

**FIRST REPORT OF THE CENTRAL
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, INDIAN
FAMINE CHARITABLE RELIEF
FUND, 1897, FROM JANUARY TO
JULY 1897**

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First Report of the Central Executive Committee, Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund, 1897,
from January to July 1897 by Various

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VARIOUS

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FIRST REPORT
OF THE
CENTRAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,
INDIAN FAMINE CHARITABLE RELIEF
FUND, 1897,
FROM
JANUARY TO JULY 1897.

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PREFACE.

THIS, the Central Executive Committee's **First Report**, deals with the operations of the Fund up to 31st July, 1897. The accounts and statistics, showing the growth and financial position of the Central Fund have been given up to 31st August (*vide* Appendices C and D). It has been found, however, impossible to bring up the Provincial figures of expenditure to a later date than 31st July. On that date, it will be seen (from Appendix E) that the receipts of the Central and Provincial Committees combined (including in the latter subscriptions raised by Local Committees and ear-marked for their own provinces or districts) amounted to R1,60,81,820-6-4 and the expenditure to R90,11,154-6-11, leaving a balance of R6,38,281-10-4 with the Central Committee (including an investment of 6 lakhs of rupees on behalf of orphans, which has been accounted for as expenditure), of R27,96,830-1-5 in the hands of Provincial Committees and Divisional Commissioners, and R36,35,554-3-8 with District Committees, or a total balance of R70,70,665-15-5. Details will be found in Appendix F. The balances include large grants, amounting to R23,55,000, made by the Central Committee on the 20th July.

Part I of the Report gives an account of the formation of the Fund, and of the **Central Executive Committee's** work during the period specified. **Part II**, relating to **Provincial Committees**, contains abstracts and in some cases complete returns of expenditure in the different Provinces, together with notices of the distressed tracts and a statement of the main objects on which the Fund has been expended in each Province up to July 31st. **Part III** deals with the work of **District Com-**

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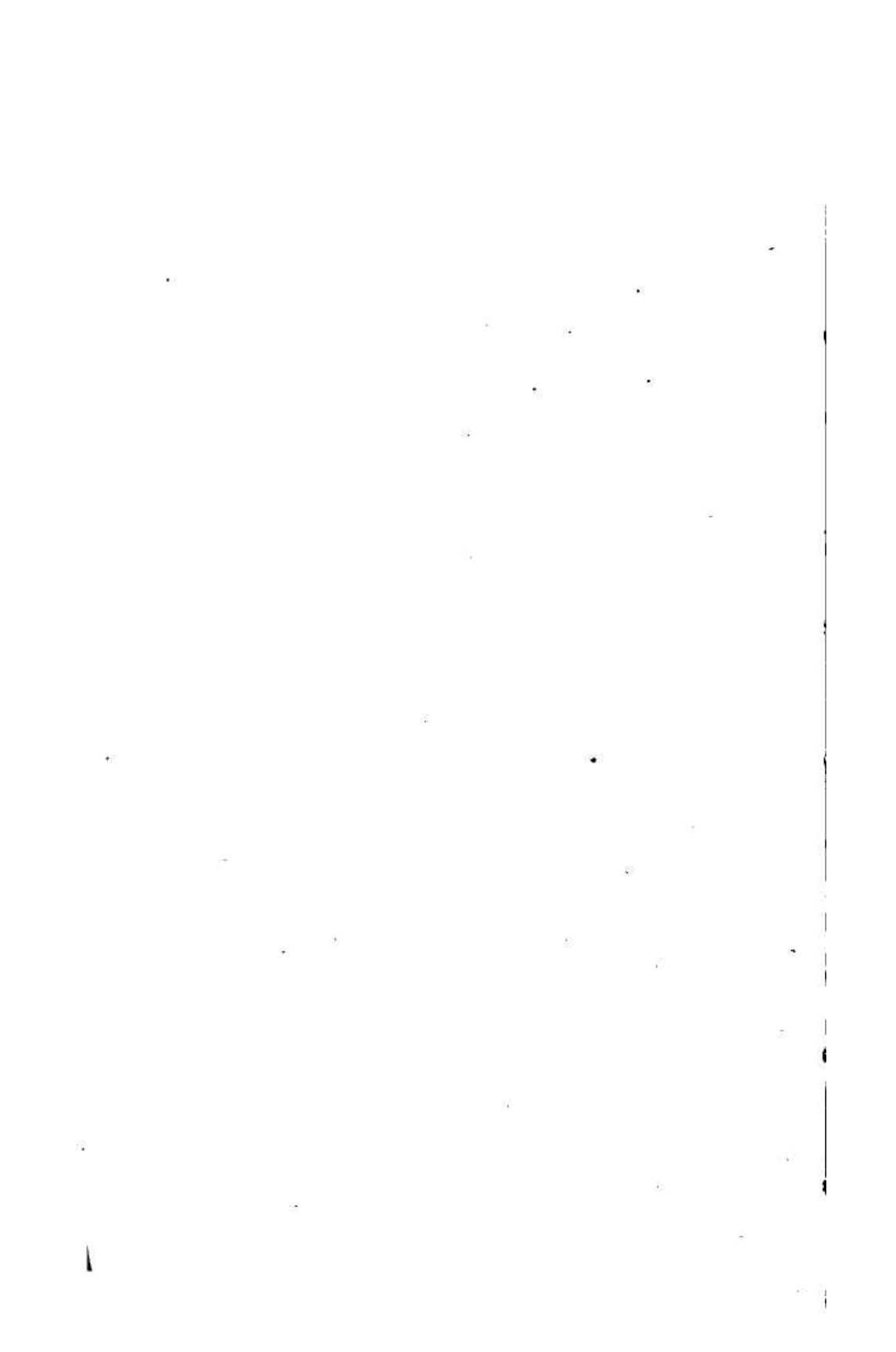
mittees, and of those who actually expended the Fund, and describes the various sub-heads of relief, classified under the four main objects of the Fund, as defined by the Government of India,* and illustrated by extracts from original narratives, showing how the work was carried out in practice and the measures taken to prevent waste or abuse.

At the date when this issues from the Press, expenditure from the Fund is still actively proceeding, as the autumn crops are not yet in ear and famine prices continue to prevail. But it may be hoped that by the 31st October the Famine itself will have much diminished in intensity, and that Government and Charitable Relief operations will, in a great part of the distressed areas, be almost at an end. Confidently trusting that this anticipation will be realised, the Central Executive Committee are now arranging to collect detailed figures of all persons relieved, and accurate accounts of receipts and expenditure from the commencement of the Fund up to the end of October, and they have asked for a report from each Provincial Committee, describing the results of their own work and that of the District Committees subordinate to them during that period. These will form the materials of the Central Committee's **Second** and principal report, which it is hoped will be issued in January, 1898. An account of the provision finally made for orphans who have been left destitute at the conclusion of the Famine will, it is expected, find a place in that Report.

The **Third** and last report of the Central Executive Committee will be very brief, giving final accounts of receipts and expenditure and of the disposal of any balances that may remain. They trust that circumstances will admit of its being issued in the spring of 1898.

* See page 3 of Report.

The present report is now submitted, because more than one-half of the Fund has been actually expended, and the Central Executive Committee desire to lose no time in placing before the General Committee and the subscribers some account of the work that has been done. Its appearance has been slightly delayed, owing to the late receipt of some of the Provincial accounts.



CONTENTS.

PART I.

THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

	PAGE.
Cause of the Famine	1
Protective Railways	" 1
Precautions taken beforehand	2
Numbers relieved by Government	" 2
Government of India's policy in regard to Charitable aid	3
The "four objects" to which Charity may be devoted in Famine	" 3
Viceroy welcomes Local Charity on October 15th, 1896	4
Viceroy accepts invitation to a public meeting in Calcutta	5
Marquis of Salisbury's views upon appeals to England for help	6
Public meeting of 14th January, 1897	7
Organisation for collecting and administering Charitable Fund as set out by the Government of India	" 7
Viceroy's speech defining sphere of work of different committees	8
Appointment of Central Executive Committee	9
Appeal for funds	11
Mansion House meeting	" 11
Assistance offered to Committee	" 11
Earliest subscriptions	12
Formation of Provincial Committees	" 12
Growth of the Fund	14
Distribution of the Fund "on account"	15
Large grants of March 22nd	" 15
Reason for not making larger grants at first	16
Ear-marked funds	" 16
Deputation of Vice-Chairman to visit Provinces and report on their needs	17
Colonel Ottley's illness and resignation	18
Second large distribution in May	" 18
Second tour of Vice-Chairman	19
Notes of his Tours	" 19
Further distribution of Funds	" 19
Third large distribution in July	" 19
Investment of six lakhs as provision for orphans	20
Further ear-marked funds	21
Total distribution up to 31st July	" 21
Total assets of Committees up to 31st July	22
Distribution of clothes and gifts in kind	" 22
Relations with Provincial Committees	23
Appointment of Examiners of Accounts	" 23
Use of Missionary and other agencies	24
Grants to Native States	" 24
Loans from the Fund	" 24
Arrangements with Local Governments for maintenance of orphans	" 24
Meetings of Central Executive Committee	" 24

PART II.

PROVINCIAL COMMITTEES.

Provincial Reports	25
Wide scope for Charitable Relief	" 25