1. Number of pages. 6
2. Date of repair 4-9-
3. Initials of Reference

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Cons 8-12-1871

G.O. No. 2027 Press Mis.

73-74

Dated 7—12— 18 87

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 8th December 1857.

No. 73. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer, dated 24th November 1857, No. 5454.

Read the following letter from Captain H. W. RAWLINS, Garrison Engineer; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated 19th November 1857, No. 479.

SIR,

I have the honor to bring to your notice the state of the Custom House works. These works were suspended under the operation of the orders of Government communicated in your Circular No. 66 of the 17th July last.

2. They were entered in the Budget for 1855-56, sanctioned by the Government of India on the 11th and 31st July 1856, No. 1318, and begun in September following, they comprise the following items:—

No. 437.	Additions and alterations to the Sea Customs.....	50,340
„ 438.	Improving the external accommodation to the Sea Custom House, for landing and shipping of goods and their conveyance to and from the Custom House...	19,700
	Total Rs.....	70,040

3. The great and urgent importance of these works was fully recognized by this and the Supreme Government; and their present state of incompletion is a source of great inconvenience to the Custom's Department. Mr. Underwood, the Collector, is most anxious they should be finished without further delay, if practicable; for he is much cramped for stowage room; while a great portion of the yard inside is occupied with plant and building materials belonging to the works.

4. Of the Rupees 19,700 sanctioned for the external improvement of the Customs, nothing has been expended.

5. Out of the Rupees 50,340 for the additions and alterations, Rupees 39,935 have been spent; and the balance of Rupees 10,405 will I hope be sufficient for the completion of the work. The large broad verandah outside the main building; the two import sheds; the verandahs on the south and west; and the store rooms on the north, inside the yard, have all long since been completed and given over for use to the Department.

6. The only remaining work is the erection of the large treble export shed; the foundations for which have been laid, and the whole of the trusses, and a great portion of the roof work is in a very forward state. All these valuable materials are now lying in the yard exposed to the injurious effects of the climate. They are too bulky to be covered in or placed under shelter, and the expense of moving them elsewhere would be considerable. They are not damaged yet, but may be, if thus allowed to remain for an indefinite time.

7. Under these circumstances, therefore, I respectfully recommend, that sanction be granted for the immediate expenditure of the balance of Rupees 10,405 in completing the first set of works, No. 437; and that the Rupees 19,700, sanctioned for the external improvement of the Customs, be left for future consideration.

I enclose a Plan of the building, which please return.

Resolved to forward to Government copy of the foregoing letter No. 479, dated 19th November from the Garrison Engineer, shewing that inconvenience and loss are likely to result from the non-completion of the improvements of the Sea Custom House, as the Chief Engineer cannot suppose that such consequences were anticipated from the stoppage of the works.

(Signed) C. E. FABER, Colonel,
Chief Engineer.

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 8th December 1857.

No. 74. ORDER THEREON, No. 2274; dated 7th December 1857.

Under the circumstances represented by the Garrison Engineer, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council directs that the improvements to the Sea Custom House at Madras may be proceeded with to such an extent as will prevent damage to the materials already prepared.

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

No. 5434.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer in the Department of Public Works.

Under date the 24th November 1857.

Read the following
Garrison Engineer's letter

No. 479.

From

Captain W. H. Braunton,
Garrison Engineer.

To,

The Chief Engineer in the P. W. D.

Fort Saint George.

Sir,

I have the honor to bring to your notice the state of the Custom House Works. These works were suspended under the operation of the order of Government communicated in your Circular No. 66 of the 17th July last.

2 They were entered in the Budget for 1855/56, sanctioned by the Government of India on the 21st and 31st Oct. 1856. No. 18, and begun in September following. They comprise the following items.

No. 137. Additions and Alterations to the Sea Customs — 50,340.

" 138. Improving the external accommodation to the Sea Custom Houses, for landing and shipping of goods and their conveyance to and from the Custom Coasts — 19,700.

Rupees 70,040.

3 The great and urgent importance of these works was fully recognised by this and the Supreme Government; and their present state of incompletion is a source of great inconvenience to the Customs Department. Mr Underwood, the Collector, is most anxious they should be finished without further delay, if practicable, for he is in much want of a Storage Room; while a great portion of the yard inside is occupied with plant and building materials belonging to the works.

4 Of the Rupees 19700 sanctioned for the external improvement of the Customs, nothing has been expended.

5 Out of the Rupees 50360 for the additions and alterations, Rupees 39935 have been spent; and the balance of Rupees 20,405 will I hope be sufficient for the completion of the work. The large Boat verandah outside the yard, the two Jetties, the verandahs on the South and West, and the Mess Rooms on the North, inside the yard, have all long since been completed and given over for use to the Department.

6 The only remaining work is the erection of the large Iron Export Shed; the foundations for which have been laid, and the whole of the Iron Work, and a great portion of the Wood work, is in a very forward state. All these valuable materials are now lying in the yard exposed to the injurious effects of the climate. They are too bulky to be covered in or placed under shelter, and the expense of removing them elsewhere would be considerable. They are not damaged yet, but may be, if they allowed to remain for an indefinite time.

7 Under these circumstances, therefore, I respectfully recommend that sanction be granted for the immediate expenditure of the balance of

of Rupees 10,405 in completing the first set of works, No 437, and that the Rupees 19,700 sanctioned for the external improvement of the Customs be left for future consideration.

Enclosed a Plan of the building which please return.

I have &c

Signed F.W. Rawlins, Capt
Garrison Engineer.

Fort Saint George,
19th November 1857.

Resolved to forward to Government copy of the foregoing letter No 479 dated 19th November from the Garrison Engineer, shewing that inconvenience and loss are likely to result from the non completion of the improvements of the Sea Customs House, as the Chief Engineer cannot suppose that such consequences were anticipated from the stoppage of the works.

J. A True Extract

A.G. Taber Colonel
Chief Engineer.

To,
The Secretary to Government &c &c &c.

Expt K.

Public Works 1857 Department
Fort Cours 8 Dec. No. 2344

Extract from the Proceedings of the

Chief Engineer

To

The Secretary to Government,

&c &c &c.

Dated 24th
Received 25th } November 57.

No. 2274 of 1st December

Enclosure

Mr Thwaites

Communicates a letter from the

Garrison Engineer shewing that

inconveniences and loss are likely

to result from the non completion

of the improvements of the Sea

Custom House—As the Chief

Engineer cannot suppose that the

consequences were anticipated from

the stoppage of the work

No. 2274

Under the circumstan

-ces represented by the Garrison

Engineer, the Right Honorable the

Governor in Council directs that the im-

-provements to the Sea Custom House

at Madras may be proceeded with

to such an extent as will prevent

damage to the materials already

prepared.

Fort St. George
7th December 1857

By Order &c

To the Chief Engineer

No. 7374

Rd 27th Nov. & R 3 Dec.