M.R.O.—5208—24-11-49

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. Press
Mis.

Dated 18

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 17th August 1858.

No. 63. Read the following Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Marine Department, dated 8th July 1858, No. 265.

Communicating certain paras of a Despatch from the Honorable Court, regarding the formation as well as the improvement of certain Harbours on the Coromandel and Malabar Coast. } Vide Marine Consultation, 13th July 1858, No. 4.

No. 64. ORDER THEREON, No. 1617; dated 13th August 1858.

It is observed that the further proceedings connected with the formation of a Harbour of Refuge at Beitcul Cove, have been reported to the Honorable Court in letters from this Department, dated 16th April and 10th June 1858, Nos. 9 and 13.

2. Ordered that the above Extract from the Marine Department be communicated to the Officiating Chief Engineer, and that his attention be drawn to the latter part of para. 10 of the despatch from the Honorable Court which accompanied it.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Ordered

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

No. 265.

Extract from a Despatch from the Honorable Court of Directors, dated 18th May, No. 15 of 1858.

Marine Letter, No. 22, dated 7th Oct. 1857.

14 *to* 31. Projected formation of a Harbour of refuge at Butkul Cove, in Shedashegur Bay, off North Canara, proposed by Lieutenant A. D. Taylor, I. N., by means of two Breakwaters in different directions.

10. We gather from these Papers, that the Plan recommended by Lieutenant Taylor for forming this Harbour, by means of two Breakwaters, is not sufficiently matured to be submitted to the Government of India. We therefore abstain from entering into a discussion of the entire Project until the information on all the points involved in it, is laid before us. The only portion of the scheme that calls for immediate consideration, is that relating to the exhibition of Lights, which are recommended both on Carwar Head, and on one of the Oyster Rocks which lie in a Westerly direction from the shore, and are more to seaward, than the other site proposed for the Light House. The near proximity of these positions to each other (the intervening distance being about 3 Miles only) would, it appears to us, make it unnecessary to build more than one Light House off Sedashegur. Lieutenant Taylor recommends that a Light House should be built on Carwar Head, which is 640 feet high, whilst the Marine Board, following Captain Biden, advise its being erected on the largest of the Oyster Rocks, with a Beacon or Obelisk on Carwar Head. Captain Biden, in a Minute transmitted with these Papers, regarding Lieutenant Taylor's Plan, and Survey of Butkul Cove, remarks " the outer or Western Oyster Rock offers a better site for the erection of a Light House, than Carwar Head, as that position is upwards of three miles to seaward, and in thick weather the discovery of a Light indicating the approach to danger, so much further to windward, would be a great advantage. I would therefore recommend calling Lieutenant Taylor's attention to this suggestion. The Oyster Rock is 160 feet above the level of the sea, which is a sufficient elevation for the display of a Light." We presume that whether a Harbour of refuge at Butkul Cove shall be determined upon or not, a good Light in that neighbourhood would be very useful to the Shipping in general navigating the Coast, and not merely for the Vessels expected to frequent the projected Harbour. In this view of the subject, it seems to us that the dangers most to seaward ought to be especially guarded against: we therefore approve of the Western or outer Oyster Rock as the most eligible site for the intended Light House. When the Harbour of refuge shall have been constructed, a smaller Light to guide Vessels to the anchorage may be added in the position best suited for that purpose.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation under date the 8th July 1858.

2. Copy of this para: will be furnished to the Marine Board in reference to Extract Minutes Consultation, 16th July 1856, and to the Department Public Works.

Ordered

Public Works Letter, No. 12, dated 20th October 1856.

Report (in reply to paras: 3 to 6, 23 and 24, 27 to 29 and 35 of Court's Marine Despatch, No. 8, dated 30th April 1856,) the proceedings that have been adopted in the Public Works Department, for the improvement of certain Harbours on the Coromandel and Malabar Coasts.

45. The proceedings forwarded with your letter shew that the results of the expenditure incurred on the Harbours of Coringa and Cocanada, during 1855 and 1856, have appeared to you satisfactory, and that there is good ground for expecting great and permanent benefit from the operations in progress. You point out the importance and increasing trade of the Ports of Coringa and Cocanada, which appear to you sufficient to justify larger Out-lays than have yet been contemplated. You have directed the Chief Engineer (Public Works Department) to take up the subject of the Port of Cochin, and to report on the ulterior measures to be taken for its improvement. The report of Major Lawford, Deputy Chief Engineer, in respect of the Cuddalore Harbour Works, is also transmitted, in which are specified such as were executed in 1855, and the sums expended on the Harbour and on the Porto Novo Canal. You appear to have authorised the appropriation of Rupees 8,000, the balance remaining out of the Estimates, (Rs. 55,000) to the Harbour Works. You advert to the partial failure of the operations, attributing the circumstance to the succession of very scanty Monsoons. You also forward the report of a Committee appointed to examine the state of the Harbour, and you enumerate the Works recommended for adoption by the Committee, whose Estimates amounting to Rupees 10,000 for various repairs and works you have sanctioned. The measures in respect of the Mangalore Harbour Works, you consider insufficiently provided for by the sum of Rupees 6000, authorised in March 1855; and you report that Government have authorised an additional Out-lay of Rupees six thousand (Rupees 6000.) No further works are to be undertaken without Major Cotton's advice, and you regret that the measures taken by Lieutenant Walker, Civil Engineer of the 3rd Division, had proved a failure. You finally report having sanctioned Estimates for Rupees 3,385 for Works of improvement, requiring immediate execution.

46. We approve your course of proceeding, as reported in the letter now under notice.

(True Extracts.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Department of Public Works.

Exd. J. A. Wilson.

6. These paras: will be referred to the Public Works Department, where the subject originated, in reference to the Despatch to the Honorable Court from that Department, dated 20th October, No. 16 of 1856.

Public Dept. 1858 Dispatch
Dy. to Cons. 17th August
No. 1578

Extract Mins: Cons: in
the Marine Dispatch

Dated 8th
Received 16th } July/58
No. 265

S. & D. No. 167. 13th August 1858.
Communicating
certain paragraph Despatch
from the Honorable
Court regarding the for
mation as well as
the improvement of
certain Harbours on
the Coromandel and
Malabar Coasts.

No. 63.

Bo. Cons 29 July/58 No. 13-44

835—60

C.G. 29 July/ & 10th August

2. Ordered that the above Extract from the Marine Department be communicated to the Officiating Chief Engineer, and that his attention be drawn to the latter part of paragraph 10 of the despatch from the Honorable Court which accompanied it.

10 Copies to the Offg Chief Engr Dispt 11th
Inspecting Engr Bo. C. Bo. 265.
3 — " — " Marine Department

Coast: 29th July/58 No. 63 6/14.

Public Works 1858 Dept.
Dy. to Coast: 17th Sept.

No. 1617.
Extract Mins. of Coast.
Dy/ 12th Sept./58.

Exct: Mr. of Coast: Marine Dept.
Dy/ 10th Aug./58 C No. 1861 inclo:
12 Rect

Communicating to the Officiating Chief Engr. Extract Mins. Coast in Marine Dept. together with Despatch from the Honorable Court which accompanied it regarding the formation as well as improvement of certain Harbours on the Coromandel Coast and drawing Major Lawfords attention to certain points in the Courts Despatch.

No. 63864.