M.R.O. 1—82,406—29-11-60

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1334	Press Mis.
54.55		
Dated	11-7-	18 57

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 54. Read the following letter from W. E. COCHRANE, Esq., Acting Collector of Madras; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 24th April 1857, No. 8.

SIR,

In acknowledging the receipt of Extract from the Minutes of Consultation of the 1st Instant, No. 596, I have the honor to report that my best endeavours to procure correct information on the points therein adverted to have proved ineffectual. From the enquiries made by my Quit Rent Amildar, it appears that Soobbaroyaloo Chetty is at Madras, but has concealed himself owing to a Warrant of the Court, but, that one Rajahgopaul Naidoo attended before the Amildar, and represented himself as having purchased the ground, though I have frequently desired his attendance before me to produce his documents, he has failed to appear, and it has been since reported to me, that he has proceeded to Streeperamatoor in order to be out of the way.

No. 55. ORDER THEREON, No. 1334; dated 11th July 1857.

The letter from the Collector of Madras recorded above, has reference to a plot of ground situated to the north of the Cochrane's Canal basin which it is proposed to purchase on account of Government.

2. This land has for a long time been used for stacking firewood. The trade in fuel has of late so much increased as to make increased accommodation for landing the wood necessary, and it was proposed by the Superintendent of the Canal, to purchase the land in question, convert it into a wharf, and allot to the merchants a portion of the Esplanade to the East of the Toll Office for storing wood. The Collector of Madras reported that the land would cost Rupees 777-5-0 at 35 Rupees per ground, the rate given for ground forming a portion of the Esplanade. The opinion of the Chief Engineer was requested on the subject, his attention was called to the propositions which have been made to establish landing places and wharves, both along the western face of Black Town and in the Cooum, with the view of lessening the present concentration of traffic at the basin, and Mr. Cunliffe was requested to report what price the owner of the land was willing to accept for it.

From Collector of Madras, dated 22d February 1856.

Extract Minutes Consultation, dated 4th March 1856, No. 325.

Rev. Minutes Consultation dated 15th January 1855, No. 73 para. 7.

3. The Chief Engineer forwarded, with his support, a letter from Lieutenant Chambers in which he proposed, besides purchasing the small piece of ground north of the Canal Basin, that the space between the Canal and the Town ramparts from the north west Angle to the Elephant gate should be given up for storing wood, instead of the present Depôt on the north east Esplanade. The Government remarked, with reference to the proposed wood wharf near the Toll house, and a Depôt between the Town wall and the ditch, that it would be inconvenient that the whole of the wood landed should be carried across the road approaching the bridge, to the Depôt, and pointed out, that a simpler plan would be to form the east side of the Canal, south of the north west Bastion, into a landing place, whence wood might be taken direct to the Depôt. Colonel Faber submitted an estimate on the 1st November 1856, for carrying out this improvement, as well as for preparing the ground under the wall for the proposed Depôt at a cost of Rupees 23,800. The estimate was entered in the Budget for 1857-58, but no conclusion appears to have been arrived at as to whether the plot of ground to the north of the Toll Office should be purchased or not.

Letter dated 8th May 1856, No. 3072.

Extract Minutes Consultation, dated 16th December 1856, No. 2318 paras. 1 and 3.

4. of Madras reported that the owner of this piece of land demanded Rupees 2,100 being the price he r it himself, and Government expresse ngness to

Lette No. 11.

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 14th July 1857.

Extract Minutes Consultation 23rd June 1856, No. 1024.

Letter dated 10th March 1857, No. 7.

Minutes Consultation dated 1st April 1857, No. 596.

pay the sum, though it appeared to be exorbitant, if he proved his statement, and if it should be found really necessary to take the ground. Mr. Cunliffe informed Government that the owner was not to be found at Madras, and suggested that the land be taken under Act XX. of 1852. More explicit information however was required in regard to the absence of the owner, and Mr. Cochrane, the Acting Collector, reports in his present communication, that he could not procure correct information in regard to the absence of the man, that he appears to have concealed himself to avoid a warrant of the Court and that another person, who appeared and represented himself as having purchased the land, has since proceeded to Streeparoomboodoor "in order to be out of the way."

5. The Right Honorable the Governor in Council has carefully considered all the correspondence that has passed on the subject, and is of opinion that the piece of land to the north of the Toll office is not at present required for public purposes. It was first proposed to convert it into a wharf, on which merchants might land their wood, prior to storing it in the adjoining Esplanade, to the east of the Toll office, but it has since been determined that a landing place shall be made at that portion of the Canal which bounds the Town on the west and the land between it and the ramparts given up for a Depôt. Under these arrangements, no wood Depôt will be necessary near the Toll office, and the land consequently will not be required. Lieutenant Chambers observed in para. 4 of his letter to the Chief Engineer dated 26th July 1856, No. 182, that under any circumstances the purchase of the land appeared to him very desirable as it was expedient to make the wharves of the basin, public, instead of private property. The Government do not concur in this opinion. By his own shewing, in para. 2 of the same letter, the wood brought down the Canal, and stored in Black Town, on the northern Esplanade, and on the small plot of ground proposed for purchase, is "almost entirely landed upon a piece of levelled ground to the south of the Toll office," and the proposed wharf cannot therefore be said to be a wharf at present neither can the land be required for general purposes connected with the Toll office, because, under the proposed system of forming landing places along the western face of the Town, much of the traffic will not be landed at the basin. At all events the Government are not disposed to authorize the taking up for Government of the land alluded to, until experience of the proposed improvements has shewn that the acquisition is really necessary.

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

No. 8.

Madras, 24th April 1857.

From

W. E. Cochrane Esqr.
Acting Collector of Madras.

To

The Acting Secretary to Government.

Sir,

In acknowledging the receipt of Extract from Minutes of Consultation of the 1st Instant, No. 596. I have the honor to report that my best endeavours to procure correct information on the points therein adverted to have proved ineffectual. From the enquiries made by my Asst. Revd. Amildar, it appears that Goobbatoya Cooketty is at Madras, but has concealed himself owing to a Warrant of the Court, but, that one Rajahgopaul Naidoo attended before the Amildar, and represented himself as having purchased the ground, though I have frequently desired his attendance before me to produce his documents, he has failed to appear, and it has been since reported to me, that he has proceeded to Streeperamboor in order to be out of the way.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most Obedient Servant
W. E. Cochrane
Acting Collector.

Madras,
24th April 1857.

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Public Works Department
No. 1334

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 11th May 1857

Read the following
letter from the Secretary
to Govt of Madras.

(Here enter 26th April 57 No 8)

11

The letter from the
Collector of Madras recom-
-mends, has reference
to a plot of ground situat-
-ed to the north of the Cochrane
which it is
Canal Basin proposed to
be purchased on account
of Government.
2 This land has for
a long time been used
for [illegible] road. Her
trade

Cont. from Page 3 No. 1334.
- 24 Guns @ 4 in. 62 lbs. 63.
- 2 " Howitzers - 8 in. 52 lbs. 53.
- 6 " Mortars - 4 - 10 lbs. 54.

(2) Copy in Public Dept.
24 Dec. 1856 No. 1575
Paras 12 to 30

From
Lieut. Colonel Balfour
Madras.

To
Hon. Sir Henry Lawrence
Fort St. George.

Dated 24th April 1857.
Received 27th do.

No. 8.

Sir,

With reference to the desired information in the Minute of Council of the 11th instant, I have the honor to report that the Ordnance Establishment of Fort St. George consists of the following Officers and Establishment.

Lieut. Colonel Balfour, Commanding Royal Artillery.
Lieut. Colonel Cullen, Commanding Royal Engineers.
Captain Hall, Commanding Ordnance Establishment.
Captain Hall, Commanding Ordnance Establishment.
Captain Hall, Commanding Ordnance Establishment

trade in fuel & articles of daily consumption, as to make increased accommodation for landing the same necessary, and it was proposed by the Superintendent of the Canal, to purchase the land in question, & erect a wharf, and allot to the Proprietors a portion of the Esplanade to the East of the Sale Office for storing — and the Collector of Customs requested that the land might be sold Rs 7777-5— at 35 Rs per ground, the rate given for ground forming a portion of the Esplanade — in view of filling the Creek

From Collr of Customs No 228 dated 13th July 1855.

35 & 32

Rec'd 15th July 1855 No 73 para 7

Letter dt 8th May 56 No 3072

requested on the subject his attention was called to the propositions which have been made to establish landing places and wharves, both along the Western face of Black Town and in the Creek, with the view of lessening the present concentration of traffic at the Basin, and Mr Cavendish was requested to report what price the owner of the land was willing to accept for it.

3 The Chief Engineer forwarded, with his support, a letter from Saml Chambers in which he proposed, besides purchasing the small piece of ground North of the Canal Basin, that the space between the Canal and the Town main roads from the North West Angle — should be given up

up for storing wood, instead of the present defect on the North East Esplanade. The Government pursuaded with reference to the proposed wood wharf near the Toll house, and a defect between the Sea wall and the distance that it would be inconvenient that the retention of the wood landed should be carried across the road approaching the bridge to the defect and Government that a simple fence would have form the East side of the Square South of the North West Bastion into a landing place, whence wood might be taken direct to the defect. Coll. Taber submitted an Estimate on the 1st Nov. 1856 for carrying out this improvement, as well as preparing the ground under the wall for the proposed Depôt at a cost of Rs 23,800. The Estimate was entered in the Budget for 1857/58, but it appears to the

1856
143

Dr. 23rd Aprn

Expdt: 23rd June 1856 No 1024

Dr. 10th March 1857 No 7.

as to whether the small plot of ground to the north of the Coll. office should be purchased or not.

4 The Collector of Madras reported that the owner of this piece of land demanded Rs 2,100, being the price he paid for it himself, and Government expressed their willingness to pay the sum, this it appeared to be exorbitant if he proved his statement and if it should be found really necessary to take the ground. Mr Cunliffe informed Government that the owner was not to be found at Madras, and suggested that the land be taken under act

Act XX of 1852. More explicit information however was required in regard to the absence of the owner, and Mr. Cochrane, the acting Collector, reports inasfully in his present Communication, that he could not procure correct information in regard to the absence of the man, that he appears to have concealed himself to avoid a warrant of the Court and that another person, who appeared and represented himself as having purchased the land, has since proceeded to

Mr. C. of 1st & 2d April 1857 - Se. 590.

to three separate boundaries, in order to be out of the way.

5 The Right Honorable the Governor in Council has carefully considered all the correspondence that has passed on the subject, and is of opinion that the piece of land to the North of the Toll office is not at present required for Public purposes. It was first proposed to convert it into a wharf, on which merchants might land their wood, prior to storing it in the adjoining esplanade to the East of the Toll office, but it has since

and

that a landing
place shall be made
at that portion of the
Canal which bounds
the Town on the west
and the land between
it and the ramparts
given up for a depôt.
Under these arrangements
no wood depôt will
be necessary near the
Toll office, and the
land consequently will
not be required. Lieutenant Chambers
observed in para 4
of his letter to the
Chief Engineer dated
26th July 1856 No. 182 that
under any circumstances
the purchase of the land
appe
very desirable
as

as it was expedient
to make the wharves of
the Board, Public, instead
of private property. The
Govt do not concur with
him in this opinion.
By this sum shewing,
in para 2 of the same
letter, the wood brought
down the Canal, and
shewed in Black Town,
on the Northern Capla
made and on the
small plot of ground
proposed for purc-
hase, is "almost
entirely landed upon
a piece of levelled
ground to the South
of the Toll office" and
the proposed wharf
cannot therefore be
said to be a wharf
at present. Neither can

could the land be required for general purposes connected with the Toll office, because under the proposed system of forming landing places along the western face of the Piers, most of the traffic will not be handled at the Basin. At all events the Ests are not disposed to authorize the taking up for part of the land alluded to, until ~~sufficient~~ experience of the proposed improvements has shewn that the requisition ~~of the land~~ is really necessary.

6. The Government observe that the information

I Copies to the Chief Engr. & Cash. 13 Rdays

information required from the Collector of Madras, the Board of Revenue, in para 3 of Extract Minute Consultation Public Works Department dated 16 December 1856, No. 2315, respecting the spot of ground near the Seamen's Friend-in-need Society's Workshop, proposed ~~to be~~ appropriated for a Naval Depôt, has not as yet been furnished. The Board will be good enough to call Mr. Goe's early attention to the matter.

J.C.

Copy in a G.L. to C.
D/ 24th October/57 No 19
Paras 12 to 30
Collection &c.

Public Works 1857 Distt.
No to Secy: Govt Civil

No 3341

Selected Extracts of Letrs:
Dist Engr Civil/57.

Copy
Collr from Govt
Madras relative
to Ground
Rent &c

of
Pilot
the
Canal

No 54 & 55.

13 Jan