 30th ultimo, upon the subject of the destitution reported to prevail at Clare Abbey, county Clare, I dispatched Captain Mann, who from his local knowledge of that county, is so well fitted for such duty, to examine and report to me generally upon its state, and the steps the Committee were taking for the relief of their respective districts.

I under subjoin copy of his report, from which you will perceive his mission has been attended with, I trust, beneficial effects. It refers, you will find, to the state of the barony of Coromroe, to which your note of the 7th, upon copy of a letter from the office of the Board of Works, calls my attention.

I would submit, that Clare Castle should again be made a small sub-depot, the same building be hired, and head constable Cresson re-appointed to the charge. You will observe it will be necessary to issue from the Kilsrush and Clare Castle depots to Committees in poor and remote localities, and I shall instruct Captain Mann accordingly.

It is most desirable as I have observed in former letters, that a dock-yard lighter, capable of containing 50 tons of supplies, should be at my disposal in the Shannon. The steamers cannot go up to the head of the Fergus river, nor can any, but those of small burthen get up the quays of this city. Such a lighter would consequently be of the greatest advantage to the relief service, and I beg your early intervention to procure me a vessel of the above description.

Captain MANN to Commissary-General HAWETSON.

Kilsrah, January 7, 1847.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that your letter of the 31st ultimo, No. 10, reached me here on the evening of the 1st instant, and the next morning I proceeded to Ennis, where I arrived at noon.

Having requested an immediate meeting of the Relief Committee, on attending, I found that Kilmealy an Inch Committee were there also.

On enquiry into the state of the destitution prevalent in the locality, what the Committee or any benevolent persons had done to alleviate the state of suffering described, and other questions put by me to that effect, a great deal of representation was made, which at last was brought to this point, that distress to a fearful amount existed in this and the surrounding districts; that severe as these privations and sufferings have been, it was not contended positively that death had occurred from starvation, but that there had been an increase in the admissions to the fever hospital, which the medical attendant attributed in great measure to have arisen from disease engendered by cold and exposure on the Public Works at this inclement season of the year, the poor being ill clad and not sufficiently fed to sustain them.

It was also represented to me that Colonel Wyndham had imported, and was still using great exertions to obtain further supplies of bread stuffs to a very large amount, which was being sold to his tenants and the poor of Ennis at cost price, and that the issue of tickets for that purpose amounted to 1500; that, independent of that supply, the whole country around had entirely to depend upon what was purchased from the Limerick merchants, or grown at a mill there, belonging to Messrs. Bazantyne (the only one there). These supplies having failed on the 27th ultimo, in the manner described by Captain Wynne, it was clear to me a most distressing panic had been created, hardly to be described, and which I subsequently found had spread into all the neighbouring district. A *most pressing appeal* was made to me, requesting the recommendation that a depot of Government provisions might be established near there, to quiet the minds of the people and allay the distressing apprehensions then existing of starvation for want of a supply to fall back on. I fully and strongly explained, in terms that could not be misunderstood, the views of the Government, your instructions, and their duty, and also the utter impossibility of affording a supply equal to their demands. And the Committee then urged that a reserve supply might be placed at Clare Abbey, even if it were not issued, so that the people might not be left in dread of another failure and worse consequences.

I then requested information as to the state of the union house, and, if full, whether any steps had been taken to provide relief in the way of soup, particularly for the parties described in your Instructions.

It was represented to me that the union house was full, even over the number estimated for it; that soup-boilers had been erected, at an expense of 20*l.*, in a convenient part of the town; and that it was intended to provide soup for the destitute; but it was also clear there was a want of funds to proceed with. I then stated that I was directed to promote that particular object, and to offer on the part of the Government a donation of pounds per pound towards all sums subscribed by them for the relief of the destitute. This was thankfully acknowledged, and met by a promise that a subscription should be immediately entered upon, and the issue of soup commence the next day; and, as promised, 100 quarts of excellent soup was issued next day to the poor, composed of beef, vegetables, and oatmeal, with a small piece of meat in each quart, which issue was considerably increased next day, and will continue, to the amount of 700 quarts, as necessity may require and funds are raised.

I then visited the county inspector of police, who described the distress prevailing to be as I before have stated, and the alarm existing on account of the fear of a failure in the supply. He readily acceded to my request that a policeman should be appointed for the purpose mentioned in your Instructions.

The next day (3rd instant) I visited the fever hospital, and found the state to be thus:—Admitted on the 1st instant, 19 patients; on the 2nd instant, 10; died, 2; discharged, 10; remaining, 166.

At the meeting before alluded to, I found on enquiry that Kilmealy and Inch districts are in a very distressed state, having no resident gentry, and being a poor mountain one. It is in the union of Ennis, and has a population of about 6000, the parish priest and one respectable farmer representing it. From its situation the establishment of a soup-kitchen appears imprac-

timble. A large demand was made for meal in a way entirely at variance with all my instructions, and was consequently refused.

After visiting the fever hospital, as above alluded to, the inspection of the soup and its issue, on Sunday, the 3rd instant, I proceeded to Clare Abbey, having found the Secretary of that Relief Committee and the Chairman, J. O'Brien, Esq., M.P. for Limerick.

I found the poor here were indeed suffering most severely, in a great measure aggravated by the suspension of the Public Works some time since, as a just punishment for the outrage committed on an officer of that department. The population is said to be about 3000; about 500 are located in a miserable poor looking village. It was reported to me by the Secretary, that previous to the works being resumed, the poor were driven to the fields tilled with turnips, and that he saw over 100 feeding on them raw; that in this dreadful state of things he was induced to purchase and issue, as *last*, to these destitute creatures a quantity of meal (with the concurrence of a second member of the Committee), to the value of over 100*l.*, they promising to pay for the same by instalments, when the labour should be resumed. And this being from the subscription raised as a relief fund, it was mentioned to me with a view of ascertaining whether that expenditure would be allowed on auditing the accounts, provided they declined the pressing of the repayment from these poor creatures. My view of the subject, as the safest, was to request, as it was intended as a punishment, that the sums should be collected, in order that it might be carried out, directing a reference to be made to higher authority, in whose power the remission should only lay.

I found the Commanding Officer of the 73d regiment, in depot, had authority to allow the use of a barrack kitchen with boilers, for the purpose required, and he assured me every assistance; but as the property belongs chiefly to the Lord Lieutenant of the county, Sir Lucius O'Brien, I proceeded to his residence with the view of requesting his assistance in prosecuting the object in view. The result was, that directions were given to the Secretary to open that soup-kitchen on the next day on his responsibility, and to raise subscriptions for that purpose; on which I made the Government offer of an equal donation.

Having also personally waited on the leading gentry at Ennis, and did all in my power to carry out your instructions there.

On Monday, the 4th instant, I proceeded with Captain Wynne to Corofin, who I had made acquainted with my mission. This place is eight Irish miles from Ennis; the population in the town about 900, but situated in a mountain district, representing 21,000 in Committee, and greater misery or poverty I have not seen anywhere. Fortunately, an enterprising person has set up a mill, and continues to extend it, otherwise I cannot say what would be the consequence. Here the proposal to erect a soup-kitchen was most favourably received; and as the Committee are composed of active and kind resident gentry, who appear willing to do all in their power, the promise of its being erected (a soup-kitchen) and an notice issue, I have every hope will be fulfilled. It appears that a subscription has been forwarded from England to J. Fitzgerald, Esq., collected by his relations, and, under the circumstances of this locality, I beg to recommend that it may be considered as one raised there, and a donation of equal amount granted on it.

On Tuesday, the 5th, I visited Kallenora, in the Union of Ennis, distant 16 Irish miles from it, with a population of about 6,000 in the district, but about 200 in the hamlet, and I again met J. O'Brien, Esq., one of the principal proprietors of the soil. I found the Committee most benevolent, active, and hard-working. A subscription had been raised, amounting to 160*l.*, by which means a supply had been kept up for the poor, sometimes from Galway, by water. I promised them, on the part of the Government, a donation of an equal sum; and I am sure, hard-worked as they are, and with only the clergy to assist (there being no resident gentry in this remote district), that the soup-kitchens will be erected there to advantage, if possible.

I then proceeded to Ennistymon, about four Irish miles further, and here requested and met the Committee. It represents a district of about 10,000, the town being about 1,000. There is one mill at full work in the town; one small one, about two miles from it, and a third, being in order, about three miles distant, of large power.

My inquiries were met by a statement that very great distress prevails there. There is a union-house overflowing. The medical men represented that death was on the increase, if not from actual starvation, from disease brought on by insufficient sustenance. I cannot say whether the occurrence was accidental, but in the street, on my arrival, I met four coffins; two passed me next morning, and at a house about a mile from it there was another.

It was said a subscription was to be raised. It appeared the gift of a soup-kitchen had been offered, but, excepting providing employment by Public Works, nothing has as yet been done for the destitute at that place that came to my knowledge. I appealed most strongly to their humanity and character, pointing out the frightful consequences of a neglect of their duty, and the eternal disgrace that must rest on where it did. Meat is cheap here, such as they can want, 2*d.* per lb. Those who cannot give money can send, as in other places promised, donations of vegetables. It is promised that a soup-kitchen shall be immediately got up and actively used, but I feel it my duty to state I am uneasy about that locality. There is a sub-inspector of police resident there, and I would suggest he be requested to report from time to time what is doing for the destitute by the Committee there, or whether any circumstances arise to require active interference on the part of the Government.

Yesterday I visited Miltown Malbay Relief Committee, where I have not the least hope that anything will be carried out in the shape of distribution of soup. I cannot find that there are any subscriptions raised; indeed the feeling appeared to be that nothing more than employment on the roads could be required from the Committee, and that the Government were bound to feed the people. Demands were made for supplies of food from the Government depots,

but, as a matter of opinion, it appears to me the person appointed by the Committee to retail it under the regulation 46 of the Instructions, has to provide funds.

Having now reported in detail all my proceedings under your Instructions, I beg to offer my opinion.

It appears to me of great importance to consider well the re-establishment of the Clare Castle depot, for the purpose of affording a limited supply to the remote districts around Ennis, treating that place like Kilrush, unless any particular case should arise, that would render it necessary to assist there. A small supply to the farmer, when it could be conveniently given, would afford relief, and the proceeding would allay the present painful feeling, and in this I am borne out, by Captain Wynne, who reports the people are now a little better situated, and the supply also more regular in some degree; but still the feeling he describes will continue until, by this measure, some assurance is given that the failure will not occur again without something to fall back on.

It is utterly out of my power to describe the benefit I think the soap distribution will be to the poor, provided it is carried out in the spirit it is proposed; besides it will offer a field round here for the exertions of the other sex, who hitherto have not had the opportunity to act.

Further I have found, with few exceptions, that the benevolent intention of the Government, and the liberal offer in aid of subscriptions raised for charitable purposes, has been most fully appreciated, and most thankfully acknowledged.

As to the details of extended supply alluded to in your Instructions, it is necessary that I should personally consult you on that subject.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

January 12, 1847.

Write to Sir R. Routh, that my Lords highly approve of the measures which have been adopted by Capt-in Mann, under Mr. Hewetson's directions, with a view to stimulate the Relief Committees to increased exertions in the county of Clare, and to the establishment of soup-kitchens under their superintendence.

State that my Lords have requested the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to order a dock-yard lighter, capable of containing 50 tons, to be attached to the Limerick depot.

SIR R. ROUTH to MR. TREVELYAN.

Dublin, January 10, 1847.

I SEND you, by this day's post, Captain Mann's report, which I shall follow up. The depot at Clare Castle will be re-established immediately. All is ready for it, as it was only a temporary suspension not to alarm the trade. Mr. Hewetson asks for a dock-yard lighter, capable of containing 50 tons, to go up and down between the depots, and enter the small rivers, which a steamer cannot reach.

I also beg your attention to the Kilteely case, as it is one that will frequently occur, and I touched on it yesterday in my letter. The question is, how or through what channel I could administer to those pressing demands. The sums are small, but the exigency great, and the relief should be immediate. I should be much obliged to you to give this subject your early consideration, which the importance of it requires.

I also lay before you an application for the interposition of Government in reference to seed oats for the county Sligo, and county Mayo is in the same state. From all I have said at different times you know my opinion of the difficulty of acceding to this request, but the alternative is so alarming that the question requires to be fairly considered. With so much to do in feeding the people, and so many points to attend to, it would be difficult to procure and transport to the several ports at which it would be required, the necessary quantity of grain seed, which occupies a large space; and if you supplied it in one county there would be no way of refusing it to another.

It seems to me that the question might be met in this way, by supplying turnip, carrot, beet, and parsnip seed, particularly the latter; and seeds of this description not being an article of food, might be more easily obtained, or at least without affecting the food market, and it would induce here a new species of cultivation that could not fail of being advantageous.

Pray remember, if you set upon it there is no time to be lost. Parsnips and beet offer the advantage that they cannot be eaten raw, particularly the former, which is little if at all known in many of the country places in Ireland.

I am glad to be informed of the views entertained of emigration. No doubt it may be made a valuable resource. With regard to the pasture system, the course of present events will do all that is necessary; but I shall touch on neither the one nor the other of these subjects.

I am glad to see the appointment of Mr. Trimmer. He will probably replace Captain Reid with advantage; and Captain Drury, or, in preference, Captain Owen, could take county Clare, where we want an active and intelligent officer.

ENCLOSURE.

Mr. HALLIDAY to Sir R. ROUTH.

Stewart and Kincade, Dublin, January 9, 1847.

At a meeting of the proprietors and cess-payers for the county of Sligo, held in the Court-rooms there on Wednesday, 30th December, Sir R. Booth Gore in the chair, the lieutenant of the county, Colonel Gore, was requested to press upon the Government the following facts regarding seed corn then brought forward. The meeting was deterred from public resolutions, by the consideration that they would produce excitement, enhance prices, and thus obstruct the very end desired, namely, the introduction of seed grain by Government aid.

It was unanimously agreed,

1st. That, from the statistical statements and general observation, there was an extreme deficiency in the country of grain available for seed.

2nd. That this deficiency was not less than one-fourth, and by many computed at one-third to one-half of the whole sowing of the country.

3rd. That the deficiency was daily increasing by the pressure of want of food.

4th. That such being facts, and viewing the whole county sowing as 340,000 acres, so great a calamity as having one-fourth of this land unsown should be simply laid before Government.

5th. No seed will be introduced by merchants; their means have not been adequate to maintain full food supplies, although stretched to the utmost by certainty of steady ample profit, and in this trade will remain absorbed beyond seed-time.

6th. That in the absence of rent payments it was out of landlords power to organise a seed import.

And, in fine, since there does not exist any other resource to look to, and the Government have promised to supply whatever rye and bere seed might be wanted, it is urgently solicited that this provision be likewise extended to oat seed, as the only means of averting the calamity of a valuable country left desert, and a recurring famine in the year 1848 over a land exhausted.

There is no desire to have seed bestowed, but that it may be got into the country, capable of being sold for money and the land sown.

Government power alone can supply the extent of the want; to leave it undone will be to leave the country ruined in its sole resources.

It has been suggested that the Scottish markets will shortly be incapable of supplying any large quantity of seed.

The sentiments of the Dublin seed trade are contained in the letter from Messrs. Drummond sent enclosed.

SIR,

59, DUNCAN-STREET, DUBLIN, January 8, 1847.

In answer to your query about seeds for Ireland we have to inform you that no movement has taken place, so far as our trade is concerned; with regard to providing an unusual supply, excepting in some solitary instances, and even this extra quantity is trifling, and we cannot doubt that the deficiency in cereal seed throughout the country will be very large, as attested by all concurrent testimony.

W. H. Halliday, Esq.

We are, &c.,

W. DRUMMOND and SONS.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

January 11, 1847.

SINCE Saturday I have had a further communication with the London Relief Committee, the particulars of which I will proceed to give you.

The forms of application are intended to be sent to your officers, to be deposited with them, and to be delivered by them to persons who may ask for them, and to whom it may be proper to give them; and it is wished that you should caution your officers not to invite applications by distributing them freely.

A notice will probably be published by the Committee, pointing out the channel through which applications should be made.

The Committee are also anxious that the Inspecting Officers should, in every case, make a confidential report, and that this report and the application itself, should, if practicable, be sent through you.

I strongly recommended the Committee to order a large supply of cauldrons,

which they can provide better than it can be done by the Government establishments; and I have told them, that if they will undertake for this, we will do what we can in procuring hand-mills.

I think it probable that the Committee will buy and distribute the 150 tons of salt meat belonging to the Ordnance, which they could do with greater advantage than we can.

I am desirous to request that you will instruct Mr. Bishop to ascertain to what extent the landowners in the Skibbereen and the other distressed districts in the neighbourhood had contributed towards the relief of the distress, by subscribing to the funds of the Relief Committee, or in any other way, and to report the result.

You are, also, to instruct Mr. Bishop to address letters to those proprietors who have obviously fallen short of the performance of their obligations in this respect, pointing out to them the urgent distress which exists on, or in the neighbourhood of their estates, and suggesting to them to subscribe to the funds of the Relief Committee of the district; taking care to do this in concert with the Committees interested in obtaining the subscriptions.

Pry furnish me with a statement of the proprietors in the Schull district, similar to that you have given me for the Skibbereen district.

Two members of the London Committee have just been with me, to say that they have ordered some cauldrons, and will take all the pork, about which you will receive an official communication; but they do not want the beef which is not so fit for making soup.

You must now give me your opinion as to the number and description of hand-mills I should order.

The "Dragon," with her 300 tons of provisions, will call at Cork for orders, and a naval officer will be deputed by the Committee to join her at Cork, and arrange for the disposal of her cargo, after he has conferred with you at Dublin, which he will take in his way.

I told them I thought they had better sell their supplies to the Relief Committee, even at less than cost price, and get money, to buy more food elsewhere.

I will write to the Admiralty for a lighter for Mr. Hewetson.

There is no reason whatever to doubt the correctness of the conclusion which has been arrived at, as often as the question has been considered, that for the Government to interfere to procure seed, would do far more harm by encouraging the people to consume their seed, and to depend upon the Government for fresh supplies, than it would do good in furnishing such supplies; and there is now this additional reason, that the quantities of seed,—oats, barley and bear,—to be obtained in England and Scotland are so limited, that, if the Government were to show a disposition to buy them up, the price, already extremely high, would go up to an extravagant amount. But the fact is, if seed were procurable in sufficient quantities out of Ireland, which it is not, it would be physically impossible for the Government by any machinery or system at its disposal, to purchase the seed, send it to Ireland, and distribute it in all the different parts of the country to all the different people who want it.

With regard to turnip, carrot, beet, and parsnip seed, the London dealers are collecting all they can, and the Irish Agricultural Society ought to give public notice where it is to be obtained, and what the present prices are. I send you such information as I could immediately obtain on this point. I do not see what advantage is to be obtained from the intervention of Government in this matter. If I can be useful in obtaining further information, I am ready to do so.

MR. TREVELYAN TO SIR R. ROUTE.

January 11, 1847.

IN the concluding paragraph of your letter of the 9th instant, you state, "We shall have a difficult duty to carry the people through the winter (say to the 15th of April); and in doing so, are we to deal otherwise with the question of prices than we now do?"

It is quite impossible for us to deal with the question of prices differently from what we now do.

The prices of our depots are fixed at the average of the market price of the nearest large marts; and if we make them lower, the whole country will come upon us; our depots will be quickly exhausted; and

as prices will be artificially lowered, not only at the depots, but everywhere else in the neighbourhood, the remaining insufficient stock of food will be rapidly and prematurely consumed; and, great as is the existing calamity, it will become greater still. The famine would be aggravated, and it would be aggravated by the interference of the Government, which would be in itself a great additional evil, for such must be considered to be whatever diminishes the confidence felt in the superior wisdom and foresight of the ruling power, and throws upon it the responsibility and odium of inevitable calamities which are inflicted by the hand of Providence.

You will see from the accompanying extract from an official statement made by the Belgian Government, of the measures of relief which have lately been adopted in that country, what is thought there of Government interference of this sort:—

“Direct purchases by the Government, within certain limits, have been tried at different times, and in general have proved a failure. When the Government substitutes its own efforts for those of commerce, and undertakes to do everything, those efforts, if they do not create a monopoly, produce the same effects, paralyze individual efforts, and bring about an artificial state of things, pending which the sacrifices already made are continually rendering fresh ones; the prices are then regulated, not according to existing wants and the means of satisfying them, but according to the losses to which the Treasury is willing to submit. The supplies, no matter how extensive they may be, are soon exhausted, and necessity compels a recourse to regular trade, when the numerous transactions which the sustenance of a people requires may be freely and regularly carried on. The intention of the Government never was, nor could it be, to have recourse to such an interference. The demand for a fresh credit proves this; for a credit of twenty, or even of twenty-five millions, would have been necessary to have applied even in an incomplete manner the system of direct purchases on the part of the Government.”

The fact is that for the Government to establish depots of food for sale at all is a very strong measure, but having established them, to conduct the sales with a total disregard to the natural checks upon too rapid consumption, would be contrary to common sense and the plainest principles of duty.

How to make the food, when it has been obtained by purchase from the depots or elsewhere, go as far as possible, is an entirely separate question; and in my opinion the plan now being adopted, of stimulating the Relief Committee to the utmost possible exertion, of adding to their funds from Government donations, and of establishing soup-kitchens, is the best that could be adopted for this purpose.

MR. TREVELYAN to OFFICER in charge of the COMMISSARIAT at MALTA.

January 11, 1847.

You ask me, in your letter to me, dated the 26th ultimo, whether you are “to continue to accept any further offers that may be made, and to what extent?”

Our answer is, that you are to continue to make such purchases as may be necessary to keep the Admiralty mills fully at work; and what you have to do is to keep yourself informed, from time to time, of the quantities that are likely to be required for that purpose, and to procure those quantities on the cheapest terms on which they are procurable in the market.

I shall send a copy of this letter to Lord Auckland, in order that it may be fully understood that our object is to keep the Admiralty mills constantly at work at their full power.

You appear to have conducted your purchases hitherto with much judgment.

SIR R. ROUTH to MR. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, January 11, 1847.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the weekly return of the Commissariat depots in Ireland, and also a statement of the amount of donations, and of the sums subscribed up to the 9th instant.

13,457. 15s. 6d.

WEEKLY STATE OF PROVISIONS, &c., in the several Depôts in Ireland, on the Evening of Saturday the 9th of January, 1847.

DEPÔTS.	Quarters of 5 Bushels each of					Certs. of		Stacks of 500 lbs. each of					Bags of 112 lbs. each.		In transit.	
	Indian Corn.		Wheat.		Peas.		Egyptian Wheat.		Indian Corn Meal.		Wheat Meal.		Barley Meal.		Sacks of 250 lbs. each.	
	In Port.	In Store.	With Millers.	In Store.	In Store.	In Store.	In Store.	In Store.	In Port.	In Store.	In Store.	In Store.	In Store.	In Store.	Indian Meal.	Barley Meal.
Limerick	1,665	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7,125	29	..	..	..	..	..
Kilrush . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	373	..	..	..	..	..	..
Malaga	on 2nd January	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,134	343	..	..	..	..	..
Sligo . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	806	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bingla . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,435	..	..	..	..	..	..
Carbarnet . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	992	..	..	..	..	..	..
Carlton . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	950	..	..	..	..	..	..
Galway	1,338	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,947	9	..	..	..	..	..
Westport . . . . .	..	1,777	677	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,199	24	..	..	..	..	..
Chelms . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	680	..	..	..	..	..	..
Baldin . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sligo . . . . .	..	45	2,478	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,190	..	..	..	..	..	..
Baldin	240	..	423	..	..	..	..	..	..	359	..	..	..	..	..	..
Killybegs . . . . .	..	1,185	117	..	..	..	..	..	..	174	..	..	..	..	..	..
Burtonport . . . . .	..	314	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	697	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dunfally	279	43	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,376	..	..	..	..	..	..
Burtonport	109	196	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dehila . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,458	876	..	..	..	..	..
Brough . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	333	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lough . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	133	196	..	..	..	..	..
Carlton . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16	..	..	..	..	..	..
Roscommon . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sligo . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dugort . . . . .	..	68	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40	..	..	..	..	..	..
	3,013	3,428	3,765	..	600	..	1,212	90	..	79,072	1,477	807	6,785	4,606	648	148
																818

To Burtonport.

To Banagher.
To Longford.

Cargoes of "Empress" and "Maclure" not yet ascertained (at Galway).

[RECAPITULATION of REMAINS on the 9th January, 1847.]

10,296	quarters of Indian corn, at 5 quarters per ton	2,047½ tons.
609	peas, at 5 quarters per ton	120 "
1,212	Egyptian wheat, at 5 quarters per ton	242½ "
23,320	sacks of Indian meal, at 8 sacks per ton	2,915 "
1,477	oatmeal, at 8 sacks per ton	184½ "
955	wheaten meal, at 8 sacks per ton	119½ "
7,603	barley meal, at 8 sacks per ton	950½ "
4,666	bags of biscuit, at 20 bags per ton	233½ "

Total . . . 6,812½ tons.

The Castle,
Dublin, January 11, 1847.

R. J. ROUTH, Commissary-General.

STATEMENT of DONATIONS issued by authority of the Lord-Lieutenant in aid of Subscriptions, between the 2nd and 9th January, 1847.

Date.	Committee.	Donations.			Subscriptions.		
1847.		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
January 2 . .	Amount brought forward . .	13,077	16	0	22,086	5	8
January 4 . .	Limerick City District, County Limerick . .	250	0	0	500	0	0
" . .	Behols District, County Mayo . .	32	0	0	32	0	0
" . .	Inchquin District, County Clare . .	212	0	0	212	10	0
" . .	Belrastibayne District, County Meath . .	110	0	0	137	0	0
" . .	Freshford District, County Kilkenny . .	31	0	0	31	0	0
" . .	Tollymore District, County Caran . .	70	0	0	70	0	0
" . .	Dunbrody District, County Wexford . .	85	0	0	128	16	1
" . .	Bellshay District, County Monaghan . .	100	0	0	175	3	6
" . .	Virginia District, County Caran . .	236	0	0	236	0	0
" . .	Cashel District, County Tipperary . .	200	0	0	200	0	0
January 5 . .	Janishannon District, County Cork . .	113	0	0	113	5	0
" . .	Cong District, County Galway, Ceylon sub- scription . .	72	0	0	72	3	9
January 6 . .	St. Peter's and Drum District, County Ros- common . .	100	0	0	188	19	4
" . .	Tyrrell's Pass District, County Westmeath . .	83	0	0	63	5	0
January 8 . .	Berway District, County Westmeath . .	125	0	0	155	17	0
" . .	Rodderney District, County Cork . .	134	0	0	134	13	0
" . .	Candowang District, County Kildare . .	170	0	0	178	17	6
" . .	Poynts Pass District, County Armagh . .	135	0	0	135	15	0
" . .	Chapelwood District, County Dublin . .	171	0	0	171	5	0
" . .	Killegney District, County Wexford . .	121	0	0	121	5	0
	Total . . .	£ 15,687	16	0	25,166	0	10½

The Castle, Dublin, January 11, 1847.

R. J. ROUTH, Commissary-General.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, January 11, 1847.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th inst., with copies of two enclosures of the 4th inst., addressed to the Right Honourable Sir George Grey.

In reply I lay before you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury, copy of the report of Assistant-Commissary-General Inglis, whom I detached from Limerick to inquire into and relieve this distress.

Agreeably to their Lordships' orders, I applied the fund remitted from Ceylon to this service, and Mr. Labouchere ordered it to be doubled by a donation on the part of the Government.

Of this sum Mr. Inglis took with him 200*l.*, and at his solicitation a subscription was raised to which he added 100*l.*, and a similar sum was lodged in the bank, to be applied hereafter to the same purpose.

The whole sum amounted, with the donation, to 344*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.*, of which 200*l.* has been made applicable to Skibbereen, 72*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.* to Maam, and 72*l.* to Cong to the respective Relief Committees.

Mr. Inglis's duties at Limerick not permitting him to remain absent from his post, I directed Assistant-Commissary-General Bishop to replace him and to report fully on the state of destitution at Skull, Baltimore, Crookhaven, at Bantry, and at Castletown (Berhaven), but I have not yet received his report.

I know, however, that subscriptions are in progress, and I anticipate every possible success from this officer's exertions.

For the two first
enclosures, see pp.
439, 421.

Before Mr. Inglis left, two soup-kitchens were established, but to one of them a new boiler is expected from Cork and must be now in operation. One boiler supplied about 1200 persons daily with a quart each.

Mr. C. C. Hughes advises me by this day's post that money is almost daily arriving for the soup fund, but he had not been able to ascertain the actual amount received.

I observe the issues from his depot this past week were, 54 sacks of Indian corn meal (about seven tons), and 97 cwt. of biscuit.

I lay before you the best list I have been able to obtain of the principal proprietors with their respective incomes.

	Per Annum.
Lord Carbery	£15,000
R. H. H. Beecher, Esq.	4,000
Mr. Newman	4,000
The O'Donovan	2,500
Rev. M. Beecher	1,000
Messrs. Townsend and Wright (joint estate)	1,500
Mr. Townsend, White Hall	2,000
Mr. French	1,000
Mr. S. Lavis	1,000
Sir W. Rixon Beecher, on whose estate the town of Skibbereen stands	10,000
Rev. S. Townsend	8,000
Lord Audley's Estate set at 400 <i>l.</i> per annum, now in the hands of Trustees	"
	£50,000

The subscription at Skibbereen not having been forwarded through the usual channel, the regular list with the names of the subscribers, though called for, has not yet been received.

The present enclosures have been forwarded to Assistant-Commissary-General Bishop, in order that a strict and accurate inquiry may be made into the facts as therein stated.

My Lords will observe that there is still 100*l.* in the bank at Skibbereen disposable for this service whenever it shall be required. It stands at the credit of Commissary-General Hewetson.

ENCLOSURE.

Skibbereen, Dec. 21, 1846.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS of a MEETING held at the house of the Rev. John Fitzpatrick, R.C. Adv. of Skibbereen, for the purpose of establishing a Soup Kitchen for the Relief of the Poor of Skibbereen and neighbourhood.

Thomas Sommerville, Esq., J. P., and chairman of the Relief Committee and Board of Guardians, chairman, present; Mr. Inglis, Assistant Commissary-General; Michael Galway, Esq., J. P.; Daniel McCarthy; Daniel Weply; Thomas St. John Clarke; William Clarke; Rev. Mr. Frike, rector of Kilece; P. B. Griffin, manager of North Bank; Rev. Arthur O'Leary; and Rev. John Fitzpatrick.

The following arrangements were entered into, *viz*—

1st. That a sum of 85*l.* be lodged in the provincial bank of Skibbereen by Mr. Inglis, to the credit of the soup committee, for the establishment of a soup kitchen, a similar sum having been deposited in same bank by the committee for the same object.

2nd. Any sum necessary for the conducting of the soup kitchen, to be drawn by an order on the treasurer, signed by any three members of the committee, and countersigned by Mr. Hughes, assistant commissary.

3rd. A daily account of the number of persons relieved each day at the soup establishment, to be given by the secretary of the soup committee to Mr. Hughes, assistant commissary for transmitting to the Commissary-General Sir Randolph Routh.

4th. That in addition to the soup kitchen already in operation, another be established in the house in North-street, given gratuitously for the purpose by Sir W. Bincher, formerly used as a school-house, that one or two boilers be there set up, in order that the committee may be enabled to give more general relief than they have hitherto done.

5th. That as soon as possible an account be made out by the members of the committee of the widows, orphans, infirm, disabled, and such other destitute persons in the district as are unable to support themselves by industry.

6th. That in the new soup house, in addition to the boilers to be set up, an apparatus be provided for the purpose of preparing suitable drink and food for the sick poor in the district, as the poor-house and fever hospital attached thereto contain a much greater number than they were intended to accommodate.

7th. That Mr. John William Clark be requested to act as secretary, and in his return home to summon an extraordinary meeting of the committee on the earliest convenient day, for the purpose of carrying into immediate operation the foregoing arrangements.

(Signed) T. SOMMERVILLE, Chairman.

MEMORANDUM for the information of the Commissary-General.

WITH reference to Sir R. J. Routh's note of the 30th ultimo, I beg to say, that Mr. Sommersville is the chairman of the Skibbereen soup committee, and that it was proposed, at the meeting of that committee, a place should be set apart in the second soup-house, for the purpose of preparing drinks of different kinds for the sick destitute, &c. as could not be accommodated in either the poor-house or fever hospital, and the expense to be defrayed out of the 170*l.* lodged in the bank to which I readily consented, being, in my opinion, a most beneficial mode of relief.

(Signed) RICHARD INGLIS, A. C. G.

Limerick, January 1, 1847.

SIR R. ROUTH to MR. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, January 12, 1847.

ADVERTING to my letter of yesterday, I have now the honour to lay before you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the first Report of Assistant Commissary-General Bishop from south-west coast of the county of Cork.

The duty on which this officer is employed will occupy some days to put into operation the necessary plans for relieving the destitution of that part of the country, and he will not relinquish it until it is completed.

The large population of this unfortunate district, combined with the improvident character of the people, make it very difficult to suggest any adequate remedy, and you will observe from Mr. Bishop's Report that if any central depôt was considered necessary it could only be established at Long Island, where there is a safe and convenient harbour for a vessel of any class as a floating depôt.

It appears to me now very important to stop the progress of this distress from advancing further into the country, and in this view I have been very much pleased to observe the intention of the London Association to direct a shipment of 300 tons of provisions to Clonakilty, where an immediate application of relief, in consequence of the late disaster of the mills, is become most essential.

MR. BISHOP to SIR R. ROUTH.

Skibbereen, January 9, 1847.

IN compliance with the instruction conveyed in your letter No. 4, I do myself the honor of reporting that on Tuesday, the 5th instant, after addressing the various Relief Committees named in your letter, advising them of the purport of my visit to this part of the country, I attended a meeting of the Skibbereen Relief Committee.

This Committee has now the advantage of large contributions which are pouring in from various charitable sources; it must be hoped that these contributions will be impartially distributed through the rural districts, where the "mass" of the suffering population is to be found.

The accumulation of misery in Skibbereen is certainly very fearful,—a degree of abject want and wretchedness which I have never before witnessed in any part of the world, but it is "famine" in the midst of plenty; for there are few better supplied, or cheaper markets in the county of Cork; and the town of Skibbereen is, to all outward appearance, sufficiently well conditioned to assist the starving portion of its population.

At the meeting some cases of recent death, and living misery, frightful in detail, were brought under consideration. It was stated that much alleviation, if not actual preservation of life might result, if the hands of the Committee were not so closely tied by the restrictions upon the Relief Fund. The means at the disposal of the Soup Committee allowed them, it was stated, to afford but partial relief. I therefore ventured to tell the Committee, that in cases of such extreme destitution, when the poor-house was full, and they were satisfied, upon a careful investigation of the claims of the party to relief, that the gratuitous supply of "warm drink," or other nutriment would, in such extreme cases, be admitted as a legitimate application of their fund. A committee was formed, consisting of a clergyman of both churches, a doctor, and one other member, to investigate and report upon cases of extreme distress. On Wednesday I visited the Relief Committee at Baltimore. After much detail connected with the distress of that locality, I submitted the proposition of a "soup-kitchen," and stated the extent to which I was authorised to offer assistance from the Government. I was informed that some days must elapse before the extent of subscription could be ascertained, many of the parties interested, living at a distance, a liberal contribution is expected. I have suggested that a Soup Committee be immediately formed, and that the very few ladies who reside in the neighbourhood, not more than two or three, should be solicited to become members, and to afford their aid in directing the culinary department. The moment I receive the subscription list I will report

further. It appears desirable that three soup establishments should be formed in this district, if there are funds to admit of it; viz., one at Baltimore, to assist about 500 distressed objects; one at Skibberen Island, to aid 300 persons; and one at Clear Island, for a like number. The Irish Ireland Society will, it is expected, bear at least one half of the expense of this latter establishment.

There is much fever and disease at Baltimore, but the mortality has been very trifling.

On Thursday I went to Skull. This Relief Committee acts for the western portion of the district, which contains a population of 9000 souls, the greater part of them in abject destitution,—a pauper population; 800 are at present employed upon the roads, being about one-half the number on the labour lists. At Skull they are 15 miles from a market or a mill; bad meal is retailed by the small dealer at 2s. 8d. a stone. The Committee have obtained a small supply of Indian corn, meal, and biscuit, from the Government stores at Skibberen, which they retail at cost price; this affords very limited relief. The rector, Dr. Trail, gives soup daily to 60 poor people. Skull receives so little assistance from the Trade, that the distress must have been still more appalling but for the benevolent exertions of the rector in bringing supplies from Cork and Liverpool, at a great personal sacrifice.

I proposed the establishment of a soup-kitchen upon an extensive scale; but in this wild district, with a population so scattered, the benefit must be very partial. Upon my assurance that the Government would double the amount of any sums subscribed for this purpose, the enclosed list was prepared, amounting to 9d. 8s. 4d., upon which I request your early instructions. I have recommended immediate preparation, and one boiler is now setting; others will have to be procured from Cork or Dublin, which will cause some little delay. It is very desirable that a soup-kitchen should be established on the other side of the parish to Skull—at Dunmanus. In East Skull there is also a population of 9000 paupers! I have applied to the Ballydehole Committee relative to a soup subscription, but nothing has yet been decided upon. The total population of Skull is 18,000 souls, upon whom want and disease is making fearful inroads,—the present average number of deaths is 25 daily. On Friday I went from Skull to Crookhaven, and visited the Kilmoe Relief Committee; the parish of Kilmoe contains a population of 7260 souls; 7000 of these are reported in actual want; the distress and destitution in the parish is great; the inhabitants were wholly dependent upon the potatoe; the small quantity of corn grown in the parish has disappeared, except some small quantities retained by the better class farmer for seed; in fact, the whole population is now dependent upon imported food. The Committee retail about three tons of Indian meal daily, at cost price; a very bad quality of whole wheaten meal is sold in the village of Goleen for 2s. 10d. a stone.

I informed the Committee the aid Government would afford them towards establishing soup-kitchens; but here again, the population is so spread over a wild mountain country that the benefit must be partial. A subscription list will be prepared and sent to me immediately, when I shall report further. There are so few resident gentlemen in this neighbourhood that the subscriptions must be limited. I have urged that preparations should be made without loss of time. The chairman of the Committee has given a house in the village of Goleen, to be used as a soup-kitchen; the situation is central for the parish of Kilmoe. I have also advised that a second kitchen be established in the village of Crookhaven, provided the funds will admit of it, though, for the distressed objects who have eight or nine miles to travel for a little food, it is very desirable that some more portable article, such as meal or bread, should be at the disposal of the Committee. Disease and the want of proper nourishment, here, as well as at Skull, has reduced so large a number to a state of extreme prostration, that in this inclement season, without covering—for even those employed upon the roads have but the rags they stand in, which is the only covering they have day or night, wet or dry—the mortality will in all probability be great. The present average number of deaths in the parish of Kilmoe is eight each day. Doubtless there is great deception difficult to detect, but the mass present a pitiable picture, and the number of deaths too forcibly prove that "all" is not deception.

The prospective view is the most gloomy, for there is not the least preparation or effort making to provide for the future. The land is neglected; the food is gone; pigs, poultry, and cattle all disappearing.

The Kilmoe Committee bring large supplies from Cork, and upon a very limited fund they have purchased and sold 85 tons of meal within a short time. At present they are nearly out of meal, in consequence of the severity of the weather preventing any vessel touching here from Cork. I have recommended an issue to them from the depot at Skibberen.

There is an excellent store at Crookhaven, or rather a rocky island, capable of containing from 250 to 300 tons of corn. This store is offered free of rent by the proprietor should the Government require it.

It is certainly very desirable that a supply of food should be within reach of this district. From Crookhaven to Skibberen, the nearest market or mill, it is 25 miles, and from Cork the supply, without the aid of steam, is very uncertain; however, as the whole of Skull and Kilmoe have an equally distressed population, I would recommend, if contemplated at all, that it should be placed in a more "central" position than at Crookhaven.

A floating depot at Long Island, a safe and convenient harbour for any class vessel, would be in the centre of the distress. A new road is now forming from Skull to the strand at Long Island.

With the exception of the magazine I have named at Crookhaven, there is nothing else eligible in the district, neither would a depot on shore be safe without military protection. Crookhaven on one side, Ballydehole on the other, and the district as far as the bay of Dunmanus could be supplied from Skull.

I will report further upon this district when I receive the subscription lists. I return late this evening from Crookhaven, and have now but time to write this hurried report for the post.

On Monday I go to Bantry—from thence to Castletown. My address for the next week will be "Skibbereen." I have no letters from Dublin later than your communication of the 2nd instant, No. 6.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

January 15, 1847.

Write to Sir R. Routh, acknowledging the receipt of his two letters, dated 11th and 12th instant, enclosing copies of the Reports of Assistant Commissary-Generals Inglis and Bishop on the distress in the Skibbereen district.

State that their Lordships entirely approve of the measures which have been taken by those officers under his direction, and they desire that every practicable exertion may be made to induce the Relief Committees to raise subscriptions, and to establish soup kitchens, or to adopt other suitable means of saving the lives of the destitute people.

Sir R. Routh will, as before directed, double, or, if necessary, treble the amount raised by local subscription; and he is likewise authorised to double, when it may be useful to do so, sums raised by subscription in other quarters, and appropriated for the relief of the people in the distressed districts.

Their Lordships desire that Mr. Bishop may be furnished with any assistance he may require in carrying on the important duties entrusted to him in the county of Cork.

Their Lordships entirely approve of a floating depot being established at Long Island, as recommended by Mr. Bishop; and they desire that Sir R. Routh will immediately take measures for that purpose in concert with Rear-Admiral Sir H. Pigot.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, January 12, 1847.

I do myself the honour to lay before you, for the information of the Right Honourable my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, extract of a letter from Deputy-Assistant Commissary-General Trimmer, and to acquaint you that I have written this day to Assistant Commissary-General Milliken, to use his best exertions to rouse the activity of the Galway Committee, who have hitherto made no effort on behalf of the people, and have raised no subscription; for the attempt to appropriate a proportion of the City Funds for this object, was considered illegal, and did not take effect.

I trust, on the representation of Mr. Milliken, that there is too much public spirit in Galway to disregard the summons, more particularly as they now know the liberality of the public grants; and I hope, through these means, to encourage three or four soup establishments, so as to place a cheap and nutritious food within the reach of the people.

EXTRACT from Letter from Deputy Assistant Commissary-General TRIMMER, dated at Galway, the 11th of January, 1847.

There is, indeed, a want of food. I observe a very great change in the appearance of the people since my arrival here. There is an increasing haggardness in their looks, which it is impossible to notice without the painful conviction that starvation is the cause; and when I have taken on extra hands, I have seen that they are so weak as hardly to be able to work; but while food is so much wanted, the merchants here have not capital to supply the wants of the population by importation. They have hitherto been exporters to England, and could get the value of a cargo as soon as it was shipped; and now there are only three who are importing, and that not largely from foreign countries. One of these is expecting about 1000 tons of barley, and a cargo of Egyptian beans, from the Mediterranean; but they tell me it will probably be more advantageous to them to send these supplies to the continent than to land them here.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, January 14, 1846.

In submitting to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury a brief statement of the present duties, it is necessary to make some reference to those of the preceding season.

On that occasion it will be recollected that the chief depot was at Cork, which

was supplied direct from the United States, and the following depots were dependent for their supplies on that of Cork :—

Dundalk,	Galway,
Dublin,	Sligo,
Waterford,	Longford,
Limerick,	Banagher.

There were besides some minor constabulary depots established for some immediate exigency, but which rarely contained more than 5 to 10 tons of meal.

In the present season it was thought fit to leave the east, the north, and the south coast, comprising the space between Londonderry and Skibbereen to the exercise of private enterprise, for which the Commissariat arrangements of the preceding year had prepared it, but the Government undertook the supply of the west coast, which is hardly yet accessible to trade in any degree sufficient for its supply.

With this object the following depots have been established :—

County Donegal.

Dunfanaghy,	Killibeggs, where there is also a
Bunbeg, Gweedore Bay,	floating depot, and both in
Burton-port,	connexion with the mills at
	Mountcharles.

County Sligo.

Sligo.

County Mayo.

Ballina,	Achill Island, with two depots,
Belmullet,	Westport.

County Galway.

Clifden,	Galway.
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County Clare.

Kilrush,	Clare Castle,
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County Limerick.

Tarbert "Madagascar" floating depot.

County Kerry.

Diegle,	Cahirceveen.
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County Cork.

Castletown (Berehaven),	Skibbereen.
Long Island,	

Dublin, entrepot for supplying
Banagher and } on the Shannon.
Longford,

It is also intended, before the close of the month, to establish a depot at Cong, in the hilly country, on the borders of counties Mayo and Galway; on Loughcorrib and Loughmask.

As the season advances, some temporary constabulary depots may become necessary, but from the increased difficulty of access, occasioned by these minor stations, and for other substantial reasons, it is not contemplated to increase this number more than can be avoided.

Our sales have commenced this year in December, which we were enabled to postpone during the last season until the 20th May.

The labour and responsibility before me is one of much greater magnitude and importance.

The high prices which provisions of all kinds have reached, have made it incumbent on me to relieve this unavoidable accompaniment of the present distress by encouraging, as much as I am able, the establishment of soup-kitchens, which has also the advantage of bringing to our aid the active assistance and benevolence of the other sex.

With this view I have caused all the best recipes I could procure to be embodied in a small pamphlet, which I enclose.

These soup establishments have been well received throughout the country, and we are using our best exertions to extend them.

I lay before you a copy of the Instructions to Committees for the present year, and I have much pleasure in acquainting you that an increased readiness to subscribe has latterly become visible, and their Lordships will perceive by my estimate the increased activity which I expect to be given to this source of relief.

And now, Sir, I must not conceal from you the great natural difficulties which stand in the way of our ultimate success in this great undertaking.

The Baltic, the Black Sea, the American canals, are closed against us, and it will require all our foresight, and all the co-operation of the public, to secure the passage of the people through the winter.

I speak of this co-operation with some anxious apprehensions, for we must expect that the demands will increase; and I am not without fear that some of the Committees may relax their exertions amidst the labour, the expense, and, not unfrequently, the disappointments which surround them; nevertheless, it is not to be denied that it is only by the continuance of these exertions, by the liberality of the proprietors, and by the endurance of the peasantry, that this great disaster can be overcome.

It would be fortunate if this important truth could be brought home to every man's conviction, for the reliance which is placed in the power of Government to effect everything exercises a most dangerous influence on all private exertion.

I know not if any step could be taken to encourage this general co-operation from all classes in this great question, which is one of food and human life; and there is reason to fear, from their present tendency, that prices may rise until the spring supplies shall be received.

I hope to derive much assistance from the Inspecting Officers, and their communications with the Committees, and I attach the more importance to this measure now, as these local bodies have hitherto given their chief attention to preparations for the employment of the people, which must now be shared by the most active exertions for their subsistence.

The Committees last season amounted to 648, of which 484 had funds, on which Government grants were given. This includes the whole season up to the end of August, and many of these grants were given at a late period.

This season the Committees (still in progress) number 930, and will probably reach 1,000, but, as yet, only 174 have received grants.

The price last year of oatmeal ruled from 15*l.* to 17*l.* 10*s.* per ton in June and July, and it is now, in January, at 25*l.*

Indian corn was not generally in the market, but one holder, for a short period in April and May, sold at 11*l.* and at 12*l.*; the Government price, however, was 10*l.* per ton; the price now is 17*l.* 10*s.* for whole corn, and 19*l.* for the meal, and, in some situations, as high as 22*l.* and 24*l.*; whole wheaten meal 20*l.*

The potato failure last year was not so remarkable for unusual deficiency, as for the disease which so extensively affected the plant, and rendered it generally unfit for food; still the people continued to eat potatoes in some localities until April.

This season the early crop was very much diseased, and the late or people's crop never came to maturity.

There were few places where any continued to serve as food beyond November, and in many they were consumed in October.

Thus the character of the present calamity is infinitely more alarming than the last; it extends with little or no mitigation over the whole country, and comprises a loss of food equal at least to ten millions sterling.

There are parts in Donegal which escaped the disease of last year, where there are no resident gentry, and where their means of purchase must be soon exhausted, and being, for the most part, composed of rural districts, not collected into towns or villages, the soup-establishments are not adapted or applicable to their relief.

In the south western parts of Kerry and Cork the distress is not less imminent, and has indeed commenced first, but the proprietors are more wealthy; and, notwithstanding the sufferings of all kinds by which they have been surrounded, much may be accomplished for their relief by order, economy, and exertion, and I have reason to hope that this improvement is commencing.

I lay before you the last Returns of the Commissariat depots, and the present state of the subscriptions, and of the Government donations given in their aid.

It is unnecessary for me to enlarge on the advantage of granting these donations

in aid only of a local fund, as it obtains for us an interest in the economy of its management, which no other system could be expected to secure.

The liberality of Her Majesty's Government in offering a donation equal to the amount subscribed, that is, pound for pound where the workhouse is full, with a discretion even to exceed this sum in cases of great and acknowledged distress, is making a deep impression on the public as it becomes known, and I receive expressions from all quarters of their sense of this generous consideration.

MEANS OF PROVIDING CHEAP FOOD.

Provision Shops.

I would urge in the strongest manner upon all landlords, for their own sake, the wisdom and prudence of having as many shops as possible opened, so as to enable the labourers to purchase food near their homes or works.

The principle of a quick return and small profit, with cash dealings, should be insured by a sufficient competition every where.

Three half-pence per stone, on one ton of meal, is a pound per ton, gain.

Not only meal but every other article suited for food should be provided at these shops.

Fifty pounds would be quite a sufficient capital to set up such a shop, which could be had from any of the banks on bill, the interest to be a charge against profit, until the shop-keeper could realise the requisite capital.

One and a half tons of meal, turned in each week, would gain, (at three half-pence per stone profit,) *Seventy-eight pounds a year*, which in itself would pay a person for his time in keeping such a shop.

The stock to consist of—meal of each kind, a proportion; American pork and cheese; patent cocoa, chillies (for seasoning instead of pepper); split peas; rice; Scotch barley; and coarse sugar.

Receipts for making a variety of broths, cocoa, &c., should be hung up in each shop, and distributed.

Green grocers' shops are strongly recommended.

For turnips, one pound per ton is a remunerative price, and two pounds for carrots or parsnips. Cabbages, onions, &c., add much not only to the substance, but also to the wholesome quality of the mess.

Peas form a most strengthening soup, so much so, that the troops on rations upon pork days, generally dine off the soup alone, and keep the pork to eat cold at future meals, and thus often acquire a ticket (for cash) instead of drawing a beef ration.

I have been creditably assured that forty years ago the general food of the people in the barony of Lower Ormsod, was peas bread, containing a small mixture of wheat.

Rye and wheat, (messin,) make a palatable bread.

Three-farthings worth of cheese, (two ounces at 6d. per lb.) will not only make dry bread palatable, but will also give more muscular strength than eight ounces of bread.

To keep my labourers out of debt, I am now getting barley ground, which I hope to have for 1s. 6d. or 1s. 8d. a stone*; this, with a little oatmeal and cookery, will keep them as well as the Indian corn meal.—*Extracts from Letter of the Chairman of a Relief Committee, County Tipperary.*

Soups.

Among the variety of schemes suggested for "Bettering the Condition of the Poor," a more useful or extensive charity cannot be devised, than that of instructing them in economical cookery: it is one of the most important objects to which the attention of any real well-wisher to the public interest can possibly be directed.

The best and cheapest method of making a nourishing soup, is least known to those who have most need of it.

Distributing soup does not answer half so well as teaching people how to make it, and improve their comfort at home. The time lost in waiting at the soup-house is seldom less than three hours; in which time, by any industrious occupation, however poorly paid, they could earn more money than the quart of Soup is worth.—*Dr. Kitchiner.*

The ingredients of all soups and stews should be mixed in cold water, and gradually heated. Peas should be soaked in cold water at least two hours before being used. Soup, in which they are used, must be made with soft water, as they will not mix with hard water; unless a small lump of soda is put into it. Barley, rice, or oatmeal, should be used in preference to peas. When rice is used, it should always be added when the soup boils.

Ox-Cheek Soup.†

After the ox-cheek is nicely washed and cleaned, all the ingredients are mixed and stewed together for six hours; then the cheek is taken out, and the best parts of the meat being cut off the bone, the latter, with the gristle, is put back into the soup, which is stewed another six

* In feeding a pig, one pound of barley meal will do as much as a stone of potatoes.

† We are told that the said meat of the ox cheek, without the bone, may be purchased at 1½d. or 2d. per pound. In this receipt, however, allowance is made for the due proportion of meat and bone; if there be little or no bone, 3 lbs. will be sufficient.

hours; meanwhile, the meat is cut up into small pieces and put into the soup about ten minutes before it is taken from the fire; the bones are then removed. Three or four times stirring the ingredients during the whole time will be sufficient.

	s.	d.
4lb. of ox-cheek	0	6
Half a pound of rice	0	1
Half a pint of oatmeal	0	1½
Onions, salt, and pepper as before	0	1
12 pints of water	0	0

Produce 10 pints of good thick soup for. . . 0 9½

A Gallon of Broth for a Great.

Put four ounces of Scotch barley, (previously washed in cold water,) and four ounces of sliced onions, into five quarts of water; boil gently for one hour, and pour it into a pan; then put into a saucepan two or three ounces of fat bacon, minced; when the bacon is heated, stir in four ounces of oatmeal; rub these together well, and if this be properly managed, the whole of the fat will combine with the barley broth, and none appear on the surface; now add the barley broth, at first a spoonful at a time, then the rest by degrees, stirring it well together till it boils. Put a drachm and a half of ground black pepper into a tea cup, and mix it up with a little of the soup, then pour it into the rest; stir all thoroughly together, let it simmer gently a quarter of an hour, season it with salt, and it is ready.

Excellent fish soups may be made with a cod's skull, or skate, or flounders, &c., boiled in no more water than will just cover them, and the liquor thickened with oatmeal, &c.—*Dr. Kitchiner.*

Peas Soup.

Take a pint of split peas, soak them in cold soft water two hours, and soak half-a-pound of bacon for the same time in another pan, drain off the water which the peas do not soak up, and boil them in four quarts of water, with onions, celery, or any other vegetable, for about three hours, stirring the peas every quarter of an hour to keep them from the bottom, till they are quite soft; do not add salt, or the peas will not become soft; thicken with two or three spoonfuls of Indian meal. Put in the bacon now, and let all boil gently for another hour, or until the bacon is done.

A Cheap Broth.

Four ounces of fat bacon with two pounds of oatmeal, and plenty of turnips, carrots, and leeks, put down with two gallons of water, (observing *Dr. Kitchiner's* directions for combining the fat and meal, already given,) and boiling very slowly, will make six quarts of nutritious broth, which with any kind of stale or hard bread, will give dinner to six people at one penny each.

To make fourteen Gallons of cheap Soup.

Wheat, half a stone, boiled very long, from the night before, to have it ready by 12 o'clock dinner hour; oatmeal, one third of a stone, steeped an hour, and boiled to about four pounds; meat, cut small, and boiled from eight in the morning.

A hock-bone of bacon, or a roast meat bone, or a pickled herring, are sometimes added to peas-soup; but nothing salt should be put into the soup till the peas are quite tender; nor should you use a drop of hard water for peas-soup, or peas-pudding, as peas will never unite with hard water.

One large head of cabbage,
Three or four leeks,
Six carrots,
Salt and pepper, or chillies.

Cost :

	s.	d.
Wheat	0	11
Meal	1	0
Meat	1	0
Labour	0	4
Vegetables, &c.	0	3
	3	6

Soups without Meat.

	s.	d.
Bones may be bought of the butchers at a very low rate. Choose these perfectly sweet and clean. A sufficient quantity may be obtained for	0	1½
2 pints of peas	0	6
1 large carrot and 1 onion	0	1
1 table-spoonful of bruised celery-seed, 2 table-spoonfuls of salt, and 1 of pepper	0	1
10 quarts of water	0	0

To produce 12 pints of excellent soup for. . . 0 9½
3 Q 2

The whole of the ingredients are put together and stewed for ten hours; during the first six, no attention need be paid to the simmering contents of the pot; at the end of that time, the cover may be lifted, and the spoon used in stirring; this should be repeated two or three times before the soup is done. At the end of ten hours, take out the bones, and it will be ready. If preferred thicker, the quantity of peas may be increased.

	s.	d.
Half a pint of Scotch barley	0	1½
Half a pint of oatmeal	0	1½
2 oz. of dripping, or melted suet, 2 onions, 1 table-spoonful of celery-seed, 1 of salt, 1 tea-spoonful of pepper	0	1½
5 quarts of water	0	0
To produce 8 pints of soup for	0	4½

Put half a pint of peas into three quarts of cold water, and when it boils, take one head of celery, two turnips, one carrot, and two onions, cut up and fried in two ounces of dripping; add these to the peas, and boil two hours; pepper and salt to flavour. Instead of peas, it can be thickened with oatmeal. When oatmeal is used, put the vegetables into boiling water; and as soon as they are done, take three table-spoonful of oatmeal, mix it in a little cold water, and add it to the soup. Cost, 4d.

Pea Kail.

	s.	d.
Half a pint of oatmeal	0	1½
3 large cabbages, or a proportionate number of smaller ones	0	2
2 oz. of butter and salt	0	1
2 quarts of water	0	0
	0	4½

Mince the cabbages very small, and boil them in the water; when tender, thicken with the oatmeal, and add the butter and salt; it should be thick pottage.

	s.	d.
A red herring, or four ounces of lean bacon, cut in pieces	0	1½
Three onions, a few peppercorns, thyme, and parsley	0	0½
Boiled in three pints of water, three-quarters of an hour, with with one pound of clean picked whole rice	0	4
	0	6

Let it boil exactly three minutes; then let the pot stand by the side of the fire: the rice will swell, take up all the water, and become quite soft. If properly done, it will weigh nearly five pounds, and will completely dine five men, as it frequently did in the year of scarcity, 1800. If the rice is not sufficiently soft, add a little more water as it stands by the fire.

Another Pea-soup.

To three quarts of boiling water add a pint of peas, and let them boil till tender, then mash them together so as to form a paste, and put them back into the water along with a quantity of carrots, turnips, celery, if you have any, all cut into dice, with some sliced onions. After this, let the soup simmer gently for a couple of hours, and if too thin, thicken it with a handful of oatmeal; season it with pepper and salt and a little dried mint, and it will serve for a family of four during two days. Split peas are commonly used, yet whole peas (if "boilers") are not only quite as good, but cheaper. The cost will be at the most, 3d.; or, if oatmeal be used, a pint will be sufficient, the usual price being only 2d.; but pea-soup is the more preferable of the two. The peas should, however, be always left to soak during the night, and the next day made into soup with soft water; for if hard water be used, the peas will not become tender, or mix into that smooth consistence which is necessary to make it good. If soft water cannot be had, a small piece of soda put into the water will have the effect.

Vegetable Soup.

Take the heart of a cabbage, or some cabbage sprouts, or spinach, two or three turnips and carrots cut small, and a little bruised celery seed, if you cannot get it in the root, and boil them in about three pints or two quarts of water for an hour. When done enough, slice three good sized onions and fry them till well browned; put them into the soup with some crusts of bread, and let the whole boil together for a quarter of an hour.

To make a Breakfast of Indian Meal.

For each person, young and old, in the family, take a quarter of a pound of meal. Before going to bed at night pour as much cold water upon it as will soak it. In the morning boil a quart of water in a pan, and when it is boiling put into it the meal which you have previously soaked; keep it boiling for half an hour, stirring it occasionally. Cooked in this manner, one pound of meal will make a good breakfast for four persons. When treacle can be had, one table spoonful will flavour this quantity.

Directions for using Indian Corn without grinding.

As it appears that, in certain districts and situations in Ireland, there exists a great difficulty in grinding the Indian corn into meal, and preparing it for the steinhout, it is proper to acquaint the public that the process of grinding is not necessary to prepare it for food.

The Indian corn has a thin husk or skin that covers the grain; and it is only necessary that this skin should be broken, so that the water in cooking it may penetrate into the grain.

It should be soaked over-night in warm water, changed in the morning to clean cold water, and boiled gently an hour and a half. It is eaten with milk, with broth, with molasses, with sugar, with salt, with any relish of salt meat or fish, but it is as frequently eaten and preferred alone; and when it is well thickened and the grain soft, it makes a more solid breakfast than when ground and made into steinhout.

This form of preparation is called hominy.

If there should be no convenience at hand to break it, the same result may be obtained by soaking it in hot water as described, all night, but it will require to be boiled the next morning for a longer period, usually for three hours, until the grain is thoroughly softened.

The American hominy is sometimes made of Indian corn and beans; and it is pounded together, and in that shape requires nearly half a day to cook it, but it can be warmed over when cold.

It is an article of luxury for the rich, and a wholesome, durable, and a most desirable article of food for the poor.

Men will endure more, work longer, and enjoy better health on this food than on any other that can be purchased for the same money.

It is far preferable to corn meal, goes further, and is cheaper.

It is excellent in all disorders arising from bad digestion.

A working man who lives on this preparation does not require the use of animal food.

Those who prefer the steinhout made from the Indian corn meal, should also be informed that it is not less palatable or nutritious when eaten cold, and is like hominy in that shape, a great convenience to the workman in the field. If it should be preferred hot, it can be cut in slices and heated on the griddle.

The following is the best recipe for making light and palatable Indian corn bread:—Take 4 cwt. of Indian corn meal and 1 cwt. of strong wheat flour, and mix them together; then add the yeast or harn and allow the usual time for fermenting; after which the dough can be made into loaves or cakes as required, and baked in the same manner as bakers' bread.

The above proportions of 4 to 1, answer the purpose best.

If it is a small baking, soda may be used in lieu of yeast, when the latter cannot be obtained.

Half an ounce of soda is sufficient for a stone of Indian corn meal, and less for the same quantity of flour, but it should be used with buttermilk, as it requires an acid with it to act.

Soda is very good for two or three stone of meal or flour, but for larger quantities yeast should be used.

USE OF RICE.

Extract from an account of the benefit of the use of Rice, by the Matron of the Foundling.

During the scarcity of wheat in July, 1795, one of the measures adopted at the Foundling Hospital, with a view of lessening the consumption of flour, was the substitution of rice puddings for those of flour, which by the table of diet were used for the children's dinner twice a week. The flour puddings for each day, had taken about 168lbs. weight of flour; the rice puddings substituted in their place, required only 21 lbs. of rice to make the same quantity of pudding; the result of the experiment being, that in a baked pudding made with milk, 1 lb. of rice will go very nearly as far as 8 lbs. of flour.

The use of the puddings has ever since been continued in the hospital, with this variation, that the quantity of rice has been increased to 24lbs. weight for each day's dinner; and it now continues the substitute for nearly 168lbs. of flour before used; the ingredients in the rice pudding at present being 24lbs. of rice, 6lbs. of treacle, and 18 gallons of milk; and the produce upon an average, 160lbs.* of good substantial pudding; a very sufficient dinner for the 170 persons who dine on it.

The milk is the better kind of London milk; about equal to good skim-milk in the country. The expense of the dinner is as follows:—24lbs. of rice, 5s.; 6lbs. of treacle, 2s.; and 18 gallons of milk, 12s.; † the total for 170 persons being 19s., or rather more than five farthings per head. The saving to the Hospital, by this use of rice during the year, was something more than 200l.; and the national saving in the consumption of flour, from that circumstance only;

* In order to ascertain correctly the comparative weight of the materials in their liquid state, with that of the pudding after it is baked, the weight has been carefully taken several times. The amounts has not always been precisely the same, but the average is nearly as follows:—

	lbs.
Weight of 18 gallons of milk, being about 1 lb. 2 oz. the pint	171
24 lbs. of rice	24
6 lbs. of treacle	6
Total of the ingredients	201
Average weight of the rice pudding in a solid state	160
Average waste in dreading	21

† Where skim-milk, as in the country, may be had at 2d. a gallon, the price of this dinner would hardly exceed a halfpenny per head.

during the same period of scarcity, being one year ending July, 1796, appears to be nearly 17,472lbs. weight of flour.

Observations.—From this account it will appear how much benefit, as well national as individual, may be derived from the general use of rice. There is hardly any way in which it can be stored down, either with bacon and seasoning, or with meat, or with cheese, in which it will not make a cheap, pleasant, and nutritious dish: and it is particularly proper for, and palatable to, the aged, the infirm, and the young, who compose the greater part of the inhabitants of a poor house.

Rice contains a greater deal of nutriment in a small compass, and does not pass so quickly off the stomach, as some other substitutes for wheat flour do: it is a good ingredient in bread. Boil a quarter of a pound of rice till it is quite soft; then put it on the back part of a sieve, to drain it; and when it is cold, mix it with three-quarters of a pound of flour, a tea-cupful of yeast, a tea-cupful of milk, and a small table-spoonful of salt. Let it stand for three hours; then knead it up, and roll it in about a handful of flour, so as to make the outside dry enough to put it into the oven. About an hour and a quarter will bake it; and it will produce 1lb. 14 ounces of very good white bread. It should not be eaten till it is two days old.

It is to be observed, that the Carolina rice bakes well, without any preparation; but that the East India rice, though adapted for boiling or stewing, does not in general answer for baking, without being previously prepared, by soaking for a day or two in cold water. That the increase in bulk and weight is not entirely owing to the milk, may be proved by boiling a quarter of a pound of plain rice in a bag, tied so loose as to be capable of holding five times the quantity. It will produce above a pound of solid rice pudding. But this is only to be observed of rice that is not ground; if it be ground, the produce is not so great.—*From the Report of the Society for Bettering the condition of the Poor.*—Vol. I.

Receipt (from "Cottage Comforts.")—Rice. Three pounds boiled in a pudding-bag, tied so loose that it would hold five pounds, will fill the bag, and turn out five pounds of solid pudding. This may be eaten with milk, and a little coarse sugar or treacle, and allspice. Some people stir in a piece of dripping or lard, and a little pepper or salt. This is a nourishing dish for a family.

How to cook Rice.

Put upon the fire a good size covered pan, two-thirds full of water, take a quarter of a pound of rice, and wash it thoroughly well in pure water, to free it from dust; when the pot boils, take off the lid, and as the water continues to boil, put the rice in gradually, by which EVERY GRAIN will be SEPARATED AND DONE ALIKE. The vessel to be then closely covered.

Patna rice will require about 25 minutes' boiling, Carolina something less; but by taking a grain or two out of the pot, and trying it between your finger and thumb, you will see whether it rubs away, which is the test. Then pour the rice into a cullender, and when drained, pour over it a cupful of cold water to stiffen it. This being done, put the rice back into the pot, put on the lid, and keep it warm on the hob, and ready for use.

In India, the surplus water in which rice has been boiled is in general use in sick-rooms and hospitals, prepared with acids or sugar, &c.

It is affirmed that Patna rice contains much more nutriment than Carolina, and it is considerably cheaper.

Savory Rice.—Put one pound of rice into three quarts of boiling water; let it remain for 20 minutes, then skim the water, and add one ounce of hog's lard, or dripping, and a little salt, and let it simmer gently over the fire, closely covered for an hour and a quarter, when it will be fit for use. If it is to be kept, it should be set by in an earthen pan, covered with a wooden cover. It will produce rather more than eight pounds of savory rice.

This receipt was used by the late Bishop of Durham, in the counties of Durham and Oxford; and above 2000 persons for some time partook of this savory rice. Observe that in this and the other receipts beer measure is used; a beer pint of water weighs rather better than a pound and a quarter.

Rice and Turnips.

Boil a quarter of a pound of rice in water till soft. Boil some turnips separately; when soft, press the water out, and thoroughly mash them. Mix the rice and turnips, adding some butter, lard, or dripping, with pepper and salt. For this dish one-third of rice is required to two-thirds of turnips.

Many of the people in the neighbourhood of Cloughjordan use as a substitute for the potato boiled turnips mixed with flour, which they seem to like very well, and recommend.—*Newagh Guardian.*

Bread is also now made, with equal parts of turnips and wheaten flour.

Bread.

Rice and Wheat Bread.—Simmer a pound of rice in two quarts of water till quite soft; when of a proper warmth, mix it thoroughly with four pounds of flour, four large spoonfuls of yeast, and salt as usual; knead it particularly well, and set it to rise before the fire; some of the flour should be reserved to make up the loaves. Thus eight pounds and a half of very good bread will be produced. If the rice should require more water, it must be added, as some rice swells more than others, give it plenty of time to simmer.

Scotch Barley.

Few things go farther than Scotch barley, that is, common barley with the husk taken off. Pearl barley is the same thing, only brought down to a smaller size. Scotch barley contains a

great deal of nourishment, and is a very cheap food, but few people understand dressing it. Unless boiled at least four hours, it will be hard, and altogether fail. A very little salt pork or other meat boiled with it, makes a warm nourishing dish for a family, at half the price for which they could be fed on bread. It is good with milk, or with water, pepper, and salt, or any kind of herbs.

Two pounds of Scotch barley (or rice), boiled in two gallons of water, till reduced to one; add a little alspice, and sweeten with treacle and coarse sugar. This is a useful saving dish.

If to every quart of the pot liquor of boiled wheat, an ounce of Scotch barley be added, and also an onion, turnip, or any vegetable, with sufficient pepper and salt, an additional meal might be obtained.

Beet-Root.

Beet-root cannot be too much recommended to the notice of mankind as a cheap and nutritious substitute for the now-failing and diseased potato. Hitherto the red kind has been only used in England as a pickle, or as a garnish for salad; even the few who dress it generally boil it, by which process the rich saccharine juice is in a great measure lost, and the root consequently rendered less nutritious by the quantity of water which it imbibes, as well as by parting with the native syrup, of which it is thus forcibly deprived; it is therefore strongly recommended to bake, instead of boiling them, when they will be found to afford a delicious and wholesome food. This is not an untold novelty, for both red and white beet-root are extensively used on the Continent; in Italy, particularly, they are carried about hot from the oven twice a-day, and sold publicly in the streets; thus they are purchased by all classes of people, and give to thousands, with bread, salt, pepper, and butter, a satisfactory meal.

Beet-Root Bread.—A baker of Vienna has made a discovery, which, at the present moment, may prove of high importance—the use of beet-root in making bread. Two loaves, one consisting of one-half, the other of five-eighths beet-root, the remainder being of wheat-flour, were sent for the inspection of the Minister of Agriculture and commerce. The loaves were baked on the 30th October, and on the 20th November, retained all the taste and appearance of good household bread. The bread is made in the usual manner, only with less water, and a little more salt. The beet-root must be grated at the moment of making use of it.

This bread has been successfully tried in Dublin, and is excellent. When used raw it slightly discolours the bread: a trial was also made of it when boiled, in which form the colour of the bread remains nearly white, but is probably not so nutritious.

Beet root, white or red, may be stewed. Let it be well washed and scraped, and cut into convenient pieces, and then stewed until soft, with a little water, which will soon disappear from absorption and evaporation; after which, let the root remain on the fire, subject to a good heat, and add seasonings for use. On the Continent it is frequently fried, and every preparation of it will be found palatable and wholesome.

Parsnips.

A specimen of breed, manufactured of oatmeal and parsnips, at the house of a gentleman in this neighbourhood, has been forwarded to this office. It is of good quality, and decidedly palatable.—*Despatched Recorder.*

Last week a person connected with a large public establishment went to Carlow to purchase parsnips, where they are grown pretty extensively, and the prices at which he could get them were 10*s.* or 12*s.* per ton: parsnips are excellent, wholesome, and substantial food. All good growers of this excellent vegetable know that from 30 to 40 tons per acre are a very general crop on well-prepared land; but say *half* the lowest produce (30 tons) at *half* the lowest prices now demanded and obtained in Carlow, the value of such a crop would be 75*s.* per acre.—*Farmers' Gazette, November, 1846.*

The parsnip requires a light rich soil, deeply trenched, and well manured. The time of sowing is February or March. The quantity of seed, and mode of cultivation, the same as the carrot. The parsnip is, however, stated to be superior to the carrot for fattening cattle, affording most of the finest quality. The parsnip will withstand frost better than the carrot; and if the soil be dry, may be allowed to remain in the ground during the winter; but it is recommended to take up a portion when the leaves begin to decay, and store them for use. The remainder may be taken up in February, and if preserved in dry sand, they will keep till April or May.

Time necessary for boiling Vegetables.

A young Cabbage will take about 20 minutes or half-an-hour; when full grown, near an hour. Quarter them, if large; put them down in boiling water sufficient to cover them, with a large spoonful of salt, and boil them till the stalks feel tender. *Strong old cabbages* are improved by changing them into fresh boiling water, when half-done.

Young Spring Carrots will be boiled in an hour. *Grown Carrots* must be sliced, and will take from an hour and a half to two hours and a half. Pierce them with a fork to try whether they are done.

Parsnips require to be boiled from an hour to two hours, according to their size and freshness; slice them and let the parts be of equal size. When a fork can be easily passed through, they will be done.

Turnips, when full grown, will take about an hour and a half of gentle boiling. If large, slice them, and boil until they become tender. Before putting them down peel off the stringy outside.

Turnip Tye.—The shoots, which in the Spring grow out of the old Turnip Roots, will, if

fresh and young, be done in about twenty minutes. Put them into cold water an hour before setting them on the fire, and the more water they are boiled in, the better. When the water boils put in a small handful of salt.

Beet Roots will take from an hour and a half to three hours in boiling, according to their size.—*Dr. Kirchner.*

CHEAP FOOD FROM HOME CORN.

Suggestions by a County Magistrate, 4th October, 1846.

As there is at present such an outcry about food all over the country, perhaps I may be excused for taking the liberty of mentioning to you a course which I, and I believe many others, adopted last summer, for providing Cheap Food for our Labourers,—i.e. purchasing corn in the market and getting it ground at the Grist Mills. To show how cheap food can thus be had, I may state, that on last Thursday, (1st October,) our market day, I bought two loads of very good barley for 15s. 6d. a barrel, of 16 stone. This I had delivered by the vendor at a Grist Mill near this town, where it will be kiln-dried, shelled, ground, and sifted, for 14s. a stone, or 2s. the barrel, which makes the cost 17s. 6d. per barrel, and the barrel of grain will produce about 14 stone of excellent meal, which I thus have, and give to my men for 1s. 3d. a stone, the cost price, all expenses included. Though barley is not at present much used as a bread corn, we have the evidence of the Old and New Testament that it was used as such in Palestine—as in II. Kings, chap. 4, v. 42—"And there came a man, &c., and brought the man of God, bread of the first fruits, twenty loaves of barley," &c., and also in the miracle of the five barley loaves and two fishes—John, chap. 6, v. 9. So we know, the Gladiators in ancient Rome were called "Hordearii," or barley eaters, being fed with that grain, as the most conducive to strength. I may observe, too, that Mr. Johnson, the chemist, states that one pound of barley meal is equal, in point of nutriment, to 4½ lbs. of the best potatoes, which makes our barley meal at 1s. 3d. a stone, about equal to potatoes at 3d. per stone. Mixed with whole meal, in the proportion of two or three stones of barley meal to one stone of whole meal, as I sometimes give it to my men, it is also an excellent food.

Bere is a still preferable grain, as food, and generally rates lower than barley, though at present it exceeds it in price, being so much sought after for seed, as it is, by some weeks, the earliest grain usually reaped in Ireland.

I may further observe, that I occasionally grind oats and inferior wheat for my men. Oats in our market, on Thursday last, averaged 1s. a stone, which is ground, &c., for 1½d. a stone, (20s. a ton,) and produces, generally, about one cwt. of meal per barrel of 12 stone. Thus we have estimated at 13s. 6d. per cwt., or 13l. 10s. per ton, while it is retailed at all the meal shops of the town at 2s. 6d. a stone, or 20l. a ton, and even higher. The oats this year are generally inferior, and, of course, give a somewhat less return of meal.

By grinding the inferior wheats, say now worth 24s. or 25s. a barrel, whole meal (better than what is usually sold by millers, as none of the flour would be taken out of it), could be sold for about 1s. 6d. a stone, instead of 2s. 4d., the present retail price in our town.*

I do not presume to say whether it would be advisable for the Government to direct the Relief Committees throughout Ireland, thus to provide food for their several localities;—nor do I know whether other markets are as favourable for such an operation as our own; but certainly if they are, and if there be no political objection to the plan, a vast quantity of good food might be thus supplied to the people at far lower prices than they can purchase food for at present from retail shops.

BROWN BREAD for a penny per lb.

From the whole meal of wheat at 54s. per quarter, or 31s. 6d. per barrel.—October, 1846.

One quarter, or 480 lbs. of wheat, same as the "Susanna's" cargo at Cork,† was prepared by my farmer, being placed on a clean flagged floor, and sprinkled with water to the extent of nearly two gallons, turned over, or moved about twice, by a fine rack; after a day and two nights, it was gathered into one heap, remained three days longer, and then was in a proper state to grind, as the greater part was hard wheat, mixed with some soft. In this process it gained 39½ lbs.,—or 480 lbs. was increased to 519½—when it came from the mill, all ground together, it had lost 9 lbs., it was therefore reduced to 510½ lbs. My housekeeper baked yesterday, and fearing she might have made a mistake, has each day made more than 6 lbs. of brown bread out of 4 lbs. of flour. I now refer you to the calculation of cost, &c. —

1 Quarter, or 480 lbs. of wheat made by preparation for the mill into	519½ lbs.
Received from the mill in brown flour	510 lbs.
510 lbs. brown flour will produce 765 lbs. of bread, if 4 lbs. of flour produce 6 lbs. of bread.	

Cost of wheat, &c.	54s.
Grinding,	2s.
	56s.

* Two quarts of wheat boiled in water, will give a meal to twelve in family. A family consisting of that number in Cloughjordan, frequently make use of it.—*News Paper.*

† Hard Spanish wheat, which the owner would not dispose of at 54s., whilst the same description of wheat in Gloucester, Liverpool, and Hull, was sold at 55s. The prices named include the duty. Taking the price at one-fourth higher, whole meal may be provided at 2s. 6d. per stone, first cost; and this quantity of hard grain, managed in the way stated, will produce 31 lbs. of bread.

765 lbs. bread, if sold at 1d. per lb., gives 63s. 9d., leaving for the baker 7s. 9d., for his trouble and fire, which is more than it costs. Can there be a famine all over Ireland when this—the brown bread, might be sold at 1d. per lb.? I have taken the price at 5d., but my Agent states that he cannot obtain 5d.

DROGHEDA BROWN BREAD.

The working population in Drogheda and its vicinity, use brown bread, made principally of whole wheaten meal fermented with leaven or barm. They buy it ready for use, or buy the meal and pay 3d. per stone for making and breaking the bread, which employs a number of women who have provided ovens for this purpose, and bake with leaven.

At present, (1st December, 1846,) whole wheaten meal is sold in Drogheda at 1s. 8d. to 2s. per stone. The meal at 1s. 8d. with the baking will cost 1s. 11d.; and for this there are 18lbs. of bread, being about 1½d. per lb. The retail price of baker's brown bread in the town, is now 1½d. per lb.

The leaven may be obtained by buying the dough when ready for the oven; 1½lb. will ferment a stone of meal; and it can be kept for a week. In this way the use of leaven may be easily extended; and the potato pot can be used as an oven, by placing the loaf of dough on a heated stone, and turning down the pot over it, which should then be covered with as much turf as will keep it at an oven heat.

CHEAP BREAD.

Take from the flour the coarsest flake bran; boil five pounds of this bran in rather more than four gallons of water, so that, when quite smooth, you will have three gallons and three-quarters of bran water; with this knead fifty-six pounds of flour, and add yeast and salt as for other bread. Thus, fifty-six pounds of flour will produce as much bread as sixty-seven pounds four ounces of flour seed with plain water; and when ten days old, if put into the oven for twenty minutes, will appear quite new again.

PEAS BREAD.

An excellent bread is made by adding wheat bran to the meal of peas, as it would be added to flour.

The meal and bran should be equal parts, but the bran should be ground fine. This bread has been tried in Dublin and found very palatable, and about the color of common brown bread.

On peas bought wholesale, there is a good profit; and very good peas can be bought in England, for only two or three shillings per sack more than those commonly bought for pigs.

HOME MADE BARM.

Persons who are in the habit of making their own bread, can easily manufacture their own yeast, by attending to the following directions:—boil 1lb. of good flour, ½lb. of brown sugar, and a little salt, in 2 gallons of water, for an hour; when milk warm, bottle it, cork it close, and it will be fit for use in twenty-four hours. One pound of this yeast will make 18lbs. of bread.

RYE.

Rye is much used for bread in all parts of the continent of Europe, and in Wales, and some parts of England and Scotland; and it is also mixed with wheat flour for that purpose. It is likewise much used by distillers, and is roasted and used as a substitute for coffee, in considerable quantities, by the poorer classes.

Rye is not much cultivated in Ireland, although it produces good crops on indifferent soils, on which wheat would be an uncertain crop. Rye does well on thin soils and reclaimed bogs or moors; and its cultivation would therefore seem to be desirable under the circumstances existing in this country. It is, however, necessary that the soil should be well worked, and kept in good tilth, and free from weeds.

Rye is sometimes sown in Autumn, and sometimes in Spring. It is particularly useful for sowing with Winter Vetches, the Rye acting as a support to the Vetch, and the mixture affords excellent Spring feeding. A bushel to the acre is the usual quantity sown in this way. It is sometimes sown on stubble, after one ploughing and harrowing, for green feeding for lambs and ewes in February or March; and this practice, on light gravelly or sandy soils, will serve to improve them greatly.

Buck Wheat.

The flour of this wheat is now selling wholesale in Dublin at 10s. per cwt.

"Buck Wheat has been cultivated in England from the latter part of the sixteenth century. Its native country is unknown, but supposed to be Asia. Beckmann has a very learned dissertation on its introduction and early culture in Europe. (*Hist. of Insect.* vol. I.) It will grow on the poorest soils. It may be cut when young and green and employed as food for cattle." *McCulloch's Commercial Dictionary.*

"In this part of France the labouring population make a daily food of it, in thin soft cakes or boiled."—*Letter from Nantes, 10th November, 1846.*

Throughout the North American States buck wheat flour is used; and the wealthier classes are provided with cakes made of it, which form part of their breakfast luxuries.

Soup to be provided for Sale.

It is recommended to Relief Committees to establish soup kitchens; and also to provide ingredients for soup to be sold to persons who can prepare it according to printed directions.

The soup No. 1, in Count Rumford's Essay on Food, appears to be best adapted for general use, as not containing any green or unseasoned vegetables, and may consist only of barley, peas, salt, water, with cuttings of wheaten bread, or biscuit.

A land proprietor in the county of Waterford, whose labourers use this soup for dinner, has supplied the following practical information in recommending its general adoption.

"The soup No. 1, in Count Rumford's Essay, has been used in the Lismore Union Workhouse, for many months, and has been adopted in the Fermoy Union, and I believe in Macroom also.

"For the last year I have given this soup, one quart each to my labourers for dinner. Each quart is about two pounds four ounces in weight, and costs three farthings.*

"It is composed of barley, ground whole, with all the bran, whole peas, pepper salt and water. (See proportions below.)

"In each quart are placed small cuttings of wheaten bread on which the boiling soup is poured, so as to fill each quart.

"The whole meal of barley answers as well as pearl barley, and is much cheaper.

"Of course, meat would improve the soup, but then the price would be greatly increased; and the object is to produce a nutritious food at the lowest price.

"A quantity of peas and barley, used in soup, will support a much greater number of persons than if cooked separately."

"The soup used in Lismore Workhouse is composed of pearl-barley, peas, pepper and salt, in the proportion of one pound of peas, and one pound of barley, to one gallon of water.

"For dinner, each adult gets thirty ounces of this soup, with six ounces of bread, as only two meals are given in the day; and the bread is given separately."

"Count Rumford's Essay is sold by J. McGLASHAN, D'Olier-street; ROBERTSON, Sackville-street, Dublin; and by HAMILTON, Youghal."

In preparing this soup, the peas should be soaked in cold water for some hours, not less than two, before being put into the boiler; and the soup must be made with soft water, as peas will not mix with hard water, unless a small lump of soda is put into it. The water should be boiling when the peas are put in; and they must be let boil separately until tender. Do not add the salt until they are boiled, or they will not become soft. They should be stirred occasionally to keep them from the bottom of the boiler. When they are quite soft, stir in the barley, and let the soup simmer gently for a couple of hours. In the mean time put some pepper into a vessel with a little of the soup, mix them well, and pour them into the boiler;—then stir the soup thoroughly and season it with salt.

If biscuit is to be used with the soup instead of bread, put it separately into the vessels like the cuttings of bread, otherwise it cannot be equally distributed.

Commissariat Relief Office, Dublin Castle,
December 31, 1846

INSTRUCTIONS for the formation and guidance of COMMITTEES for RELIEF of DISTRESS in IRELAND, consequent on the failure of the Potato Crop in 1846.

1. The Relief Act recently passed, 9 and 10 Vic., cap. 107, directs, that when the Public Works for which it provides become requisite in any barony, extraordinary presentment sessions are to be assembled.
2. The lieutenant of the county will be requested to divide every such barony into convenient districts for the action of Relief Committees; each district to consist of at least two parishes, and the exact limits to be accurately defined.
3. For the districts so formed, the lieutenant will then be pleased to constitute Relief Committees; or to re-assemble any committees which may have administered relief funds within those districts, during the period ended on the 15th August; and to forward to the commissary-general a return of the districts and of the chairman and secretary (both of whom he will appoint) of each committee.
4. When committees which have had relief funds are to be re-assembled, some modification of the rule, as to the extent of districts, may be necessary for removing local objections. Under all circumstances, it will be indispensable that the Relief Districts shall be within the boundary of the barony, half barony, or lesser division, for which Relief Works are required. Where, however, the baronial lines intersect towns or parishes, a Relief District may there consist of parts of two baronies, but the committees must keep separate registers of the applicants for labour on the respective Barony Works.
5. The Relief Committees (whether newly constituted, or re-assembled), are to include the following functionaries and public officers:—

The lieutenant or vice-lieutenant of the county.

Magistrates deputed by each bench of petty sessions in the barony, half barony, or lesser division, for which presentment sessions shall be convened, not exceeding two from each bench.

The resident magistrate in the barony division for which the presentment sessions shall be held.

* The cost must vary, as the ingredients are obtained under favourable circumstances, or the contrary.

The principal clergymen of each church (Protestant, Roman Catholic, and Presbyterian), officiating in each parish in the district.

The chairman of the Poor Law Union comprising the whole or greater part of the barony division for which the presentment sessions shall be held.

The principal constabulary officer in such barony division.

The principal coast-guard officer, where available.

Officers acting under the commissary-general, and principal officer in the barony acting under the Board of Works, to be *ex-officio* members.

In those cases where local circumstances may require that persons not comprehended in this arrangement should be appointed on committees, it would be desirable to re-appoint so many of the most efficient and respectable members of the committees of the past season as may be requisite. In forming new committees, where none had been named during the past season, and where the *ex-officio* members may be insufficient, the lieutenant of the county will exercise his discretion in selections from the most respectable subscribers to the relief fund.

6. As, during the past season, central committees were formed in certain districts, there will be no objection to the continuance of this plan, if their operation should appear to the Lieutenant of counties more desirable, keeping the arrangement within barony boundaries, which is indispensable.

7. Each committee should hold periodical meetings at the place most convenient for the members and the object. Minutes of each day's proceedings are to be kept in a book supplied by the commissary-general for the purpose, as also for correspondence and accounts.

8. Three members of a committee to form a quorum.

9. The balance remaining of each relief fund of the period closed on the 15th of August, to be at the disposal of the new or re-assembled committee of the district for which the fund shall have been created. The treasurer to be re-appointed.

10. All other committees, on forming relief funds, to appoint treasurers.

11. Correspondence between the committees and her Majesty's Government to be carried on through the commissary-general; and it is earnestly requested, with a view of facilitating public business, that individual members of the committee will communicate their suggestions or objects of inquiry, at meetings of the committee, to be conveyed to the commissary-general if considered necessary, so that the correspondence may be carried on only by the chairman or secretary of each committee.

12. Applications with respect to Public Works, and correspondence on matters incident to them, should be addressed to the Board of Works.

13. The attention of each committee should be primarily given to the provisions of the Relief Act, recently passed (9 and 10 Vict., cap. 107), as it prescribes the mode in which relief is to be afforded by employment on Public Works.

14. The commissary-general will supply each committee with copies of the following Acts and papers:—

Act 9 and 10 Vict., cap. 107, for Relief Works. Also Act 9 and 10 Vict., cap. 109, granting 50,000*l.* in aid of Public Works of utility for poor districts.

Act 9 and 10 Vict., cap. 101, to authorize the advance of 1,000,000*l.* for the improvement of land by Works of Drainage in Ireland.

The Drainage Acts 5 and 6 Vict., cap. 89; 8 and 9 Vict., cap. 56; and 9 Vict., cap. 4; and where necessary, the Fishery Piers Act, 9 Vict., cap. 3.

Treasury Minute of the 31st of August, 1846.

Papers on the Drainage of Land.

Papers on the use of Indian Corn and Meal.

15. A most important duty of the members of the relief committees will be to promote, by their influence and example, improvements in husbandry, the drainage of land, and reclaiming of wastes.

16. The employment provided by law must be of a public nature; and the owners and occupiers of land in Ireland are, by the Act 9 and 10 Vict., cap. 107, charged with the expense of such Works as are indispensably necessary for the subsistence of the destitute poor.

17. The Government has also afforded many facilities towards the general agricultural improvement of Ireland by drainages, not only of the un-cultivated, but also of the large proportion of imperfectly cultivated land; and abundant means have been placed for this purpose at the disposal of the land-owners, more favourable than heretofore, both as to the rate of interest and the period of re-payment.

18. When Public Works of relief are to be executed, the several Relief Committees in the barony are to supply to the officers of the Board of Works appointed to conduct them, lists of persons requiring relief by employment, made up from registers of applicants for relief in the following order, and not containing a greater number of persons than the officers of works shall propose to employ from each Relief Division of the barony, having regard to the extent of the labouring population requiring relief in such division:—

1. Persons destitute of means of support who have the largest families wholly depending on them.

2. Persons with smaller families wholly depending on them.

3. All other persons requiring employment on Public Works, for whose support it is actually necessary.

19. A book for the registry of applicants for employment will be supplied to each Committee. As the applications are received, inquiry should be made to ascertain the real con-

diction of every applicant, and none should be registered but such as shall appear to be in actual necessity of relief, having no other resource or means of acquiring subsistence than employment on Public Works.

20. When lists of applicants are supplied to the officers of the Board of Works, they will issue work tickets to the persons who are to be employed; and when the lists shall not contain all the applicants registered, this should be stated at foot, giving there the number still requiring employment. The lists to be revised from time to time at the discretion of the Committees.

21. The Relief Committees are not to interfere with the execution of the works, or with the officers or stewards; but it will be at all times open to them to draw the attention of the Board of Works to any occurrences in relation to the works, which, in the opinion of the Committees, are deserving of consideration.

22. It is not to be desired that Relief Committees should carry on works of relief of the description for which provision is made in the Act 9 and 10 Vic. c. 107. All such works should be submitted for the consideration of the baronial sessions, and if sanctioned they must be executed only by the Board of Works.

23. When Committees are compelled by circumstances to provide employment from funds at their own disposal, it should be limited to small works of local utility; and they should not give a higher rate of wages, nor exact a smaller quantum of labour, in any work so carried on by them, than is given or required upon works carried on under the superintendence of the Board of Works. Such works should be carried on by Committees only to the extent to which private employment is proved not to be available. The persons so employed should be paid for their labour in proportion to the work actually done, in money, and not by any composition in lieu of wages.

24. The means of providing food for the labouring population in lieu of the potato crops lost are fully explained in the Treasury Minute of the 31st August. The importation of foreign grain is most properly left exclusively to private enterprise; and to a certain extent the distribution, as well as the introduction, is left to the same agency.

25. Donations in aid of subscriptions will be made by his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, which may amount one-half of the amount subscribed, and placed at the disposal of the Committees, the amount varying according to the circumstances and the degree of distress to be relieved.

26. On applying for a donation it will be necessary to transmit to the Commissary-General a list of the subscriptions actually collected; but the contributions from charity funds of any kind should not be included or in any way mixed up with the personal subscriptions.

27. A certificate to the following effect should be affixed to each list of subscriptions, signed by the Secretary of the Committee and Chairman for the time being:—

We certify that all the Subscriptions set forth in this List have been collected and paid to the Treasurer of the Relief Committee, and that there is not included in it any sum contributed from funds applicable to charitable purposes.

It is not necessary that the Treasurer's receipts should be transmitted to the Commissary-General, they will be called for by the Commissariat officer, who will be directed to issue the donations.

28. The Relief Fund formed of the balance remaining from the past period, subscriptions for the present period, any other contributions obtained, and the Lord Lieutenant's donations, will be applicable only to the following purposes:—

1. Providing supplies of Indian corn, or Italian corn meal, or other food for sale.
2. Affording relief by employment, if necessary.
3. Defraying the contingent expenses of the Committee, including remuneration for the services of the Secretary or Clerk.

29. The books, correspondence, papers, and accounts of the Relief Committee should at all times be open to the inspection of Government officers who will be appointed to visit each barony, and who should be furnished with copies of any documents or accounts they may require. Detailed accounts of receipts and expenditure, in the form of an account current, should be kept, and certified copies of them will be required after the 15th of August 1847.

W. STANLEY, Secretary.

Additional Instructions relative to the formation of Relief Committees. October 24, 1846.

1. The Archbishops and Bishops of the Established Church and the Roman Catholic Church to be members of the Relief Committees in the districts where they reside.

2. As in many cases the principal officiating clergyman may be prevented by other duties from attending regularly at the Relief Committee, he is at liberty to name one of his assistants for each parish committed to his charge, to act in his place, and in towns, one for each district into which the parish may have been hitherto divided.

3. The Commissioners of Public Works to be members of all Committees.

Additional Instructions relative to Grants in aid of Subscriptions. December 14, 1846.

In consequence of the applications in many unions of destitute persons to workhouses which are unable to receive them, and the want which prevails generally amongst the population of those districts where the poorhouses are full, his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant is desirous of giving a more extended encouragement to subscriptions made in such localities; and, where the circumstances of the case warrant his doing so, the Commissary-General will be authorized to recommend, on the usual application, a sum not exceeding the amount subscribed, having reference to the extent of destitution in each district.

WHEAT STATE OF IRELAND, &c., in the several Districts in Ireland, on the Evening of Saturday, the 9th of January, 1847.

Depôts.	Quantities of 8 Bushels each of				Corns, of Salt in Stacks.	Stacks of 250 lbs. each of				Bags of Flour of 112 lbs. each.	Stacks of 250 lbs. each.			Remarks.
	Indian Corn.		Wheat.	Peas.		Indian Corn Meal.		Wheat Meal.	Barley Meal.		Indian Meal.	Whiting Meal.	Barley Meal.	
	In Port.	In Store.				In Port.	In Store.							
Limerick	1,056	..	..	..	1,126	29	..	..	..	..	..	On board "Dog" steamer.
Kilrush	
"Madagascar"	1,134	343	
Skibbereen	800	
Dingle	1,435	
Cahirciveen	392	To Barington.	
Cadestown	..	..	..	..	..	250	..	..	..	..	..	..
Galway	1,268	..	..	..	..	2,947	9	..	..	..	..	..
Westport	..	1,577	627	..	..	1,199	24	..	..	..	..	..
Civilian	..	..	..	380	..	609	..	409	162	..	..	..
Belanoid	220	To Barington.	
Sago	..	..	45	2,478	..	1,230	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ballina	..	..	..	..	..	339	..	..	..	..	..	..
Killybegs	240	..	..	..	..	174	..	..	..	..	..	..
Barronport	..	1,105	117	..	..	697	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dundragh	..	314	To Barington. To Loughlin.	
Burrough	279	43	..	..	..	1,375	..	..	..	..	..	..
Burrough	100	186	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dublin	..	..	..	..	..	1,456	876	..	..	..	..	..
Burrough	..	..	..	..	..	333	..	..	5,409	148	199	619
Longford	..	..	..	..	..	133	196	..	..	..	..	..
Reconcom	..	..	..	..	..	16	..	..	..	..	..	..
Solomon	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cadestown	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Digest	..	68	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	3,043	3,458	3,765	690	1,212	90	22,672	1,477	897	6,785	4,668	818		

* * * * * Cargoes of "Lepanto" and "Manchester," at Galway, not yet ascertained.

RECAPITULATION OF REMAINS ON THE 9th of January, 1847.

10,528	quarters of Indian corn, at 5 quarters per ton	..	..	..	5,047 1/2 tons.
1,456	quarters of peas, at 8 quarters per ton	..	..	..	150 "
1,252	quarters of Egyptian wheat, at 5 quarters per ton	..	..	..	245 1/2 "
52,259	stacks of Indian meal, at 5 sacks per ton	..	..	..	9,012 "
1,477	stacks of oatmeal, at 5 sacks per ton	..	..	..	11 1/2 "
615	stacks of vegetable meal, at 5 sacks per ton	..	..	..	31 1/2 "
7,683	stacks of barley meal, at 5 sacks per ton	..	..	..	600 "
4,866	bags of barley meal, at 28 bags per ton	..	..	..	330 1/2 "

6,812 1/2 tons, or 24,000 quarters.

STATEMENT of SUMS ISSUED in DONATIONS authorized by the Lord Lieutenant in aid of Subscriptions collected by Relief Committees in Ireland.

Date.	Name of Committee.	Donation.			Subscription.		
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
1895							
Sept. 28	Bellinshilla district, county Cork	30	0	0	64	10	0
Oct. 5	Moydan district, county Longford	35	0	0	70	0	0
Oct. 6	Lowerliff district, county Sligo	90	0	0	180	0	0
"	Corra district, county Sligo	39	0	0	63	0	0
Oct. 7	Lenamoe district, county Longford	45	0	0	94	18	1
Oct. 9	Carriehbeg district, county Cork	11	0	0	23	15	0
"	Ovens district, county Cork	25	0	0	50	0	0
Oct. 12	Ardsahan and Kiltomas district, county Galway	100	0	0	205	2	0
Oct. 15	Stratone district, county Cavan	25	0	0	50	0	0
"	Carrigallen district, county Leitrim	40	0	0	120	0	0
"	Gweedore district, county Donegal	50	0	0	105	0	0
Oct. 17	Dromard district, county Sligo	14	0	0	29	1	3
"	Envy district, county Donegal	150	0	0	300	0	0
Oct. 19	Manorhamilton district, county Leitrim	150	0	0	300	0	0
Oct. 23	Killacran district, county Galway	45	0	0	91	0	0
"	Engish district, King's county	14	0	0	29	5	0
"	Kilcummin and Noheral district, county Kerry	250	0	0	517	17	0
"	Moyalty district, county Meath	85	0	0	194	0	0
Oct. 24	Donaghmore district, county Cork	20	0	0	41	11	0
Oct. 27	Timoleague district, county Cork	11	5	0	22	10	0
"	(Derribelen and Rosnewlough district, county Donegal)	235	0	0	470	7	0
"	Slieve district, county Sligo	11	10	0	23	0	0
Oct. 28	Corran district, county Sligo	15	10	0	31	2	0
Oct. 29	Rathcarney district, county Cork	150	0	0	319	5	0
Oct. 30	Rathangan district, county Kildare	170	0	0	355	0	2
"	Clogher district, county Tyrone	70	0	0	143	2	6
"	Mallow district, county Cork	55	0	0	116	15	0
Oct. 31	Killbush district, county Cork	20	0	0	41	10	0
"	Castleblawney district, county West Meath	57	0	0	114	16	0
Nov. 3	Woodford district, county Galway	30	0	0	61	0	0
"	Belliniskill district, county Galway	45	0	0	92	0	0
"	Bellinshilla district, county Cork	16	0	0	33	0	0
"	O'Brien's Bridge district, county Clare	33	0	0	66	0	0
"	Berary of Cook district, county Fermanagh	60	0	0	120	12	6
Nov. 4	Boyetown district, county Meath	11	10	0	23	9	7
"	Killeevan district, county Monaghan	13	0	0	26	6	6
"	Aughabog district, county Monaghan	27	0	0	54	18	10
"	Kilcradan district, county Cork	41	0	0	82	13	6
"	Askeben district, county Limerick	89	10	0	167	4	7
Nov. 5	Edgeworthstown district, county Longford	92	0	0	184	2	0
"	Lenamoe district, county Fermanagh	13	10	0	27	17	6
"	Castletown district, county Cork	130	0	0	265	10	10
Nov. 6	Boyle district, county Roscommon	33	10	0	67	18	2
"	Passage West district, county Cork	65	0	0	132	6	3
"	Ballynacorney district, county Westmeath	92	0	0	184	0	0
"	Swinstead district, county Mayo	24	0	0	48	0	0
Nov. 7	Tinrent district, county Sligo	125	0	0	255	12	0
Nov. 9	Kilmichael district, county Cork	50	0	0	107	2	6
"	Stradone district, county Cavan	8	0	0	16	15	6
Nov. 10	Newcastle district, county Limerick	84	0	0	168	5	0
Nov. 12	Schall district, county Cork	23	0	0	46	0	0
"	Galway district, county Galway	250	0	0	500	0	0
Nov. 13	Lane district, county Meath	210	0	0	426	6	6
Nov. 14	Carrick on Sur district, county Tipperary	118	0	0	238	2	4
Nov. 16	Swinstead district, county Mayo	7	10	0	15	0	0
"	Villinstown district, county Waterford	58	0	0	117	17	6
Nov. 18	Macquaire Bridge district, county Fermanagh	19	10	0	39	10	4
"	Carrickbeg district, county Waterford	11	10	0	23	0	0
Nov. 21	Knockmany district, county Fermanagh	25	0	0	53	0	0
"	Tullin Carrick district, county Donegal	88	0	0	76	16	0
"	Castlepollard district, county Westmeath	78	0	0	159	11	0
Nov. 24	Templederry district, county Tipperary	29	0	0	58	3	6
"	Clashmore district, county Waterford	35	0	0	70	0	0
Nov. 25	Kilrush district, county Clare	108	0	0	211	10	8
"	(Imrick and Lower Killbeg district, county Donegal)	59	0	0	118	0	0
"	Clonmellon district, county Westmeath	96	0	0	192	12	0
Nov. 26	Tullyhunco district, county Cavan	50	0	0	100	5	6
Nov. 27	Ballymount district, county Mayo	85	0	0	172	10	0
"	Downum, county Clare	75	0	0	153	9	0
Nov. 28	Allen, county Kildare	75	0	0	152	19	0
Nov. 30	Rowe and Gossney district, county Kilkenny	40	0	0	82	2	0
"	Brookborough district, county Fermanagh	250	0	0	500	0	0

Statement of Sums issued in Donations, &c.—continued.

No.	Name of Committee.	Donation.	Subscription.
		£. s. d.	£. s. d.
1848			
Dec. 1.	Inishkeel and Lower Killybegs district, county Donegal	6 6 0	12 13 0
"	Kildare district, county Kildare	166 0 0	334 0 0
"	Upper Strath, county Cavan	16 10 0	33 5 6
Dec. 2.	Ballinakill Coghlan district, county Galway	25 0 0	50 10 0
"	Ballina district, county Mayo	150 0 0	300 19 0
Dec. 4.	Parney district, county Monaghan	173 0 0	333 13 0
Dec. 5.	Tarbert district, county Kerry	90 0 0	180 3 2
"	Maer district, county Kerry	85 0 0	169 19 0
"	Knockanure district, county Kerry	54 0 0	109 15 0
"	Ballylongford district, county Kerry	115 0 0	230 19 0
"	Kinsale district, county Cork	100 0 0	360 2 6
"	Collinstown district, county Westmeath	33 0 0	71 17 6
"	Castleblayney district, county Monaghan	172 10 0	345 15 0
"	Parsonstown district, King's county	200 0 0	400 0 0
Dec. 8.	Doneraile district, county Cork	189 0 0	378 3 0
Dec. 10	Clonbrooney district, county Longford	31 10 0	63 0 0
"	Skreen district, county Sligo	27 10 0	55 13 0
Dec. 11	Kerry district, county Limerick	185 0 0	371 0 0
"	Blackrock and Sallaghogue district, county Dublin	245 0 0	490 10 0
"	Durmanagh district, county Tyrone	68 0 0	136 11 6
"	Carra and Lady's Island district, county Wex-		
	ford	54 10 0	109 0 1½
Dec. 15	Killaloe district, county Clare	138 0 0	276 10 10
Dec. 17	Newtown Barry district, county Wexford	62 0 0	124 2 6
"	Tenac district, county Kerry	475 0 0	951 11 0
"	Inchighagh district, county Cork	78 5 0	156 10 0
Dec. 19	Peihard district, county Wexford	84 0 0	167 3 2
"	Ashford district, county Wicklow	150 0 0	284 13 3
"	Clancurry district, county Kildare	53 0 0	65 14 0
"	Hacketstown district, county Carlow	43 0 0	89 18 0
"	Clidien district, county Galway	150 0 0	161 15 0
Dec. 21	Clonliffy and Clogher district, county Tipperary	135 0 0	139 6 11
"	Templemore district, county Tipperary	170 0 0	177 19 4
"	Leyner Upper district, county Sligo	60 0 0	60 0 0
"	Chasakilly district, county Cork	180 0 0	189 6 6
Dec. 22	Stubbington, in aid of Ceylon subscription	100 0 0	100 0 0
Dec. 23	Macroom district, county Cork	36 0 0	36 5 0
"	Carhamstown district, county Meath	200 0 0	245 2 6
"	Carrigilla district, county Leitrim	40 0 0	60 0 0
"	Ballynacree district, county Tipperary	92 0 0	92 8 6
"	Bainethery district, county Dublin	90 0 0	137 12 0
Dec. 23	Ballyvaughan district, county Tyrone	130 0 0	137 2 8
"	Wexford district, county Wexford	300 0 0	563 13 1½
Dec. 24	Stuckallen district, county Meath	80 0 0	100 0 0
"	Peihard district, county Tipperary	300 0 0	300 11 0
"	Kells district, county Meath	260 0 0	269 14 0
"	Roscrea district, county Tipperary	190 0 0	197 10 6
Dec. 26	Forkhill district, county Armagh	113 0 0	113 7 2
"	North Fensile district, county Clare	114 0 0	114 10 0
"	Keady district, county Armagh	250 0 0	252 15 0
"	Bathmoylan district, county Meath	160 0 0	204 13 0
"	Durrow district, Queen's County	140 0 0	142 1 0
"	Horstown and Kilgarra district, county Wex-		
	ford	30 0 0	58 10 4
Dec. 28	Clare Abbey and Killone district, county Clare	40 0 0	40 0 0
"	Kilnasalla district, county Tipperary	185 0 0	135 0 0
"	Skryne district, county Meath	200 0 0	206 0 0
"	West Ballinakill district, county Galway	22 0 0	22 0 0
Dec. 30	Swinsford district, county Mayo	17 0 0	17 0 0
"	Charlemont district, county Armagh	100 0 0	198 7 0
1847			
Jan. 1.	Carriekbeg district, County Waterford	40 0 0	40 8 0
"	Clonsilla district, county Limerick	339 0 0	339 0 0
"	French Park district, county Roscommon	300 0 0	300 0 0
"	Killeggie district, county Leitrim	40 0 0	65 15 6
"	Rathdown district, county Wicklow	250 0 0	347 11 0
Jan. 4.	Limerick city district, county Limerick	250 0 0	500 0 0
"	Bolala district, county Mayo	32 0 0	32 0 0
"	Inchiquin district, county Clare	212 0 0	212 10 0
"	Balmahoney district, county Meath	110 0 0	137 0 0
"	Freshford district, county Kilkenny	31 0 0	31 0 0
"	Tullyhunco district, county Cavan	70 0 0	70 0 0
"	Bushroddy district, county Wexford	85 0 0	128 16 1
"	Ballybay district, county Monaghan	100 0 0	175 3 6
"	Virginia district, county Cavan	236 0 0	236 0 0

Statement of Sums issued in Donations, &c.—continued.

No.	Name of Committee.	Donation.			Subscription.		
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
1847	Cashel district, county Tipperary	200	0	0	200	0	2
Jan. 5	Innishannon district, county Cork	113	0	0	113	5	0
"	Coag district, County Galway, Ceylon sub- scription	72	0	0	72	3	9
Jan. 6	St. Peter's and Drum district, county Rosema- mon	160	0	0	168	19	4½
"	Tyrrell's Pass district, county Westmeath	83	0	0	83	5	0
Jan. 8	Brawney district, county Westmeath	125	0	0	155	17	0
"	Rathmore district, county Cork	134	0	0	134	13	0
"	Chardewyng district, county Kildare	170	0	0	178	17	8
"	Poynts Pass district, county Armagh	135	0	0	135	15	0
"	Chapelized district, county Dublin	171	0	0	171	5	0
"	Kilgenny district, county Wexford	121	0	0	121	5	0
Jan. 9	Glenties district, county Carlow	33	0	0	60	8	8½
"	Rathmore district, county Westmeath	102	0	0	102	15	0
"	Cropps district, county Galway	173	0	0	178	15	0
"	Kinsale district, county Waterford	133	0	0	153	7	6
"	Mountaught district, county Cavan	37	0	0	57	12	6
Jan. 11	Kilcool district, county Wicklow	55	0	0	55	18	0
"	Gorey district, county Wexford	146	0	0	146	0	0
Jan. 12	Mitchellstown district, county Cork	385	0	0	385	11	10
"	Kilmore district, county Westmeath	180	0	0	180	15	0
"	Casterford district, county Meath	85	0	0	85	10	0
"	Douglas district, county Cork	77	0	0	77	0	0
"	Nethercross district, county Dublin	305	0	0	305	10	0
Jan. 13	Newman and Cappagh district, county Lime- rick	103	0	0	103	17	6
"	Kilbarney district, county Tipperary	51	0	0	51	10	0
"	Tullamore and Lynally district, King's County . .	441	0	0	441	0	0
"	Kilbarnet district, county Wexford	121	0	0	121	14	9
"	Engish district, King's County	41	0	0	41	2	6
"	Rothaspic district, county Wexford	39	0	0	39	0	0
"	Oven district, county Cavan	248	0	0	248	5	0
"	Skell district, county Cork	140	0	0	92	8	4
"	Cashemoyne district, county Cork	209	0	0	209	0	0
"	Atty district, county Kildare	505	0	0	505	12	10
"	Angheny district, county Tyrone	229	0	0	229	13	6
"	Clogher district, county Tyrone	100	0	0	85	8	0
"	Croesroads district, county Donagall	44	0	0	44	0	0
"	Kilreeke district, county Galway	47	0	0	47	0	0
"	Roadstone district, county Galway	21	0	0	21	0	0
"	Drumkewan district, county Leitrim	27	0	0	27	0	0
"	Knock district, Queen's County	110	0	0	110	0	0
"	Brookstown district, county Roscommon . . .	101	0	0	101	17	4
"	Bellinagarry district, county Tipperary . . .	35	0	0	35	10	0
"	Goleen district, county Cork	80	0	0	80	0	0
"	Charstown district, county Cork	85	0	0	85	2	0
"	Kilkenney district, county Kilkenny	407	0	0	407	4	6
		20,629	16	0	30,063	10	8

Dublin Castle, January 14, 1847.

R. S. ROUTH, C. G.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Commissary-General HEWETSON.

January 12, 1847.

PRAY accept my thanks for your letter dated the 8th instant, and its enclosure.

Captain Mann is doing excellent service under your directions in rousing the Relief Committees to a sense of their duty, and establishing soup-kitchens; and we hope you will turn the practical ability he has discovered to the best possible account, and send him round to organize all the neighbouring districts in the same manner.

I have written to the Admiralty to request that you may be furnished with a lighter such as you desire.

Mr. HILL to Commissary-General HEWETSON.

Dingle, January 13, 1847.

I beg leave to inform you, that I made known the contents of your letter of the 1st instant to the Committee, and informed them that the depot would be opened on Mondays and Thursdays, for the purpose of affording relief to remote districts. I have selected seven parishes, all branches of the Cork Agency Poor Relief Committee to be supplied from the depot, and have fixed upon the above-mentioned days for issuing to them, these parishes being the most in need of immediate relief, and I have written to the members, in order that they might avail themselves of the means opened to them for relieving their destitute poor; as yet but two districts have availed themselves, but I am certain they will all do so immediately. I am doing all in my power to urge upon the Committees the absolute necessity of their opening soup houses, and impressing upon them the very great relief they would by so doing afford the people. The Treasurer informed me that it was his intention to get up two boilers in the town of Dingle, and that he had sent for peas and barley for the soup. An inquest has been held on the man's death, which took place to the west of Dingle, about two months since, and who was reported to have died from starvation; his wife, on examination at the inquest by Lord Ventry, denied that he died from such cause. The jury returned a verdict, that he died partly from starvation. The resident gentry to the west are but few, viz., Lord Ventry, Rev. Messrs. Goodman, Moriarty, and Hamilton, Protestant clergymen, Rev. Messrs. Houlihan and Connors, Roman Catholics. The two latter Protestant clergymen have established soup houses in their parishes. The Committees are well aware of the very great encouragement intended by the Government in giving them donations equal to the amount of their subscriptions; and I am continually impressing it upon their minds. The districts which I have selected, as being the most in want, and the population the greatest, would, at the very lowest calculation, require a supply of from twelve to fourteen tons per week, say one ton to each parish, on every day of issue, and yet it is but a mere trifle for such a multitude of people. This is the plan I intend to pursue, which, I hope, will meet your approbation; and I hope to have a sufficiency to carry me on until the latter end of the month of March. There is a charitable society in this town, which I can truly say has done more good for the poor than the Committee has done. The Rev. Mr. Divine called at the depot to know if that society could obtain some relief, pending the arrival of the supplies purchased by the Committee since last November, and now lying at Haulbowrie, from which channel they were usually supplied.

TREASURY MINUTE.

January 14, 1847.

WRITE to the Chairman of the British Association for the relief of the distress in the remote parts of Ireland and Scotland, and state that in consequence of the communication received yesterday from the Committee, orders have been issued, at the instance of this Board, by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, to Admiral Sir Hugh Pigot, commanding on the Irish station, to consider the operations of the Committee as identical, for the present, with the Government operations, and to furnish the Committee or their officers with every assistance they may require in store-room, ships, or co-operation of naval establishments, and in all other points, so far as the means at his disposal will admit.

Also state that their Lordships will be prepared to pay the freight of any supplies which the Committee may send from time to time to Ireland or Scotland, and it appears to my Lords that the most convenient plan will be for the Committee to hire what freight they require for this purpose, and to send the accounts to this Board, with the usual vouchers, for payment.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

Dublin Castle, January 14, 1847.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you, for the information of the Right Hon. my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, two further reports from Assistant Commissary-General Bishop, and I shall continue to communicate them as they reach me, and on his conclusion of this duty, I shall submit to you a brief summary of the measures that have been taken or which it may be necessary to adopt.

ENCLOSURES.

Mr. BISROP to Sir R. ROUTE.

Skibbereen, January 10, 1847.

WITH further reference to my Report of last night, I beg respectfully to direct your attention to one of the latter paragraphs, in which I ventured to suggest that a central depot should, if practicable, be established for supplying the Relief Committees in the Skull and Kilmoe districts, extending their relief to the shores of Dunmanus Bay, and, if possible, as far as Killohane. These districts contain an entire pauper population of about 28,000 souls. There is no food in the country to rely upon. The remoteness of the position attracts but little consideration from the trade. The small quantity of wheaten meal taken into the country by the huxier is retailed at 2s. 10d., and Indian corn meal at 3s. per stone; this meal is much adulterated: thus a large portion of the people are solely dependent upon the exertions of the Relief Committee, who obtain an uncertain supply from Cork and Skibbereen. The carriage adds greatly to the cost; and the Committees will not, owing to the frequent robberies of their stores, risk the purchase of any large quantity.

The harbour at Long Island appears to offer the best and safest position for a floating depot, or even the harbour of Skull; but the former is preferable from the depth of water and absence of all danger for vessels of any tonnage. An excellent road to the landing-place opposite Long Island will shortly be completed, which opens a communication from the strand to all parts of the district. I am induced to recommend this situation in consequence of its being central to the population, otherwise Crookhaven affords the same facility of harbour. Food should be placed within reach in these remote districts of the Committees, particularly where they cannot venture to keep any store by them. When at Skull, on Thursday last, I recommended that a small sale of two tons of meal and two tons of biscuit should be made from the depot at Skibbereen to the Skull Committee; the provision was procured and deposited in their store, which was broken into during the night and the greater part of the biscuit stolen.

The Government store at Skibbereen can conveniently supply that immediate locality, Baltimore, Castletown, and Castletownsend; but the Skull and Kilmoe districts (the latter 25 miles from Skibbereen) are rather remote for land carriage during the rainy season and the present execrable state of the roads. The districts of Durlis and Killohane, with a population of ten thousand (10,000) souls, are not at present in such extreme distress as Skull and Kilmoe.

The Coast Guard store at Skull is capable of containing 10 tons of meal, and seven (7) tons might be deposited at the police barrack in the village.

From Mr. BISROP to Sir R. ROUTE.

Skibbereen, January 11, 1847.

WITH reference to my letter, No. 11, of the 9th instant, I have now the honour of transmitting a list of subscriptions raised at Baltimore, for the establishment and support of soup kitchens at that place, and on the islands of Shilkeen and Clear; upon which lists the aid of Government, as promised in your letter, No. 6, is solicited.

I yesterday visited the district of Myross, and on to Glandore, at which place there is a well-conducted soup establishment, upon a small private fund. An excellent soup is sold for a half-penny a quart, and a quarter of a pound of biscuit for another half-penny. There is great distress in this neighbourhood. I have recommended the Committee to submit a list of their subscriptions, and to solicit Government aid in support of their funds to enable them to extend the sale of soup.

I have been applied to by other Committees in this neighbourhood, who have soup establishments in operation upon private funds, namely at Aghadowa, Kilcoe, and Carrigue; they solicit that some Government aid should be added to their funds, to enable them to extend the distribution of soup. I have requested them to furnish me with a list of subscriptions, and a statement of their funds, which shall be submitted for consideration.

I have not yet received a subscription list from Crookhaven.

I trust that in entertaining solicitations from Committees, not named in my letter of instructions, I am not exceeding the directions given to me. The great mass of the population in the western division of this barony, is suffering under an extreme privation of food, attended with a fearful extent of sickness, which deprives numbers of the power of earning the means of purchasing food for their families. Soup establishments, in localities where the population is much scattered, can only be really serviceable by being numerous, it is with this view that I am led to recommend the solicitations of Committees, for an increase to their soup funds.

I meet the Relief Committee at Bantry, to-morrow, and proceed the following day towards Castletown; the weather is so very severe, and the road so cut up, that my progress is slow.

I fear I cannot now avoid giving the "anonymous" £51. to the "Castletown Soup Fund," having named it to Lord Bantry, as an inducement to his Lordship to press for subscriptions, prior to the receipt of your letter, No. 7 (i. 1473).

Since writing the above, I have received a list of subscriptions raised at Crookhaven, towards the formation of soup establishments in that neighbourhood. The list is herewith.

I shall return to Skibbereen on Friday next, if practicable, where I hope to receive your replies.

Commissary-General HEWETSON to Mr. TREVELYAN.

January 15, 1847.

SEVERAL vessels are now in the Shannon with supplies to the trade, and the latter end of the next month I hope to see the Pool alive with arrivals.

I believe I have before observed to you, that the nature of the employment on public works must cause more fever than in ordinary years. When the potato was abundant, the labourer having his "lazy bed," as the potato field is very properly termed, on a wet cold day would not work; now, whatever the state of the weather, he must expose himself, consequently with poor and insufficient food, scanty raiment, and often want of fuel for firing, he sinks into low fever. I am only surprised it is not, under the circumstances, more general and more fatal.

I think generally they are doing more to the land, and in potato fields abandoned in despair last autumn, they now ploughing for oats, or digging with spade labour; numbers of small sound tubers quite fit for seed, are found, and the people everywhere are picking them for planting. I trust more will be done this way than we were inclined to expect.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Sir R. ROUTH.

Treasury, January 16, 1847.

You will see from the accompanying copy of my letter of to-day, to Captain Hamilton, that the "Tartarus," the "Geyser," the "Emerald," and "Mercury," and the "Sphinx," will proceed at the earliest practicable date to Cork, to receive your orders in regard to their ultimate destination, and you will, therefore, make such communication as you may think proper on this subject to Admiral Pigot.

One of the vessels which have already been despatched might be ordered on at once to Long Island, to be stationed there as a depôt, and I have ordered Deputy Assistant Commissary-General Moore to proceed at once to Dublin, in case you should require him for this service.

I received this morning your general report, which is quite satisfactory; and, considering the short time you had to prepare it, it is more complete than I had expected.

What you now have to do is to go on organizing the whole country, at least all the distressed parts of it (and it is now difficult to say which are not distressed) for the distribution of food to the destitute, and to assist the Committees by liberal donations.

We shall be ready to attend to any suggestion you may have to make in regard to boilers, or on any other point.

I sent yesterday to the Admiralty the names of several naval officers who have volunteered for this service, in order that I might learn how far they are qualified for it.

Mr. TREVELYAN to Captain HAMILTON.

Treasury, January 16, 1847.

I PROCEED to answer your letter of yesterday about the arrangements for carrying food to Ireland and Scotland.

"Dragon," 2nd class steamer.	Is loaded and leaves Deptford to-morrow evening for Kinsale; taking the "Ant" in tow on her way to Castle Clare and Fergus river.	No remark.
"Centaur," 2nd class steamer.	Nearly loaded at Deptford taking 500 tons of meal and peas to Tobermory and Portree.	
"Tartarus," 4th class steamer.	Manned this morning from Portsmouth, a crew of officers and men having come up by railway for that purpose.	Mr. Erichsen will immediately load this vessel with barley meal and peas, and she should proceed to Cork to receive Sir R. Routh's directions regarding her future destination.

"Geyser," 3rd class steamer.	Loading at Portsmouth, with 1000 sacks of meal, will be ready to-morrow.	Should proceed to Cork for Sir R. Routh's orders.
"Emerald" and "Mercury," (Cutters.)	Tenders at Portsmouth; sailed to-day; loaded with meal for Cork.	Should afterwards proceed as directed by Sir R. Routh.
"Sphinx," 3rd class steamer.	Arrived at Plymouth; or- dered to land guns, &c., and load with meal for Ireland or Scotland.	Should proceed to Cork for orders from Sir R. Routh, unless otherwise in the mean time directed.
"Scourge," 3rd class steamer.	Ordered to Bristol to take a cargo for the British Asso- ciation for relief, to Ireland.	No remark.
"Urgent," 1st class home packet.	Ordered to be ready to receive a cargo from the As- sociation at Liverpool, and pro- ceed to West of Scotland or North of Ireland.	No remark.

It will be necessary, in order to preserve the regularity of the accounts, &c., that I should be furnished with the receipt of the master or clerk in charge of the meal, &c., belonging to the Government, which constitutes the cargo of each of the vessels despatched on this service, in order that I may forward it to Sir R. Routh, or Sir E. Coffin, as the case may be.

I shall send copies of this letter to both these officers.

MR. TREVELYAN to SIR R. ROUTH.

January 16, 1847.

THE accompanying paper from the Admiralty contains two propositions, on which we wish to have your opinion before any final directions are given.

First. That dried peas should be ground and mixed with wheaten or barley meal in the proportion of half and half; and,

Secondly. That the Government bakehouses in the victualling yards should be employed in the manufacture of *whole* wheaten meal biscuit, and that the whole meal should be purchased by contract, in order to leave the Government mills entirely free for grinding meal to be sent off at once in that shape.

As far as our information goes we are in favour of both propositions, and only wait for your concurrence, and for any suggestions you may have to make, to request the Admiralty to act upon the plan to a considerable extent.

ENCLOSURE.

MR. GRANT to the SECRETARY of the ADMIRALTY.

Admiralty, January 14, 1846.

WITH the view of increasing the means of the supply of food for the Scotch and Irish I would suggest, in the first place,—

That the *whole* power of the Government should be employed continuously for this purpose.

Secondly. That means should be adopted for the purchase of peas, as the supply of Indian corn and barley are falling short of the demand; peas may be freely purchased in the neighbourhood of Portsmouth and Plymouth. Peas-meal mixed either with wheaten or barley-meal, in the proportion of half and half, makes a nutritious diet.

Thirdly. That a proportion of the Government bakehouses should be employed for the manufacture of *whole* wheaten meal biscuit. This might be effected without interfering (under a proper regulated system of work) with the supply of biscuit for Her Majesty's navy.

The quantity of disposable biscuit thus obtained would average 50,000 lbs. daily.

Fourthly. That biscuit-meal of the usual quality for the supply of the navy, as well as the required supply of whole meal, should be purchased by contract, and which may be obtained at a price not exceeding materially the cost of manufacturing it at the Government establishments, thus leaving the whole power of the Government flour mills to meet the present exigency.

MR. HALY to MR. TREVELYAN.

*Committee Room, South Sea House,
January 16, 1847.*

THE Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company having generously granted the use of the "Royal Tar" to convey about 200 tons of provisions, already purchased, to Ireland, I am directed by the Committee to request that you will obtain from the Board of Admiralty an order to their officer at Haulbowline Island, Cove of Cork, to receive this cargo, and hold it in safe keeping, subject to the orders of the Committee, or their agent, Commander Harston, and also to receive and hold, subject to the same orders, further cargoes.

The cargo for the "Royal Tar" is now being despatched for that vessel at Southampton, and she will sail on Monday or Tuesday next.

TREASURY MINUTE on the above.

Transmit a copy of this letter to the Secretary to the Admiralty, and request that he will move the Lords Commissioners to give directions for any supplies of food which the British Relief Association may send to Cork, to be stored in the Government magazines at Haulbowline, and to be held at the disposal of Captain Harston, R. N., who is acting as agent to the Association; and also for every necessary assistance being given in unshipping, storing, and reshipping the cargoes.

Also state that it is their Lordships' wish that the vessels of Her Majesty's navy should be employed, as far as they can be spared from other necessary services, in conveying supplies of food purchased by the Committee, both between this country and Haulbowline, and between Haulbowline and the places at which the food may be required.

Transmit a copy of this Letter and Minute to Sir R. Routh for his information.

Transmit a copy of the Minute to the Chairman of the Association for the information of the Committee.

MR. TREVELYAN, to Lieut.-Colonel DOUGLAS.

January 18, 1847.

The attack made against the Liverpool and other merchants evidently rests on insufficient grounds. They cannot help either the excessive demand or the very insufficient supply, and these and not the cost price, are the circumstances which regulate the selling price of articles. If the corn had been obtained by them in America, without any payment whatever, they must equally have sold at the existing prices, which have been raised to their present height by the competition of the buyers, who in their eagerness to lay in their stocks, never thought of cost price, or of anything else except the object immediately before them. It can, however, hardly be necessary to remind you that high prices are the natural check upon the over rapid consumption of an insufficient stock of food, and that, greatly as we suffer now, we might suffer before long still more intensely if this check were to be removed by any artificial interference. It must also be remembered, that high prices are indispensably necessary to enable us to get our share of the supplies of grain in America, the Black Sea, &c., for the scarcity prevails in France, Belgium, and elsewhere, as much or almost as much as it does in the United Kingdom.

This reasoning, of course, applies only to the present period; for it is to be hoped, that the comparatively low cost price in America will induce others besides Mr. Bianconi to order corn from abroad, and this, by increasing the supply, will lower the prices. The high prices here will also raise the prices in America, and draw down larger quantities of corn from the interior.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, January 19, 1847.

I FIND 5000 of the starving inhabitants of Castletown Berehaven, belong to a mining society for copper, of Tenby, South Wales, and the distress has arisen in part from the long easterly winds which have kept their supplies at sea, and thrown their establishments on us. We have, and are supplying the whole population there, and sending four tons to Kenmare, who are experiencing the same delay.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, January 19, 1847.

NOTHING can be better than peas in any shape, and the Indian corn meal shipped from America is not unfrequently mixed with pea-flour; even alone it makes good bread.

I write to-day to Sir Hugh Pigot about the floating dépôt at Long Island.

Our stores have arrived at Castletown Berehaven, and I have sent a supply from thence to Kenmare, in consequence of some disappointment which that Committee experienced.

We could not have more dépôts than now exist with any public advantage unless it be some temporary constabulary dépôts called for by some occasional emergency. If we had more, we could not keep them supplied, and it has taken much time and labour to bring these to their present state of completion.

They were in no case open too late, for in point of fact they were always open when the Committees could not be supplied by the trade.

At Sligo, we did not close them at all until the end of October, and then only when private enterprise commenced and the trade importation began to arrive.

Our prices, when we did sell, were always governed by those of Cork and Liverpool. We had no other system that we could safely follow, for if we had sold at lower prices, the trade would not have imported a single barrel.

I observe that the "Tartarus," the "Geyser," the "Emerald," and "Mercury," and the "Sphinx," are loading for Cork, there to receive their destination.

I shall send the largest to Long Island, and fill up all the Kerry dépôts, and any thing over to go to Killybeg, and of these details I shall apprise you.

Sir R. ROUTH to Mr. TREVELYAN.

The Castle, Dublin, January 19, 1847.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you, for the information of the Right Hon. my Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, copies of two further reports from Assistant Commissary-General Bishop, from Skibbereen, dated 15th and 16th instant.

And with reference to your letter of the 7th instant, I submit, also, a report from Mr. Bishop, on the subject of the two communications addressed to Sir George Grey, and transmitted in your communication referred to.

ENCLOSURE

Assistant Commissary-General BISHOP to Sir R. ROUTH.

Skibbereen, January 16, 1847.

I HAVE the honour to report, that I visited the Relief Committee at Bantry, on Tuesday last, and submitted the object of my visit to this part of the country, that of establishing soup kitchens. I further informed them of the extent to which I was authorized to meet any local subscriptions. There is one soup establishment in operation in the town of Bantry, producing 120 gallons daily. It is desirable that this quantity should be extended. The enclosed list of subscriptions from Bantry has this day reached me. It is not in form, I however send it forward, in preference to incurring the delay which would arise by sending it back to Bantry, where the poor-house is full, and consequently a great mass of the paupers is thrown upon the soup-relief.

At Glengarriff, and through the line of country to Ardara there is great distress and suffering, notwithstanding the large numbers employed upon the Public Works. In the barony

of Bere there is a greater proportion of the population employed on the roads, over 3000, than in any barony I have visited. The mountainous and rocky nature of the country, limits the engineer to particular localities, consequently many of the poor people have at least five miles of heavy mountain tract to walk daily from their cabins to the works, and the same returning. The sole dependence of these people was upon the potato. The quantity of corn produced in the barony has always been small. It is now nearly exhausted. At Castletown last week the markets were so completely emptied, that people who could afford it, had to send to Bantry, a distance of 35 miles for a loaf of bread. All classes there were suffering till the arrival of some vessels from Cork with provisions.

I have urged the very few residents at Glengarriff to use their best efforts to raise some subscriptions. I offered them 10*l.* from the "Anonymous Fund," and to double all they can raise by subscriptions. I was in hopes to have received a list from Glengarriff in time for this post.

At Ardribole, the rector has a small soup establishment in operation upon a private fund, which is doing much good. The distress is so great about Ardribole, that it is very desirable the "funds" should be increased. The rector is endeavouring to raise some subscription, but as he stands alone in his locality, I fear it will not be much. I therefore propose on receiving his list to recommend some additional assistance beyond the "pound for pound." Soup establishments at Glengarriff, and at Ardribole, cannot be too extensively encouraged.

At Castletown, I found a great want of unanimity in the Relief Committee. In fact, it is in such bad "working order" that I could not gain much information as to the actual extent of distress in the district. It has been, from all accounts, great, with some acute suffering, which the very opportune arrival of the "Dee" steamer from Cork, on Thursday last, with provisions, has checked. This barony is now so exclusively dependent upon foreign supplies, that it should be carefully watched.

There is a small soup establishment in operation at Castletown, supported by a private fund, which I regretted to observe for the first time, was the cause of much acrimonious discussion between the clergy of the two churches. So strong that I yet doubt whether my efforts to establish a soup kitchen upon a more extended footing will be met with sufficient unanimity to be of service. This is to be deplored, for there is a great extent of misery in the neighbourhood. I offered the Committee "pound for pound" of any sum they can raise by local subscriptions, and I will add 15*l.* from the "Anonymous Fund."

I have written to Lord Brandon, suggesting for the consideration of his Lordship, the expediency of appointing a District Committee for the east part of the Barony of Bere, from Glengarriff to Ardribole, to meet at the former place. The distance from Castletown to Glengarriff, 25 miles, is too great for the poor of the latter place to derive any relief from the Castletown Committee.

The difficulty of obtaining "boilers" for the "soup," is great, and comes at this moment an unfortunate delay—frequently of many weeks. This is very serious. If a few "iron boilers," varying in size from 60 to 120 gallons, could be sent direct from Liverpool to Cork, to be distributed to the Soup Committees as a part of the donation, it would afford great assistance. There is a "foundry" in Cork where some few may be perhaps procured. I will make inquiries there.

Throughout the Barony of Bere, as in most others I have visited, every description of labour, whether agricultural, the fisheries, or otherwise, is totally abandoned for the Public Works. The man who cannot get immediate employment upon a "road" starves upon expectation, rather than put hand to the soil, or launch a boat upon his own account.

Assistant Commissary-General BISHOP to Sir R. ROUTH.

Shillbreen, January 15, 1847.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your letter No. 7 B. (c. 1483.)

I duly received the letter of credit for £75 which accompanied your communication of the 2nd instant, No. 6, which sum will be thus appropriated.

To Baltimore	£25
„ Crookhaven	£25
„ Castletown	£15
„ Glengarriff	£10—£25

When I submitted to you the list of subscriptions received at Skull, on the 9th instant, your letter No. 7, of the 8th instant, suggesting that a portion of the above sum should be given to Skull, had not reached me.

Assistant Commissary-General BISHOP to Sir R. ROUTH.

Shillbreen, January 15, 1847.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th instant, (which has reached me this evening on my return from Berehaven), transmitting two enclosures addressed to the Right Honourable Sir George Grey, and calling upon me, by desire of the Lords of the Treasury, to report upon the statement set forth in these papers.

I beg leave to promise by stating that the gentlemen whose names are attached to the documents are of unquestionable respectability. One, the Dean of Cork, Dr. Newman, of whom I have some previous personal knowledge, is a mild, careful investigator of truth, and any statement from him upon the condition of the country, would, I think, be put forth with much

caution. The other gentleman, the Rev. Charles Caulfield, is the Protestant curate of "Craugh," about four miles from Skibbereen; he is much respected, and he is energetic in seeking for aid for the people of his neighbourhood.

Referring to the enclosure in the Dean of Cork's letter, the first paragraph relative to the poor-house is substantially correct, and corresponds with an official document recently put forth by the Board of Guardians on the occasion of closing of the poor-house, in which document the deaths are thus stated:—

From October 1, 1844, to January 7, 1845,	11
" " " 1846	10
" " " 1847	266

The Report made by me on the 9th instant, relative to Ballydehob and Skull, confirms the extent of distress stated by the dean to be prevailing in that locality. The same information relative to the enlargement of the burial-ground, and of the number of deaths, was also detailed to myself by Dr. Tiaill, the rector of Skull, on the 7th instant.

At Berehaven, yesterday, I heard from respectable sources of the many persons in the parish of Kikandoo, who have had little to sustain life, for some time, but boiled sea-weed. The present extent of Public Works, and the arrival of provisions from Cork has remedied this, though great distress still prevails in that district.

Referring to the Rev. Mr. Caulfield's statement (which I return numbered to facilitate reference.)

No. 1. Regarding the poor-house is correct.

No. 2. Men are especially employed to dig deeper graves than usual, for the number of bodies that are brought at all hours of the day or night for interment. Many of these bodies are without coffins, a small quantity of straw being wrapt round them.

No. 3. Dysentery is now more prevalent than fever, and more fatal.

No. 4. This is in Lord Carbery's property, and I am informed that the description is correct.

Nos. 5 and 6. The same detail which I find embodied in this paper, relative to the number of fever cases found in one small cabin, was brought by the Rev. Mr. Caulfield before the Skibbereen Relief Committee, on the 6th instant, and confirmed by the doctor, who had subsequently visited the cabins. It was to these cases I alluded in my Report of the 9th instant, and which led me to advise the Committee to appropriate a portion of their funds to aid such extreme destitution.

No. 7. At the same meeting, the dispensary doctor detailed the case of the dead body of the old man having been so long on the same pallet with the sick son.

No. 8. With the exception of the immediate neighbourhood of Skibbereen, there is but little food left in this part of the country.

No. 9. The district here alluded to is Skull, the scarcity of food certainly calls for early attention, though the position of the people is not quite so alarming as the writer anticipates.

The above assertions (Mr. Caulfield's) having been confirmed by persons of respectability, I do not doubt their correctness.

The severity of the season, unceasing rain with cold winds, adds greatly to the misery of these poor people, who have but little covering. The small portion of food they can procure from the trade is bad and adulterated, which doubtless contributes much to their physical sufferings.

The mortality in the rural districts is greatly increasing.

TREASURY MINUTE.

January 22, 1847.

WRITE to the Secretary to the Admiralty that their Lordships having had under their consideration the following two propositions, which have been submitted to them by the desire of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, with the view of adding to the existing resources for the relief of the distress in Ireland and Scotland, and having consulted Commissary-General Sir R. Routh on the subject of them, entirely approve of the measures proposed, and request that immediate directions may be given for carrying them into effect to the utmost extent that circumstances will allow.

First.—That dried peas and beans should be ground and mixed with wheaten or barley meal, in the proportion of half and half.

Secondly.—That the Government bakeries in the Victualling yards should be employed in the manufacture of whole wheaten meal biscuit, and that biscuit meal, of the usual quality for the supply of the navy, as well as the whole meal for the biscuits to be manufactured for the Relief service, should be purchased by contract, in order to leave the Government mills entirely free for grinding meal to be sent off in that shape.

Transmit a copy of this Minute to Sir R. Routh for his information.

MR. TREVELYAN to SIR R. ROUTH.

January 23, 1847.

I now proceed to write to you on the subject of boilers.

In the first place, the Admiralty have shipped fifty "coppers" on board the "Tartarus," from Woolwich and Sheerness, and as many more are to be put on board the same vessel at Portsmouth and Plymouth, after which, she will proceed to Cork to await your orders, and I presume that you will furnish the commander through Admiral Pigot, with a list of the places at which they are to be left on the southern and western coast of Ireland.

If more are required, we can have them manufactured at Woolwich, at the rate of from 20 to 30 a week, at an average cost of 4*l.* each.

You will see from the accompanying paper, marked No. 1, that the Ordnance can furnish us with 472 iron pots, besides lids, hooks and trivets, which are at present in store at eight military stations in Ireland. Pots of this description are stated to have been formerly in general use in the army, and are still used at stations where there are no cooking houses; but these 472 iron pots are *surplus*, and may, therefore, be placed at once *entirely* at your disposal, if you require them. They hold about eight gallons each.

Besides these, there is a further supply of iron pots in store at all the stations where there are no cooking stations, and these also will be available to the extent to which it may be ascertained that they are not likely to be soon required for the use of the troops.

Paper No. 2, contains a list of the barrack stations in Ireland where there are cooking houses, fitted up with boilers, and No. 3, shews the manner in which these boilers have, with the approbation of the Commander of the Forces, and the Master General and Board of Ordnance, been used for the purposes of Relief in the barracks at Clare Castle.

No 4, relates to a case in which a Relief Committee has been allowed to erect a shed for a soup kitchen, within a barrack enclosure.

A copy of the letter I am now writing to you will be sent through the Ordnance office, to the Respective officers in Dublin, who will be instructed to place the surplus iron pots at once at your disposal, and to give you such further assistance in the modes above indicated, as may be consistent with the wants of the troops, on which subject they will act in communication with you, and under the directions of the Commander of the Forces.

It is proposed to make a free gift of these Naval and Ordnance boilers and iron pots, or rather of such of them as may be finally handed over to you, to those Relief Committees which most require them, and we must go on until every Relief Committee in Ireland is, in one way or another, provided with a proper apparatus for cooking.

Since writing the above, Major Jebb has brought me the accompanying letter, No. 5, in which he suggests, that meal might be converted into a stiff pudding in the barrack boilers, in which state it might be conveyed by the people to their own homes.

Be so kind as to furnish a copy of the paper, No. 2, to the respective officers of the Ordnance.

I take this opportunity of mentioning that Mr. Corcoran, the mill-stone maker of Mark-lane, has gone at my request to France, with an order for 50 French handmills with fly-wheels, which, I am convinced, will prove more useful than either the quern or our English plantation mills.

These handmills should, I think, be sold at cost price to the Relief Committees, and we can get more if required.

The Navy "coppers" are much larger than the Ordnance iron pots.

A RETURN of all Her Majesty's SHIPS and VESSELS which have been and are employed in the Service of provisioning Ireland and Scotland; with their Tonnage, Horse-power (if Steamers), and Number of Men.

Date of Order to proceed on the Service.	Name.	Tonn.	Horse-Power.	Men.	Date of Order to proceed on the Service.	Name.	Tonn.	Horse-Power.	Men.
21 Aug. 1846	Athena	465	130	46		Brought forward	14,558	3,180	1,381
31 "	Modagasco	1,167	88	51	4 Jan. 1847	Dragon	1,279	250	169
8 Sept. "	Connet	528	28	13		Boldog	1,123	240	150
10 "	Fowley	533	228	67		Ant (lighter)	382	130	54
14 "	Dur	734	298	68		Centaur	1,269	340	102
14 "	Swallow	250	70	12		Cockatrice	182	55	33
28 "	Myosodon	374	150	42		Emu (leader)	85	25	15
28 "	Pluto	365	100	42		Mercury (leader)	79	25	15
28 "	Stentor	243	160	61		Looby (lighter)	1,224	250	169
8 Oct. "	Achæon	729	170	60		Geyser	1,354	250	169
2 "	Blazer	517	120	69		Admiral (lighter)	602	250	169
2 "	Tartarus	523	138	50		Ugaut	238	26	15
2 "	Looby	387	158	64		Zephyr	237	100	18
2 "	Duke	200	100	45		Deven (lighter)	22	25	15
7 "	Alon	1,077	80	40		Emu (lighter)	22	25	15
7 "	Belshazzar	845	80	40		Oden	1,385	250	169
10 "	Andromeda	1,285	80	40		Terrible	1,347	250	169
15 "	Andromeda	717	80	30		Ramsey	1,053	250	169
15 "	Stentor	370	250	160		Rattler	888	250	110
8 Nov. "	Blazer	513	228	60		Medea	335	250	160
1 Dec. "	Duchess	249	150	48		Aren	350	170	40
1 "	Cashmere	232	180	54					
4 Jan. 1847	Avenger	1,444	650	169					
	Counted forward	34,558	3,180	1,381		Total	25,232	5,273	3,124

Purchases made through the agency of Mr. Erichsen, as shown by the following Documents, Nos. 1 to 5.

No. 1.

RETURN of INDIAN CORN purchased and arrived in Great Britain up to the present time.

Quantity Bought.	When Bought.	Price.	Where Bought.	Destination.	Remarks.
5781 quethers	21 Aug. 1846	31s. 6d. to 34s. 6d. per qth.	London	Sligo	Shipped from London, per "Sageant"
690 "	26 "	32s. 6d.	London	Sligo	London, per "Hannay"
770 "	26 "	31s.	Liverpool	Westport	Liverpool, per "John's"
765 "	27 "	32s.	Manchester	Sligo	Manchester, per "The Green"
518 "	28 "	32s.	Liverpool	Sligo	Liverpool, per "John's"
238 "	28 "	32s.	Liverpool	Sligo	and Elms
273 "	28 "	32s.	Liverpool	Sligo	Liverpool, per "Larkin"
378 "	28 "	34s. to 35s.	London	King's Mill, Rathfriland, Admiralty Mills, Bedford.	Liverpool, per "Margaret"
508 "	28 "	35s.	London	Sligo	Ground into meal, and afterwards shipped to Dublin.
1,388 "	31 "	35s. 6d.	Trinity	Sligo	Ground into meal, and afterwards shipped to Dublin.
9,340 "	2 Sept.	35s.	Trinity	Sligo	Shipped from Trinity, per "Mary Stuart"
1,503 "	14 "	41s. 2d.	Venice	Sligo	Trinity, per "Dundas"
1,368 "	18 "	42s. 6d.	Venice	Sligo	Venice, per "Surrey"
685 "	14 "	45s.	London	Galway	Venice, per "Medusa"
370 "	18 "	45s. & 47s.	London	Plymouth	London, per "Maria"
423 "	18 "	42s.	London	Plymouth	Catharine
636 "	26 "	41s.	London	Plymouth	London, per "Kate"
630 "	26 "	42s. 6d.	Antwerp	Plymouth	London, per "Guthrie"
300 "	26 "	43s. 6d.	Antwerp	Plymouth	London, per "Guthrie"
718 "	29 "	44s.	Card	Westport	Antwerp, per "Eli"
1,945 "	29 "	45s.	United States	Galway	Antwerp, per "Charles"
861 "	2 Oct.	46s. 6d.	Genoa	Westport	Card, per "Plymouth"
494 "	5 "	46s.	Antwerp	Plymouth	Card, per "Lepanto", part of the Consol of 20th Sept. for 5000 qrs.
732 "	5 "	46s.	Antwerp	Plymouth	Shipped from Genoa, per "Dove"
454 "	5 "	43s. & 44s.	Antwerp	Plymouth	Antwerp, per "Hercules"
	5 "	42s. 6d.	Antwerp	Plymouth	Antwerp, per "Thames"
			Antwerp	Plymouth	Being
			Antwerp	Plymouth	Antwerp, per "Elizabeth", part of 186 qrs. brought 2th Oct. on loan of the remainder shipped to arrive per "Alfred"
1,662 "	13 "	47s. 6d.	Venice	Plymouth	from America.
1,455 "	5 "	44s. 6d.	Genoa	Liverpool	Venice, per "Baltimore"
1,671 "	31 "	52s.	New York	Sligo	Genoa, per "Hercules"
1,301 "	31 "	53s.	New York	Ballin	Shipped to Liverpool, per "Moutons"
9,697 "	31 "	55s.	New York	Galway	and transhipped to Sligo.
417 "	9 "	48s.	Antwerp	Plymouth	Shipped to Liverpool, per "Suffolk"
1,307 "	6 Nov.	57s. 6d.	Liverpool	Sligo	and transhipped to Ballin.
188 "	6 "	58s. & 59s.	Liverpool	Westport	Shipped from New York, per "Moutons"
936 "	14 "	51s. 6d.	Antwerp	Plymouth	Shipped from Antwerp, per "Alfred"
1,426 "	28 Dec.	63s.	London	Plymouth	Shipped per "Elizabeth"
33,038 quethers					Shipped from Liverpool, per "Dove"
					Antwerp, per "Hercules"
					Transhipped as "Washington" to Plymouth.

No. 2.

RETURN of INDIAN CORN purchased, but not yet arrived in Great Britain.

Quantity Purchased.	When Purchased.	Price.	Where from.	Destination.	Remarks.
1,000 quarters	15 Sept. 1896	48s. 6d. & 50s. per quarter	Trinidad	Sligo	Shipped per "Joshua" Daily expected to arrive. Documents received.
1,207 "	23 "	48s. 6d.	Venice	Sligo	"Carolina" Daily expected to arrive. Documents received.
1,208 "	2 Oct.	44s. 6d.	Manilla	Galway	"Leo" Daily expected to arrive. Documents received.
1,212 "	2 "	42s. "	Greece	Kilrush	"Suzanne" Documents received.
1,119 "	13 "	47s.	Manilla	" "	"Marchmont of Escalabon" in lieu of the "Royal Oak" Documents returned.
311 "	22 Nov.	42s.	Lepthorn	" "	These two corporations in lieu of the "Elys" cargo per "Beacon" Documents received.
315 "	"	42s.	Lepthorn	" "	" "
1,119 "	3 Sept.	36s.	Trinidad	" "	The delivery of this cargo is now due, but another month has been allowed the seller. Shipped per "Magnolia" from Ancona. Documents received.
1,000 "	18 "	41s.	United States	Sligo and Galway	To be shipped in December.
1,000 "	29 "	42s. 6d.	Greece	" "	1,552 qrs. shipped per "Regina" Documents received.
1,212 "	29 "	40s. & 42s.	United States	Sligo and Galway	Contract of 29th September for 2,000 qrs., 1,845 qrs. having arrived per "Lepanto."
1,200 "	2 Oct.	43s. 6d.	Greece and Manilla . .	" "	To be shipped in January.
1,000 "	3 "	40s.	Danube	" "	" " per "Darina," on her way out.
1,000 "	5 "	38s., 39s., & 40s.	Danube, Constantinople, or Mediterranean . .	" "	" " in March, April, or May.
1,100 "	8 "	40s.	Danube	" "	" " per "Suzanne" on her way out.
1,200 "	9 "	44s. 6d.	Trinidad	" "	1,550 qrs. shipped by the "Jana" Documents received for this vessel.
1,100 "	12 "	47s.	Lepthorn	" "	To be shipped by a vessel on her way out.
1,100 "	24 "	47s.	United States	" "	" " before 1st April.
1,450 "	30 "	47s. 6d.	Manilla	" "	To be shipped in the spring.
1,200 "	23 November	42s.	Danube	" "	" "
1,200 "	23 "	41s.	Danube	" "	" "
1,200 "	23 "	32s. and 40s.	Danube	" "	" "
1,000 to 1,200 "	23 "	41s.	Danube, Constantinople, or Mediterranean . .	" "	" "
1,000 to 1,200 "	1 December	42s.	Danube	" "	" "
30 "	17 "	50s. and 42s. 6d.	United States	" "	Shipped per "Africa" 300 quarters of this cargo, taken to complete the 800 quarters bought 5th October, part of which arrived per "Euzabeth."
1,000 to 1,200 "	28 "	56s.	Salonica	" "	To be shipped in January or February.
1,000 "	29 "	55s. and 56s.	Salonica and Naples . .	" "	Shipped per "Pavlos" Documents received; vessel arrived at Cork.
870 "	30 "	55s.	Vina	Plymouth	Shipped per "Vesta" Documents received; vessel arrived at Cork.
800 "	30 "	55s.	Oporto	Plymouth	To be shipped in January or February.
1,000 "	30 "	55s.	Trinidad	" "	" " on 21 February by a vessel.
1,000 "	1 Jan. 1897	70s.	Spain	Plymouth	" " in February, March, or April.
1,000 "	1 "	52s. to 57s.	United States	Plymouth	Shipped per "Hazel" to Liverpool, for transshipment to Plymouth.
500 "	2 "	52s. 3d.	Liverpool	Plymouth	At Liverpool, and being transhipped to Plymouth.
500 "	"	52s. 3d.	Liverpool	Plymouth	Shipped from Baltimore to London, per "Raynes" to be transhipped.
319 "	3 "	70s.	Liverpool	Plymouth	To be shipped in the spring.
100 to 200 "	4 "	62s.	Baltimore	Plymouth	" "
1,000 "	15 "	48s., 50s., 51s.	Danube	" "	" "
11,200 quarters.					

No. 3

RETURN OF INDIAN CORN MEAL AND BARLEY MEAL, purchased up to Date.

Quantity purchased.	When Bought.	Price.	Where Bought.	Destination.	Remarks.
Indian Corn Meal.					
800 sacks . . .	31 Sept. 1846	28s. per 240 lbs.	Liverpool	Westport . .	Shipped from Liverpool, per "Phoenix Royal."
900 barrels . . .	17 October 41	27s. 6d. per barrel.	Liverpool	Westport . .	"Liverpool, per "Athens"
2,003 "	" "	28s. "	New York	Galeway . .	"New York, per "Hibernia"
701 "	6 November	27s. and 28s. "	Liverpool	Westport . .	"Liverpool, per "Boreas"
2,883 "	9 December	28s. 6d. to 31s. 6d. "	Liverpool	Limerick . .	Arrived at Liverpool, and being then shipped to Limerick,
1,668 "	17 "	28s. "	Baltimore, United States	" "	Shipped from Baltimore, per "Athens," and daily expected.
1,993 "	23 "	31s. 6d. "	United States . . .	Limerick . .	"Philadelphia, per "Venus," and daily expected.
2,893 "	31 "	31s. 6d. to 34s. 6d. "	New York	Limerick . .	Shortly expected at Liverpool, to be reshipped to Limerick
2,393 "	31 "	31s. 6d. to 44s. 6d. "	Philadelphia	Limerick . .	Shipped from Philadelphia, per "Globe," and daily expected.
1,000 "	31 "	31s. 6d. to 34s. 6d. "	New York	Limerick . .	"New York, per "Mercury," and daily expected.
130 "	31 "	31s. 6d. to 34s. 6d. "	Liverpool	Limerick . .	At Liverpool, and being shipped to Limerick.
3,000 loads . . .	31 "	40s. to 42s. per load.	Liverpool	Limerick . .	Ground at Liverpool, and being shipped to Limerick.
1,900 barrels . .	1 Jan. 1847	32s. per barrel.	New York	" "	Shipped per "Delaware" to Liverpool, for transshipment to Ireland.
2,000 to 3,000 barrels	1 "	31s. "	Philadelphia	Limerick . .	Shipped from Philadelphia to Cork, per "Globe."
1,100 barrels . .	2 "	34s. "	Liverpool	Limerick . .	At Liverpool, and being shipped to Limerick.
Barley Meal.					
3,235 barrels . .	3 September	38s. "	Copenhagen	Dublin . . .	Arrived at Leth, and shipped via Glasgow to Dublin.
1,000 "	7 October	24s. "	Copenhagen	Greenock . .	Partly arrived.
3,000 "	22 "	32s. 9d. "	Copenhagen	" "	2000 barrels arrived, and shipped to Dublin; remainder daily expected.
500 "	6 "	34s. "	Hamburg	H M store-ship, "Belvedere"	" "
8,736 barrels.					
Wheat Meal.					
60 tons	6 November	15s. 12s. per ton.	London	Belfast . . .	Shipped from London, per "Providence"
20 "	8 "	16s. 16s. "	London	Chilfen . . .	"London, per "Charles Lane."
160 "	28 December	17s. "	London	" "	" "
300 tons.					
Rye Meal.					
2,000 tons . . .	11 Jan. 1847	14s. 10s. "	St. Petersburg . . .	" "	To be shipped from St. Petersburg but upon water, about the end of May.
5,000 "	15 "	14s. 16s. "	St. Petersburg . . .	" "	Ditto.
4,000 tons.					

No. 4.

RETURN of BARLEY purchased and forwarded to be ground into meal to the various Mills.

Quantity Bought.	When Bought.	Price.	Quantity sent to each Mill.				Remarks.
			Adelphi Mill.	Releigh Mill.	King's Mill.	Royal Vauxhall Yard, Gosport.	
5,603 quarters.	Up to 25th Oct., 1846 . . .	37s. to 38s. per qn.	2,209 qn.	1,254 qn.	347 qn.	..	Ground into meal and shipped to Dublin.
1,923 "	From 26th Oct. to 5th Nov., 1846	38s. to 40s. "	1,228 "	453 "	306 "	..	Ditto ditto.
216 "	2nd November, 1846 . . .	38s. "	..	..	..	370 qn.	Ditto ditto.
1,684 "	From 11th to 26th Nov., 1846 . .	38s. to 41s. "	1,563 "	883 "	370 "	..	Ditto ditto.
1,900 "	From 26th Nov. to 5th Dec., 1846	40s. to 42s. 6d. "	305 "	1,294 "	320 "	..	Ditto ditto.
			5,104 qn.	3,003 qn.	1,203 qn.		
1,648 "	11th December, 1846 . . .	38s. "	..	..	..	..	Now being distributed to the mills.
1,517 "	7th December, 1846 . . .	38s. "	..	..	..	1,217 qn.	
1,634 "	From 4th to 31st Dec., 1846 . .	39s. to 45s. "	400 "	1,142 "	390 "	765 "	
1,400 "	5th January, 1847 . . .	38s. "	..	..	..	..	Salonica barley to be shipped by a vessel on her way out.
1,179 "	23rd November, 1846 . . .	42s. 6d. "	..	..	..	..	Norfolk barley, remainder of the 2500 quarters not yet arrived in London, but daily expected.—About 300 quarters more good.
1,643 "	28 January, 1847 . . .	50s. 50s. "	..	..	..	..	In London, and being distributed to the mills.
3,517 quarters.							

No. 5.

RETURN of WHEAT, PEASE, and other Grain, purchased up to this Date.

Quantity Purchased.	When Purchased.	Price.	Where Bought.	Destination.	Remarks.
Wheat.					
1,100 to 4,900 qrs.	22d Oct. 1846	45s. per quarter.	Alexandria . . . .	..	To be shipped in January or February.
100 "	23rd "	45s. "	London	Dublin . .	Egyptian wheat ground into meal and shipped to Dublin.
1,000 to 2,000 "	" "	45s. "	Alexandria . . . .	..	To be shipped in January or February.
1,000 "	24th "	45s. "	Malta	Sligo . .	Shipped from Malta, per "Falconer."—Arrived.
6,033 quarters.					
Peas.					
523 quarters.	2nd Nov.	50s. to 55s. per quarter.	London	H.M. store-ship "Belvedere."	Shipped from London, per "Providence" and "Chester Lane."
600 "	6th "	45s. "	London	Children & Belvidere.	
1,483 "	6th Jan. 1847	54s. to 56s. "	London. . .	..
3,483 quarters.					
Rice.					
1,660 bags.	16th Jan. 1847	22s. per cwt. in bond.	Bengal . . . .	..	Shipped per "Duchess of Northumberland."
760 "	" "	23s. "	Bengal . . . .	..	" " " " " " " " " " " "
1,694 "	" "	22s. 6d. to 23s. 6d. "	London	H.M.S. "Centaur."	Shipping per "Centaur."
216 "	" "	23s. "	London . . . .	..
620 "	17th "	21s. 6d. "	London . . . .	..
4,900 "	" "	22s. 6d. "	Bengal . . . .	..	Shipped per "Sinh." "
8,563 bags, or about 420 tons.					
Grain for Seed.					
473 qrs. rye seed.	17th Nov. 1847	Various prices.	London, Hamburg, and Rotterdam.	Dublin . .	Shipped from London, per "Prince of Wales."
315 "	21st "	" "	London	Dublin . .	" " " " " " " " " " " "
264 " bone.	" "	37s. to 40s. per quarter.	London	Dublin . .	" " " " " " " " " " " "
232 "	11th Dec.	36s. 6d. to 40s. "	Scotland	Dublin . .	" " " " " " " " " " " "
129 "	5th Jan. 1847	38s. 6d. to 39s. 3d. "	Scotland	Dublin . .	" " " " " " " " " " " "
175 "	" "	38s. 3d. to "	Scotland	Dublin . .	Partly shipped, per "Antelope."
798 qrs. rye, 500 qrs. bone.					
230 lbs. pea seed.	11th Dec. 1846	" "	Rotterdam	Dublin . .	Arrived in London, and being shipped per steamer to Dublin.

RECAPITULATION

Total of Indian corn purchased and arrived in Great Britain, about	Qrs.	22,038½
Total of Indian corn purchased, but not yet arrived in Great Britain, about	Qrs.	79,293
Total of barley purchased and forwarded to the mills for grinding	Qrs.	22,917
Total of Indian corn meal purchased, 309 sacks, 13,217 barrels, 2,499 loads, about	Tons.	2,359
Total of barley meal purchased, 8,736 barrels, about	Qrs.	760
Total of wheat meal purchased	Qrs.	290
Total of rye meal purchased	Qrs.	4,000
Total of Egyptian wheat purchased, about	Qrs.	6,683½
Total of peas purchased, about	Qrs.	2,648½
		175,386 or about 22,000 tons.
Total of rice brought, and arrived in London	Qrs.	2,182 bags, or about 155 tons
Total of rice brought to arrive	Qrs.	6,499 " " 465 " "
		8,681 bags 35,630 tons.
Grain for Seed.—Total of rye purchased	Qrs.	799 quarters
Total of oats purchased	Qrs.	869 " "
Total of straw purchased	Qrs.	230 loads
Wheat unsifted.		

London, January 13, 1847.

R. ERICSSON.

PURCHASES MADE AT MALTA.

MEMORANDUM showing the efforts of Grain accepted by the Commissariat from the commencement to this day.

	Indian Corn.	Barley.	Chick Peas in bags of 100 lbs.	Remarks.
Grain accepted between 17th October, and 26th December, 1846	Sacks.	Sacks.	Sacks.	
	13,170	3,217	1,900	
Received by Commissariat, and delivered at Naval stores-office	4,638½	..	..	(66½ Sacks out of 4,036½ have been ground into meal producing 226,743 lbs. of meal.
Do do do at Naval stores-office	..	1,908½	..	(270 Sacks out of 2,648½ have been ground into meal, producing 81,280 lbs. of meal.
Do do do at Commissariat	..	719½	..	
Rejected, not being acceptable to sample	..	569	..	
Received by Commissariat, and shipped on board the "Robert"	..	..	893½	
Remains due to be received	14,333½	..	101½	N.B.—The above meal shipped on board the "Robert."
Total	28,170	3,217	1,900	

RECAPITULATION.

Indian Corn	..	13,170 Sacks or Quarters, or about 3,684 Tons.
Barley	..	3,217 " " 613½
Chick Peas	..	1,900 " " 230 " "
Total	..	6,477½ " "

Malta, December 20, 1846.

D. INGRAM, Deputy-Commissary-General.

RETURN of SUPPLIES furnished from the Naval Victualling Stores at Deptford and Portsmouth, so far as Accounts have been received, between the 15th August, 1846, and the 16th January, 1847.

Articles.	When Supplied.	Price.	Destination.	Remarks.
Peas . . . { 1000 Bushels, equal to 125 Quarters }	15th November, 1846 .	£. s. d. 2 9 1 per Quarter .	Scotland, per H. M. S. " Belvidere "	Total. 33½ Supplied from Deptford.
Oatmeal . . . { 270 Bushels, equal to 11 14 8 10 T. C. Q. No. }	" " "	15 9 8 per Ton .	Do do do	18½ " "
Biscuit . . . { 12,544 lbs., equal to 122 Cwt. }	16th January, 1847 .	8 18 4 per Cwt. .	Ireland, per " Mersey," Tender .	18½ Supplied from Portsmouth.
Do do . . . { 12,708 lbs., equal to 124 Cwt. }	" " "	0 18 4 per Cwt. .	Do do, per " Rosedale," Tender .	19 " "
			Equal to about	83½ Tons.

16th January, 1847.

JAMES MEEK.

RETURN of BISCUIT provided for the Service of the Army in Ireland; but which not being required for that Service, has been delivered from the Ordnance Stores in aid of the Relief Operations:—

Biscuit 1,251,486 pounds, or about 558½ tons.

GENERAL RECAPITULATION of SUPPLIES provided by Government in aid of the Relief Operations in Ireland and Scotland, since the 15th August, 1846:—

	Tons.
Remains in the several depots in Ireland on the above date . . .	2,515½
Purchases since made through the agency of Mr. Erskine . . .	39,639
Meal ground at Malta, and other supplies provided by the Commissariat . . .	4,477½
at first station . . .	
Supplies furnished from the Naval Victualling Stores at Deptford and Portsmouth . . .	83½
Biscuit delivered from the Ordnance Stores in Ireland . . .	558½
Total . . .	47,655½

Which, calculating 5 quarters to the ton, are equal to 218,274 quarters.