

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Marine DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.

511

Press

Mis.

Dated

5. 12.

185

Not to be folded or roughly handled

16/11/20

Fort Saint George, Marine Consultation, 8th December 1857

No. 9. From J. J. FRANKLIN, Esq., Secretary Marine Board; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 13th November 1857, No. 3933.

SIR,

I have the honor by desire of the Marine Board, to acknowledge the receipt of Extract Minutes Consultation, of the 27th July last, No. 292, on the subject of the Madras Light as a guide to avoid the dangers of the Pulicat Shoal, and to express their regret that so long a time should have been allowed to elapse before they have submitted the opinion therein called for. They must solicit the forbearance of Government on the plea of the press of business consequent on the continual movements of Troops, Cattle and Public Stores by Sea, during the last six months.

2. The question to be considered is whether a small green or red Light between Ennore and Pulicat would be advisable. The proposal which is Lieutenant Taylor's, is looked upon with favor by the Government and there can be no question that it would be of advantage to Merchant Vessels trading up and down the Coast. It is evident however that the Madras Light can be distinguished, if carefully looked for, from such parts of the Pulicat Shoal as are dangerous to the Vessel from which the look out is kept. According to Lieutenant Taylor's calculations, a large Merchant Vessel could see the Light 20 miles off; or a mile to the North of the Northern danger having $3\frac{1}{2}$ fathoms or 21 feet over it at low water; and although it would not be discerned so readily from a smaller one, it must be borne in mind that the spot which is dangerous to a large Vessel might not be so to one of less size and draught of water.

3. Lieutenant Taylor's distances also may admit of some modification. Refraction will cause an object to be seen when it is actually below the horizon, and moreover the brilliancy of the Madras Light is such that the reflection upwards can be seen for some time before the actual rays of the light reach the eye.

4. Nevertheless the Board view the proposal as worthy of consideration. Navigators are frequently not so careful as they might be, and consequently the Madras Light although discernible when a good look out is kept, may be unheeded by many until too close to the dangers to admit of escape from them. The Board would therefore recommend that Lieutenant Taylor's proposition should be adopted, and that a green Light of the 3rd Class which could be seen at about 8 or 9 miles' distance be shewn from the old Flagstaff at Pulicat when it would be a sufficient guide against all dangers until the Madras Light was sufficiently obvious to the most careless Mariner.

5. The Board recommend the Flagstaff at Pulicat as the site of the Light in preference to the projecting point proposed by Lieutenant Taylor as they think that it might there be kept in a state of greater efficiency than at a retired spot away from local observation.

(Signed) J. J. FRANKLIN,
Secretary.

P. S.—The Board desire me likewise to suggest that application should be made to Colonel J. T. Smith of the Madras Engineers now in England to undertake the preparation of the Lantern, and to favor them with his opinion as to the best description of Oil to be used.

(Signed) J. J. FRANKLIN,
Secretary.

No. 10. ORDER THEREON, No. 511; dated 5th December 1857.

In the foregoing letter the Marine Board report on the proposition of Lieutenant Taylor of the Indian Navy to have a small Green or Red Light on a column 33 feet above the Sea, placed on the projecting point between Pulicat and Ennore, to guard Vessels against the dangers of the Pulicat Shoal.

2. The Board view the proposal as worthy of consideration, observing that there can be no question that it would be of advantage to Merchant Vessels trading up and down the Coast; and

Fort Saint George, Marine Consultation, 8th December 1857.

they recommend that a Green Light of the 3rd Class be shown from the old Flagstaff at Pulicat, where it would be a sufficient guide against all danger, and where it might be kept in a state of greater efficiency than at a retired spot.

3. In a Postscript to their letter the Board suggest that application should be made to Colonel Smith of the Engineers now in England to undertake the preparation of the Lantern, and to give his opinion as to the best description of Oil to be used. The Government can see no necessity for a reference to Colonel Smith on these points, which would only cause further and unnecessary delay. They think that such a Lantern as is now proposed can be made up at the Arsenal and that the Oil used at the Madras Light House would do as well for it; and they direct that measures be accordingly taken, in communication with the Inspector General of Ordnance, for the construction, in the Arsenal here, of a Light of the description required.

4. The Government approve of the Light being shown from the Flagstaff at Pulicat as recommended by the Marine Board; and they will be prepared to submit, for the sanction of the Supreme Government, such Establishment, &c., as may be considered necessary for the charge and maintenance of the Light.

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be, and consequently the Madras light although discernible when a good look out is kept, may be unheeded by many until too close to the dangers to admit of escape from them. The Board would therefore recommend that Lieutenant Taylor's proposition should be adopted, and that a green light of the third class which could be seen at about 8 or 9 miles distance be shewn from the old flagstaff at Pulicat when it would be a sufficient guide against all dangers until the Madras light was sufficiently obvious to the most careless mariner.

5 The Board recommend the flagstaff at Pulicat as the site of the light in preference to the projecting point proposed by Lieutenant Taylor as they think that it might there be kept in a state of greater efficiency than at a retired spot away from local observation.

Madras
Marine Board Office
13th November 1857.

I have the honor to be
Sir,

Yours Most Obedient Servant

~~from Ben Sin~~
Secretary

P. S. — The Board desire me likewise
to

2. The Board view
the proposal as worthy
of consideration, observing
that there can be no
question that it would
be of advantage to her.
-chant

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Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
under date 5.th December 1857.

Read letter from the
Marine Board:

(dated 13th Nov. 1854. Hooper.)

In the foregoing let-
ter the Marine Board
report on the proposition
of Lieut. Taylor of the In-
dian Navy to have a small
Green or Red Light on a
column 30 feet above the
sea, placed on the project-
ing point between Pulic-
cet and Cunnore, to guard
vessels against the dan-
gers of the Pulicat Shoal.

2. The Board views
the proposal as worthy
of consideration, observing
that there can be no
question that it would
be of advantage to Her-
.-chant.

As however, as the receipt of Robert Smith Esq: of the 27th of July last 1822 on the subject of the Hawaiian light, expresses the wish that so long a time should have been allowed to elapse before they have submitted the opinion, than for — I recommend that such a proposition should be rejected and that a green light of the 3^d class be thrown from the old plug shop at Pualoa, as a specific or guide all along, until the additional light was sufficient otherwise to the most excellent reference suggests that application should be made to Pualoa Smith, otherwise I give no more in England, I understand the publication of the last one and the former than write his opinion as to the best description of oil to be used.

No 486.

Merchant Vessels trading
up and down the Coast;
and they recommended
that a Green Light of the
3^d Class be shown from
the old Flag staff at Pu-
licat, where it would
be a sufficient guide
against all danger, & where
it might be kept in a
state of greater efficiency
than at a retired spot.

3. In a Post-script
to their letter the Board
suggest that application
should be made to Colonel
Smith of the Engineers now
in England to undertake
the preparation of the Lent.
horn, and to give his
opinion as to the best
description of oil to be
used. The Govd can
see no necessity for a
reference to Colonel Smith
on

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on these points, which
would only ^{further and} cause un-
necessary delay. They
think that such a Lent.
horn as is now propo-
sed can be made up
at the Arsenal and that
the oil used at the
Madras Light House would
do as well for it; and
they direct that mea-
sures be accordingly
taken, ~~further communication~~
~~being~~ in communica-
tion with the Inspector
General of Ordnance, for
the construction, in the
Arsenal here, of a Light
of the description re-
quired.

4. The Govd approve
of the Light being shown
from the Flag staff at
Pulicat, as recommend-
ed by the Marine Board,
and they will be pre-
pared to submit for
the

the sanction of the Supreme
Govt. such Establish-
ment ^{place} as may be con-
sidered necessary for
the charge and main-
tenance of the Light.

J.P.

17. 10. 1841

12. 10. 1841

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To the Marine Board
" Inspector General of Ordnance.

} Dep't. of L. & H.

Marine L. to Eng.
15th February 1858

James G. G.

Attest to 27th October
1858

27-3-23 H ✓

London: 8th Decr
Marine. 1857, 24th

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Contract: 1857, 24th

15th Decr 1857.

78th 452/58

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