

(1) Number of pages 16(2) Date of repair 26.5.38(3) Initials of the Referencer 9**MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.****Government of Madras.***Public Works* **DEPARTMENT.***Can - 10/6/53*

G.O. No. <u>1357</u>	Press Mis.
<u>5758</u> Dated <u>4-6-</u> 18 <u>55</u>	

Not to be folded or roughly handled*26/5/38*

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
from 1st to 10th June 1859.*

No. 57. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. BELL, Chief Engineer;
to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government, dated 12th May 1859,
No. 357.

Agreeably to para. 2 of Extract from the Minutes of Consultation No. 2118, dated 11th
October 1858, I have the honor to submit, for the information
1 No. 342 dated 19th April 1859. and orders of Government, a Report* from the District Engineer
of Tanjore, regarding the ruined Tower at Negapatam, together
1 Copy of letter. with a sketch of the same taken by Mr. Acting Executive En-
1 Estimate gineer Lawford.
1 Sketch.

2. The building as it now stands is composed of three stories altogether 50 feet in height,
and 11 feet square, but is represented to have had two others, the removal of one of which is
imputed to the Jesuits, who however deny the truth of such a statement, and the other seems
to have been broken down by a former Collector of the District, Mr. Campbell.

3. Captain Oakes has been unable to collect any correct information concerning the
origin of the Tower, which he is of opinion was not built for any religious purposes but only
to serve as a landmark to the shipping frequenting the Port; but from the local traditions of
the people it is possible that the building may have at first been intended for both purposes,
particularly as a Buddhist image seems to have been placed there. At present it is most cer-
tainly of great use as a distinguishing landmark to all vessels trading to the Port, and which
will, as the Railway to Trichinopoly progresses, continue to do so in greater numbers. Its fur-
ther demolition should therefore be most strictly prohibited, and with the view to its preserva-
tion I would recommend sanction being granted for the execution of the repairs provided
for in the accompanying Estimate of Rupees 400, beyond which it seems unnecessary for
anything to be done, the structure being of such a massive nature as to lead to the expectation
that provided care is taken to prevent the progress of decay at the base, it will last for centuries.

No. 58. ORDER THEREON, 4th June 1859, No. 1357.

The Governor in Council sanctions the Estimate of 400 Rupees submitted by the Chief
Engineer, for executing certain repairs necessary for the preservation of the ancient tower at
Negapatam.

2. The Government are desirous of having a good sketch of this tower lithographed in
view to copies of it being transmitted to the Home Government with the further reports re-
quired on the ancient architectural ruins of the Presidency. They are just now in possession
of a drawing taken in 1846 which they resolve to transmit to the Chief Engineer with instruc-
tions to have it lithographed and a copy forwarded to the District Engineer in view to its being
ascertained whether any changes have since taken place in the structure.

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,
Secretary to Government.

From

Captain R. S. Oakes

District Engineer, Singapore

To,

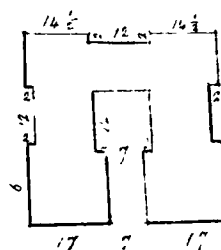
The Chief Engineer

D. P. M. Fort Saint George.

Sir,

With reference to Extract Minutes Consultation N^o 2118, dated 11 October 1858, I have the honor to forward the following report on the ruined Tower at Negapatam compiled from information received from Mr. Lawford, who had been directed by Captain Moberly to obtain as much information as possible regarding it.

2. The Tower is 30 feet high, and occupies a square of 41 feet as per margin, with an interior space of only 12 x 11, and is constructed entirely of Brick in mud, the lower 8 feet are very much damaged. It appears to have been built in rows of stretchers, but few headers being introduced to connect the different layers so that a great portion of the outer casing, as it were, has fallen away leaving an even and perpendicular surface. The estimate provides only for underpinning the walls for a height of 8 feet, but the upper part of the Tower is in a dilapidated condition, one or two layers of Bricks having fallen from various parts both of the interior and exterior of the Tower.



3. The Tower is said to have had two upper stories, and is supposed to have been a portion of a Buddhist Temple from the fact of a small image of Buddha having been discovered in it by the Jesuit Priests. This image was sent to France.

4. One of the upper stories is said to have been removed

by order of a Mr Campbell formerly a Collector of the District,
and the other by the Jesuits, but this the Jesuits deny.

5. The Sketch shows two cornices running round the Tower,
there is a third at the summit which is concealed by the
Creeper. A great portion of these cornices no longer exist.

6. No authentic information can be obtained
regarding the Tower, and the Jesuit Priests even if capable
of affording any do not appear to be inclined to do so.
I should doubt the fact of its being a Buddhist Temple,
for it is extremely unlike any of the Buddhist structures
which I have seen in Burmah, and I am inclined to
believe that this Tower was built simply as a land
mark, and that it was not in any way connected
with the religion of the Country.

I have the honor to be

Sir

D. Eng. Office — Your Most Obedient Servant
Camp Coadaung, (Signed) R. F. Oakes, Captain
19 April 1859 } District Eng. Tanjore

/ True Copy /

H. M. M. Major
Sup. Eng. S. Circle.

Comp M

District Eng. Tanjore

Sargur District
 Estimate No of 1858/59
 Nevalore Talook.

Work. Repairing the old tower at Nagapattinam

Measurement			Cubical Content	Description of work	Rate		per	Amount		
Length	Breadth	Height			Rs	as p.		Rs	as p.	
135	2	8	2160	Repairing outside Tower						
71	2	8	1136	do inside						
			3296	Cubic feet of brick in chunam	"	16	per Cft	309	"	"
				Scaffolding				50	"	"
								359	"	"
				Superintendence	5	"	per Cent	17	15	2
				Contingencies and Sundries	5	"	"	23	"	10
Total Compagny Rupees								400	"	"

Recd by Engrs Office
 Camp Nevalore
 30th March 1859

Alfred J.
 offg Engrs

H. F. Baker. Captain
 District Engr Sargur

Copy sent to Engrs
 24/4/59 - 1859

1859 Department
 Engrs Office
 District Engineer
 Sargur District
 Engrs Office

Dated 12th May 1859
 Decided

1859
 1859

Copy of a letter from the
 District Engineer of Sargur, re-
 ferring to the repair of tower
 at Nagapattinam.

Engrs

18 May 1968
Return my book
when some in the

My Dear William

I send you
a drawing of the Chinese
or Buddhist towers at Klapatien
much superior to Mr Lawford's
I suggest that it should be
ethnographed instead of
a copy sent to the Lt. Supr.
of Saigon to see whether
any changes have taken
place since 1846 when
I saw it as drawn.
Yours sincerely
Lt Brackenbury Miller Esq.

Copy in a letter to his father
27 19th Aug 1802

Confidential

Erhard

To
The Chief Engineer

140

Dated 20-10-73

Received 3 March 1859

07/12/2017

Indicate for speaking
the old lower ad
Regulation.

10400 " "

In substitution of Para 2 of
original draft on N^o 1202

2 The Government are
desirous of having a good
sketch of this Tower litho-
graphed in view, 10 copies
of it being transmitted to the
Home Government with the
further reports required on the
ancient architectural ruins
of the Presidency. They are
just now in possession of
a drawing taken in 1846, much
superior to ~~Mr~~ Mr Lawford's
sketch, which they resolve to
transmit to the Chief En-
gineer with instructions to
have it lithographed
and a copy forwarded to the
District Engineer in view
to its being ascertained
whether any changes have since
taken place in the structure.

10 Copies to the Chief Engr
with 2 Sketches Disg^d 6

13
Central Office of P.W.
Fort Saint George
12th May 1859.

No. 357
From
The Chief Engineer
To
The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department.

Sir,

Public

Agreeably to para 2 of Extract from
the Minutes of Consultation No. 2118, dated 11th October
1858, I have the honor to submit, for the information and
orders of Government, a report from the District Engineer
of Panjau, regarding the ruined Tower at Negapatam to-
gether with a sketch of the same taken by Mr. Acting
Executive Engineer Lauford.

2 The Building as it now stands is
composed of three stories altogether 50 feet in height, and
41 feet square, but is represented to have had two others
the removal of one of which is imputed to the Jesuits,
who however deny the truth of such a statement, and
the other seems to have been broken down by a former
Collector of the District, Mr. Campbell.

3

Captain Oakes has been unable to
collect

No. 342 dated 19th
April 1859

Enclosure

1859

Sept 1857. *Chlorophytum*
can. v. 10 *Linnaea* *Sp. v. 1202.*

Henry G. H. Engineer
 of the Chesapeake & Ohio
 Canal Co.

26 June 22-4-59
No 1357-4, H. (June) 59.

May 27

With an order -

86-1357

The Governor in Council
determine the estimate of \$4000
submitted by the Chief Engineer,
for extending certain repairs on

necessary for the preservation
 of the ancient tower at Hagarston.
 2. The Government are desirous of
 its excellence in Council
 decides that the Chief Engineer will
 have the drawings & details of the tower
 lithographed in view to copies of it
 being transmitted to the Home Govt,
 with the further reports required
 on the ancient architectural remains
 of the Ecclesbury. Should these be
 desired? ~~from the Board of Home~~

Good-bye Mary
14 June 1891

