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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Cons. 20-12-59

G.O. No.	2450	Press / Misl
148-49 Dated	19-12-	1859.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, for the month of December 1859.

No. 148. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Honorable the President of the Council of the Governor General of India, in the Home Department, under date the 5th December 1859, No. 2407.

Read Extract from Proceedings in the Public Works Department, No. 7869, dated the 14th ultimo, forwarding a letter from the Government of Madras, No. 2314, dated the 27th September, submitting, together with a scheme for uniting the navigation of the rivers Adiyar and Kúam, a proposal for supplying Madras with fresh water for domestic purposes and for cleansing the drains—to be undertaken by municipal action.

Resolution.—In the 6th paragraph of the letter from the Madras Government, referred to this Department, an opinion is expressed that the water supply of Madras should be undertaken by municipal action, under arrangements and from the funds specified in paragraphs 12 and 13 of the Minute recorded by His Excellency the Governor, and the favorable opinion of this Government is solicited to the proposed plan.

2. In the 12th paragraph of his Minute, Sir Charles Trevelyan proposes :

1*st*.—That Madras should be divided into convenient municipal districts.

2*ndly*.—That, after the opinion of the rate-payers in each district has been ascertained as to the fittest persons to represent them, one person should be selected by the Government to represent each district in the Municipal Council.

3*rdly*.—That the Council so constituted should be vested with all the powers possessed by the present Municipal Commissioners ; and

4*thly*.—That the Municipal Council should proceed at once to consider what would be the best mode of providing for the water supply and sewerage of Madras, and should borrow, on the security of the rates, whatever sum might be necessary for the purpose.

3. In another paragraph of his Minute, Sir Charles Trevelyan expresses an opinion, that as the present Municipal Commission consists only of two Members nominated by the Government, in addition to the Commissioner of Police, it is constituted on too narrow a basis to undertake a work of great magnitude, for which the rates would have to be mortgaged for a considerable time.

4. In this opinion the President in Council does not altogether concur. He considers that a committee of three gentlemen carefully selected by the Government, and subject, in regard to all projects involving expenditure, to the control of the Government, may constitute as good an agency for the management of the municipal affairs of a large town, as any other that can be devised. At the same time His Honor in Council perceives no objection whatever to the formation of a municipal body at Madras, on a more extended and popular footing than this, if such a change is desired by the inhabitants themselves, and if the local Government is of opinion that it can be satisfactorily brought about, and when brought about, that it will work evenly and effectively. The President in Council would have felt disposed to doubt whether it would prove agreeable to the inhabitants of Madras to be invited to elect representatives, their election being subject to the approval of Government; but he presumes that the Government of Madras has reason to believe that that arrangement will not be unacceptable.

5. His Honor in Council sees no objection in principle to the proposal to raise a loan on the security of the rates for the purpose of providing for the water supply and sewerage of Madras, and under proper arrangements, he considers that such a measure may be very expedient.

6. Adverting to the 14th paragraph of the Governor's Minute, the President in Council presumes that what is intended is, that the scientific officers of Government shall assist the Municipality with their advice, not that they shall be actively employed in the construction of any works.

At the same time His Honor in Council perceives no objection whatever to the formation of a municipal body at Madras, on a more extended and popular footing than this, if such a change is desired by the inhabitants themselves, and if the local Government is of opinion that it can be satisfactorily brought about, and when brought about, that it will work evenly and effectively. The President in Council would have felt disposed to doubt whether it would prove agreeable to the inhabitants of Madras to be invited to elect representatives, their election being subject to the approval of Government; but he presumes that the Government of Madras has reason to believe that that arrangement will not be unacceptable.

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6. Adverting to the 14th paragraph of the Governor's Minute, the President in Council presumes that what is intended is, that the scientific officers of Government shall assist the Municipality with their advice, not that they shall be actively employed in the construction of any works.

ORDERED, that a copy of the foregoing Resolution be communicated to the Madras Government, with reference to the 6th paragraph of Mr. Secretary Bourdillon's letter, and that, as requested, a copy be also sent to the Public Works Department, and that the original papers received from that Department be returned.

(True extract)

Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Exd.—M. A. Mendes.

5/

Fort St. George 20 December 69

My dear Bourdillon

Can you kindly let me have a copy of the papers, which you sent to the G.G. yesterday forwarding to the Secretary of the Madras Municipality to the Public Works Department, in order that I may be able to place a full statement of the proceedings of the Municipality before the Council on the 24th, between the 17th instant and the 12th of January next,

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, for the month of December 1859.

ORDERED, that a copy of the foregoing Resolution be communicated to the Madras Government, with reference to the 6th paragraph of Mr. Secretary Bourdillon's letter, and that, as requested, a copy be also sent to the Public Works Department, and that the original papers received from that Department be returned.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. GREY,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 149. ORDER THEREON, 19th December 1859, No. 2950.

This resolution, together with the minutes and correspondence, will be communicated to the Public Press, with a view to the free discussion of the project of a municipality, and to the formation and expression of a public opinion on the subject.

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

No. 2407

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of the Hon'ble the President of the Council of the Governor General of India, in the Home Department, under date the 5th December 1859.

READ Extract from Proceedings in the Public Works Department, No. 7869, dated the 14th ultimo, forwarding a letter from the Government of Madras, No. 2314, dated the 27th September, submitting, together with a scheme for uniting the navigation of the Rivers Adiyar and Kuam, a proposal for supplying Madras with fresh water for domestic purposes and for cleansing the drains—to be undertaken by municipal action.

RESOLUTION.—In the 6th paragraph of the letter from the Madras Government, referred to this Department, an opinion is expressed that the water supply of Madras should be undertaken by municipal action, under arrangements and from the funds specified in paragraphs 12 and 13 of the Minute recorded by His Excellency the Governor, and the favorable opinion of this Government is solicited to the proposed plan.

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1*st.*—That Madras should be divided into convenient municipal districts.

2*ndly.*—That, after the opinion of the rate-payers in each district has been ascertained as to the fittest persons to represent them, one person should be selected by the Government to represent each district in the Municipal Council.

3*rdly.*—That the Council so constituted should be vested with all the powers possessed by the present Municipal Commissioners ; and

4*thly.*—That the Municipal Council should proceed at once to consider what would be the best mode of providing for the water supply and sewerage of Madras, and should borrow, on the security of the rates, whatever sum might be necessary for the purpose.

3. In another paragraph of his Minute, Sir Charles Trevelyan expresses an opinion, that as the present Municipal Commission consists only of two Members nominated by the Government, in addition to the Commissioner of Police, it is constituted on too narrow a basis to undertake a work of great magnitude, for which the rates would have to be mortgaged for a considerable time.

4. In this opinion the President in Council does not altogether concur. He considers that a Committee of three gentlemen carefully selected by the Government, and subject, in regard to all projects involving expenditure, to the control of the Government, may constitute as good an agency for the management of the municipal affairs of a large town, as any other that can be devised.

for the enlargement of the Locks of the Canal, between the Lake of Nicaragua and the Ocean Rivers, and for the proposed supply of Waters

Yours Respectfully
Obedient Servants

Charles C.

Pro. 4th Oct. 59 No 6364
23d Sept. 59 No 4447

Public Works 1859 Sept.
Proc. of Govt 20th Dec.

No 3270

From the Secretary
to the Govt of India

Dated 5th
Received 14th } Dec. 59

No 2469

Replying observations
on the proposal that
the water supply of
Bombay should be
undertaken by Commis-
sariat Department under
certain Arrangements &c.

From Govt of India
5th April 59 Enclosing Proceedings
Mun. No 1046
in triplicate

No 2950. 19th December
William Mayer

No 1148 & 1491

No 29 No 2950.

This resolution, together
with the minutes and correspondence
will be communicated to the
Public Press
for publication, with a view to the
free discussion of the project as a
municipal duty, and to the formation
of
publication and expression of a public
opinion on the subject.

Extract from
19th December 59

To the Chief Engineer
Editors of the Bombay Standard,
" " Athenaeum,
" " Mercantile Spectator,
" " Daily Times,
" " Examiner,
" " General Advertiser,
" " Madras Crescent,
Curtailed Telegraph
& Exchange Gazette.

3 Std. & Mer. with Papers
3 Std. Exp.

with Papers

Rising Sun
Christian Herald
Communications