1. Number of pages. 14
2. Date of repair. 22.2.3
3. Initials of Reference

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Con. 7-7-57.

G.O. No. 1294 Press Mis.

39-40

Dated 6 — 7 — 1857

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 39. Read the following letter from T. J. KNOX, Esq., Acting Collector of Masulipatam; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated Masulipatam, 22nd June 1857, No. 14.

SIR,

Para. 1. I venture to submit, for the consideration of Government, a proposal to which I solicit a favorable reception.

2. On assuming charge of this District, the productive powers of which are in a state of transition from a torpid minimum to a wonderful abundance, I was much struck with the absence of all export trade and I felt sure that every effort must be made to facilitate the barter of the agricultural products of this District, not required for home consumption, in the markets of the world.

3. I found abundance of rice in store at Masulipatam our only sea port, but no ships coming for Cargoes and I soon heard there was a prejudice among Ship Masters against this Port. It is true that while the anchorage ground is peculiarly good and the roadstead protected by Nursapoor and Divy Points, there is a difficulty both in the distance at which Ships must anchor and in the unfortunate bar at the mouth of the river over which Cargo boats must pass and hence the delay in Shipping and landing a Cargo, has been magnified to such an extent that ships avoid this port and seek Cargoes in other places, where probably the delay from other causes is equally great.

4. However there can be no question of the importance of re-establishing the export trade, and as the Government are graciously pleased to stimulate our home markets by granting every year money to be spent in agricultural exhibitions of which none has been so spent this year in this District, I earnestly beg Government will be pleased to recognize the importance of our export trade and aid towards bringing it into action by allowing me to Proclaim that on a certain date say 6 months hence, the Government will offer prizes as per annexed Memorandum amounting to Rupees 1,000 the details could be arranged hereafter. The wretched Cargo boats here have already excited Captain Biden's remarks, and I feel convinced, I could make the experiment now proposed, yield permanent advantages to this Port. I need not assure the Government how entirely the project would have my support in every possible way, and Government would probably allow the Dowlaishwerum and Bezoarah Workshops to build boats and compete for the prizes.

5. I have no doubt that if a few suitable boats were produced, they would be purchased and copied by the merchants here, and I justify the experiment on the well known apathy of the Native Character towards improvements of any sort that are not presented to their eyes, and if a Survey and Assessment is soon to be effected in this District, it would be of considerable importance to know how far and with what results the surplus produce of the District can be exchanged for money.

Memorandum of Boat Races and Auction.

There will be races for Cargo boats at Masulipatam in December 1857.

1. Each boat owner must produce a Certificate by a competent person that his boat is strongly built and well found and adapted for a Cargo boat, that it will carry not less than 10 tons, and that the draught of water when laden, does not exceed 2 feet, and that it can be managed by a crew of (1 Syrang and of) 1 man to each ton.

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 7th July 1857.

2. Each owner, before the trials, is to name the price at which his boat may be put up for Public Auction after the race, and no boat whose upset price exceeds 600 Rupees, will be allowed to enter.

Prizes.	If 10 Tons. Rs.	If 12 Tons. Rs.	If 14 Tons. Rs.
The best boat in the 3 trials to receive.....	400	500	600
The second best.	250	300	300
The third.	100	100	100

The first trial to be a match against time each boat with a full cargo of bags of rice (13¾ to the ton) and the authorized crew to start from the basin to a buoy out side the bar, poles only to be used.

3. The second trial a match against time from the Fort to a ship in the roads poles, oars, and sails to be used. A full cargo and crew as before to be on board and the third trial, a race in the open sea for all the boats, with full cargoes &c. after the trials, the boats to be put up to Public Auction and sold to the highest bidders. Further particulars as to races and Public Auction, can be known on applying to the Acting Collector of Masulipatam.

(Signed) T. J. KNOX,
Acting Collector.

No. 40. ORDER THEREON, No. 1294; dated 6th July 1857.

The Right Honorable the Governor in Council cannot authorize the payment of rewards, as suggested by the Acting Collector of Masulipatam, to encourage boat races, and thereby to contribute to the introduction of a superior description of boats for use in the Masulipatam harbour. The better plan, in the opinion of Government, will be to build a few boats at the public expense as models on an approved plan. Mr. Knox will therefore communicate on the subject with persons competent to advise him, and submit the necessary Estimates with Plans through the Chief Engineer. Two boats will be sufficient for the present.

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

No 14 Masulipatam Collector
Cutcherry 22d June 1857

From T. J. Knox Esquire
Acting Collector of Masulipatam

To H. Forbes Esquire
Acting Secretary to Government
Fort St George

Sir,

Para 1 I venture to submit, for the consideration of Government, a proposal to which I solicit a favorable reception —

2 On assuming charge of this District, the productive powers of which are in a state of transition from a long fixed minor to a wonderful abundance, I was much struck with the absence of all export trade & I felt sure that every effort must be made to facilitate the barter of the agricultural products of this District, not required for home Consumption, in the market of the world —

3 I found abundance of rice in store at Masulipatam our only Sea port, but no Ships coming for cargoes & I soon heard there was a prejudice among Ship Masters against this Port — It is true that while

while the anchorage ground is peculiarly good & the road clear protected by Nursaporr & Divy Points, there is a difficulty both in the distance at which ships must anchor & in the unfortunate bar at the mouth of the river over which cargo boats must pass & hence the delay in shipping & landing a cargo, has been magnified to such an extent that Ships avoid this port & seek cargoes in other places, where probably the delay from other causes is equally great -

4 Moreover there can be no question of the importance of re-establishing the export trade, & as the Government are graciously pleased to stimulate our home Markets by granting every year money to be spent in agricultural exhibitions of which none has been so spent this year in this District, I earnestly beg Government will be pleased to recognize the importance of our export Trade & aid towards bringing it into action by allowing me to Proclaim that on a certain date say 6 Months hence, the Government will offer prizes as per annexed Memorandum amounting to Rs: 1000 the details could be arranged hereafter

hereafter - The wretched cargo Boats here have already excited Captain Sidey's remarks, & I feel convinced, I could make the experiment now proposed, yield permanent advantages to this Port - I need not assure the Government how entirely the project would have my support in every possible way, & Government would probably allow the Dowlaisvarum & Nagarah Workshops to build boats & complete for the prizes -

5 I have no doubt that if a few suitable boats were produced, they would be purchased & copied by the merchants here - and I justify the experiment on the well known apathy of the Native Character towards improvements of any sort that are not presented to their eyes - and if a survey & assessment is soon to be effected in this District, it would be of considerable importance to know how far & with what result the surplus produce of the District can be exchanged for money -

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most Obedient Servant
Wood
officiating Collector

Memorandum
of
Boat Races
&
Auction -

There will be races for Cargo Boats
at Masulipatam in December 1855 -

1 Each Boat owner must produce a
Certificate by a Competent person that his
Boat is strongly built well found & adapted
for a Cargo-Boat - that she will carry not
less than 10 tons - and that the draught
of water when laden, does not exceed 2
feet, & that she can be managed by a
crew of 11 Lascars & 1 Serang & 1 Tindal

2 Each owner, before the trials, is
to name the price at which his boat may
be put up for Public Auction after the
race, & no boat whose upset price exceeds
600 Rupees, will be allowed to enter

" Prizes

	If 10 Tons	If 12 Tons	If 14 Tons
The best boat in the 3 trials to receive	400	500	600
The Second best	250	300	300
The third	100	100	100

The

The first trial to be a match against time — Each boat with a full Cargo of bags of rice (13¾ ℔ the ton) & the authorized Crew to start from the Basin to a buoy outside the Bar — Poles only to be used —

3 The Second trial a match against time from the Fort to a Ship in the road — Poles, oars, & sails to be used — a full Cargo & Crew as before to be on board — & the third trial, a race in the open sea for all the boats with full Cargoes &c. After the trials, the boats to be put up to Public Auction & sold to the highest bidders — Further particulars as to pass & Public Auction, can be known on applying to the Acting Collector of Masulipatam —

J. Rouse

Acting Collector

P.W. Revenue Depart.

No 1294

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation.

Under date the 6th July 1857.

Read the following

Letter from the Acting Collector

of Masulipatam.

(Received 22d June 1857 No 14.)

To the Right Honorable the Governor in Council

4

14.

cannot authorize the payment of rewards, as suggested by the Acting Collector of Masulipatam, to encourage Boat races, and thereby to contribute to the introduction of a superior description of boats for use in the Masulipatam Harbour. The better plan, in the opinion of Government, will be to build

1294.

Extract Consultation Dated 6th July 1857.

From The Acting Collector

Masulipatam

To The Acting Secretary to Government

Fort St George

Dated 22d June 1857

Rec'd 27th Do

No 14

P.W. Revenue Dept.

Submitting a proposal which he considers to facilitate the Construction of the Boats required in the Harbour of Masulipatam in the manner suggested by the Collector in the Minutes of the Consultation, requesting to be informed, whether he will receive Government's sanction for the encouragement of the inhabitants of the Town to build Boats by allowing them a Premium of Pagodas Rupees amounting to Rupees 1,000 for the Pagodas

Rupees

build a few boats at the public
expense as models on an
approved plan. Mr. Hanson
will therefore Communicate
on the subject with persons Compe-
tent to advise him and submit
the necessary Estimates with
Plans through the Chief Engineer.
Two boats will be sufficient
for the present.

J. D.

2 Copies to the Chief Engr.
Dist. 7.
1 — Collr. of Barnstaple

Public Works 1857 Deptt.
Do to Cons: 7th July.

No 1294.

Extract Mins of Cons:
Dd 6th July 57.

Declining to authorize the payment of rewards for encouraging boat races, & directing Mr Kivas to submit Estimates & plans for building 2 boats as models on an approved plan to contribute to the introduction of a superior description of boats here.

No 3948.

C/ Lucy 23.