

Marine

(1898)

Department.

G.O., No. 442 *Mai*

DATED 1st June '98

[Despatch Abstract.]

Light Houses in Madras Despatch
from the Secy of State forwarding copy of letter
Containing the observations of the Hon^{ble}
Brethren of Ministry House on Mr. Ashpitel's
Report on ——— Communicated to
Mr. Ashpitel the Secy of State with
instructions to the former to consider & report
on the suggestions made by that body.

7/1

Dr

Recd and

3/6/98

G.O., No. 442, 1st June 1898.

JUNE.

Lighthouses in Madras

Despatch from the Secretary of State forwarding copy of a letter containing the observations of the Elder Brethren of Trinity House on Mr. Ashpitel's report on —, communicated to Mr. Ashpitel and the Presidency Port Officer with instructions to the former to consider and report on the suggestions made by that body.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper:—

Despatch from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India, to His Excellency the Governor in Council, Fort St. George, dated India Office, London, 14th April 1898, No. 3, Public Works.

I forward herewith, for the consideration of Your Excellency's Government, copy of a letter containing the observations of the Elder Brethren of Trinity House on the Report on Lighthouses in Madras which was enclosed with your Marine letter No. 3, dated 8th April 1896. The delay that has occurred in the submission of these observations is attributable to the fact that the charts referred to in the report were not received at this office until January last, or nearly 18 months after the date of the letter in which it was requested that they might be sent home.

2. The questions raised in paragraphs 1 and 3 of the letter from Your Excellency's Government above quoted were dealt with in the papers transmitted to your Public Works Secretary on the 30th July last, and I understand that the information as to drawings and cost of lighthouse apparatus asked for in paragraph 2 of the same letter was obtained by Mr. Ashpitel while on duty in this country last year.

ENCLOSURE.

From C. A. KENT, Esq., Trinity House, London, E.C., to the Under Secretary of State, India Office, Whitehall, S.W., dated 23rd March 1898, No. 236 B.

Adverting to your letter of the 3rd June, transmitting for such remarks as this Corporation may think it desirable to make copy of a letter and enclosure from the Government of Madras, on the subject of the coast lights of the Madras Presidency, and also to your letter of the 14th January 1898, forwarding charts in connection therewith; I have the honour to inform you that the Elder Brethren agree generally with the report and recommendations of Mr. Ashpitel, subject to the following observations.

1. The Elder Brethren, some of whom are acquainted with the coast of India, are of opinion that in the south-west monsoon, from June to October, the atmosphere on the west coast of India is not so clear as is assumed in paragraph 5 of Mr. Ashpitel's report, and that it would therefore be inadvisable to limit the power of the lights on that coast to 18,000 candles.

2. The Elder Brethren suggest that it would be desirable that the Indian officials should consider whether it would not be worth the expense to give the following lights (which are now white fixed) a distinctive character, by making them occulting, viz.:—

- (142) Point Muttum,
- (176) Pamban Pass,
- (190) Santapilli.

3. As the Mulki Rocks are situated about five miles from the mainland, and have an elevation of fifty feet above sea level with sufficient area for the erection of a tower, the Elder Brethren agree with Mr. Ashpitel that the rocks cannot be effectually guarded by a light on the mainland, and that unless the difficulties of effecting reliefs during the monsoon are insuperable, it is recommended that the light should be erected on the rock.

4. The same remarks apply to Sacrifice Rock, which is about four and a half miles from the mainland, and as the Elder Brethren see no reason why lights should not be installed on the rocks, they recommend that before a final decision is arrived at in the matter, observations be made as to the state of the sea surrounding the rocks during the south-west monsoon, in order that a reliable opinion as to the difficulties that would be experienced in landing stores and effecting reliefs may be formed.

5. The characters of the lights proposed by Mr. Ashpitel are distinctive from each other, but the Elder Brethren think it would be advisable in general to make lights within one hundred and twenty miles of each other distinctive in character (instead of within eighty miles as proposed in the report.)

5. (a) Although the question of the exact character of the lights to be established is very important, the Elder Brethren cannot, in the absence of particulars as to the length of the flashes, candle power, intervals of darkness, &c., as proposed, give any definite advice at present in the matter, but they would suggest that each case should be carefully considered as the time for installing the light approaches.

6. The Elder Brethren concur in the views expressed in Mr. Ashpitel's report as to the need for a complete reorganisation of the system under which the lights are at present looked after, and they are of opinion that his proposals in regard thereto would be a great improvement upon existing arrangements; they attach special importance to the necessity for a central training establishment (somewhat on the lines of the Trinity House Workshops at Blackwall), where men can be trained in the management of the lamps and burners and also in the repair and upkeep of the same.

Sent separately.

6. (a) The charts forwarded with your letter of the 14th January last, and the enclosures transmitted in your letter of the 3rd June 1896, are returned herewith.

ORDER—No. 442, Marine, dated 1st June 1898.

Communicated to Mr. Ashpitel and the Presidency Port Officer with reference to G.O., No. 245, Marine, dated 8th April 1896.

2. The suggestions made by the Elder Brethren of Trinity House will be carefully considered by Mr. Ashpitel and reported on through the Presidency Port Officer. Their effect on the indent for light apparatus recently submitted should be noted. The indent will, meanwhile, be held over.

(True Extract.)

Under Secretary to Government.

To the Presidency Port Officer.
Superintendent of Works, Lighthouse Division.

Ex^o. Shaik Karim.

Papers to be read in proceedings:—

Again G.O., dated	189 , No.
Again G.O., dated	189 , No.
Current No. 561	of 189, 8, dated 6th May , from the Secretary of State for India.
" "	" 189 , "
" "	" 189 , "

ORDER. H. 2 Mar. 4/1 2 June 1898

Communicated to Mr. Ashpitel and the Presidency Port Officer with -- reference to G.O. 245 Marine dated 8th April 1896.

2. The suggestions made by the Elder Brethren of Trinity House will be carefully considered by Mr. Ashpitel and reported on through the -- Presidency Port Officer. The effect on the indent for Light apparatus recently submitted should be noted. The indent will, meanwhile, be held over.

The Presidency Port Officer.
,, Supt. of Works, Lighthouse Dn.

Note.

The indent which is now being recast by the General Superintendent P.W. Stores cannot, it is thought, go home at present in any case, as the provision of funds to meet the cost cannot

H. 2. 27. 5. 98

Marine (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 561

Order

From The Secretary of

No. 3. 76.

Dated 14 April 1895

Received 6 May 1895

Enclosures — 1

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

The Ashpitel's report on light-houses in Madras Presy.

Forwarding copy of a letter containing the observations of the Elder Brethren of Trinity House on —

cannot be guaranteed as required

by P.W. Department rules. — This

is also desirable that this important matter should receive most careful consideration

W. Ashpitel
17.5.95

Why was there so much delay in sending the charts?

W.A.

Note for the Hon member
The request of the Secretary of the Admiralty was received early in August 1895. Copies of the charts had then to be got from Bombay, and they were placed in Mr. Ashpitel's hands by the end of the month. The position of lighted having to be shown by him on the charts. Mr. Ashpitel did not finish his part of the work till October 1897 — but before the charts could be sent forward, further information had to be called for from Mr. Ashpitel. This was then supplied on the 1st December, and the charts were sent home on the 7th Decem.

R.S.

Apr 21.5.95
S.A.

This doesn't seem satisfactory

W.A.

26/5/98

W. Ashpitel
27.5.98

23rd March 1898.

Sir,

Adverting to your letter of the 3rd June, transmitting for such remarks as this Corporation may think it desirable to make, copy of a letter and enclosure from the Government of Madras, on the subject of the Coast lights of the Madras presidency, and also to your letter of the 14th January 1893, forwarding charts in connection therewith; I have the honour to inform you that the Elder Brethren agree generally with the report and recommendations of Mr. Ashpitel, subject to the following observations:-

1. The Elder Brethren, some of whom are acquainted with the coast of India are of opinion that in the South West Monsoon, from June to October, the atmosphere on the West coast of India is not so clear as is assumed in paragraph 5 of Mr Ashpitel's Report, and that it would therefore be unadvisable to limit the power of the lights on that coast to 18,000 candles.
2. The Elder Brethren suggest that it would be desirable that the Indian Officials should consider whether it would not be worth the expense to give the following lights, (which are now ^xwhite fixed), a distinctive character, by making them occulting, viz:-

(190) Santapilli.

Whitehall, S.W.

N^o 11.

CHIEF SECRETARY
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
-3 MAY. 1898

Copy letter from
the Trinity House
dated 23rd March 1898.

Referred to in Madras
Public Works Despatch
N^o 3. Dated 14th April 1898.
para 1.

432.

PUBLIC WORKS,
No. 3.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE THE GOVERNOR
IN COUNCIL FORT ST. GEORGE.

Dated 23rd March 1898.

X 90245 dated 8th April 98

para 7 of report 26.5.98

Has - 4

11.4.24.197

for para 1
14.4.98

INDIA OFFICE,
LONDON. 14th APRIL 1898.

Sir,

I forward herewith, for the consideration of Your Excellency's Government, copy of a letter containing the observations of the Elder Brethren of Trinity House on the Report on Lighthouses in Madras which was enclosed with your Marine Letter No. 3, dated 8th April 1896. The delay that has occurred in the submission of these observations is attributable to the fact that the charts referred to in the Report were not received at this Office until January last, or nearly 18 months after the date of the letter in which it was requested that they might be sent home.

2. The questions raised in paragraphs 1 and 3 of the letter from Your Excellency's Government above quoted were dealt with in the papers transmitted to your Public Works Secretary on the 30th July last, and I understand that the information as

to

28
to drawings and cost of lighthouse
apparatus asked for in paragraph 2 of
the same letter was obtained by Mr.
Ashpitel while on duty in this country
last year.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

George Hamilton

No. 10

Public Works,

4th April 1898.
-3. MAY 1898

The

Letter to Fort St George,

No. 3.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS