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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Despatches to England

Desp G.O. No.	5	Press Mis.
Dated	10-2-	1860.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Recd

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

No. 5 of 1860.

TO

THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE SECRETARY
OF STATE FOR INDIA.

RIGHT HONORABLE SIR,

1. We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch in this department No. 40 of 1859 dated 1st December, on the subject of the proposed formation of a boat harbor at Bépúr.

2. At the conclusion of that communication you inform us that you are disposed to prefer to the above project, the formation of a short canal from Bépúr to Ponáni. It appears to us that there must be some misapprehension with respect to this point. The Madras south-west railway touches the Ponáni river, a canal from Bépúr to Ponáni would therefore be competitive to the railway. Neither is there now at Ponáni a line of backwater extending to Cochin and Aleppey. On the contrary what is wanted is water communication from Ponáni to Chetwye, from which point only is the back-water towards Cochin navigable. Were a canal cut from Ponáni to Chetwye, with some trifling improvements in a few bends of the backwater there would then be uninterrupted water communication from the Ponáni river, and the railway station, on it to Quilon which by a few miles of heavy cutting might be extended to Trivándram.

3. The question of perfecting the water communication between Ponáni and Cochin has already been fully discussed and the importance and necessity of the work admitted by this Government. With our railway despatch 8th March No. 3 of 1859 we laid before you certain papers and a plan relating to the subject and on that occasion strongly urged that the work which as then stated, had been estimated to cost Rupees 2,00,000 should at once be undertaken and be placed in special charge of an officer to be deputed for that duty. We suggested, however, at the same time, that the irrigation and canal company should be invited to undertake the project. Her Majesty's Government appear to have confined their attention to that suggestion, for in reply to the despatch they merely intimated that

Public Works despatch, 11th August
No. 18 of 1859.

the company had declined to undertake the work except on conditions which it was not deemed expedient to concede.

4. We beg to bring the project again under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government and to repeat our earnest recommendation that it may be sanctioned and the early prosecution of the work allowed.

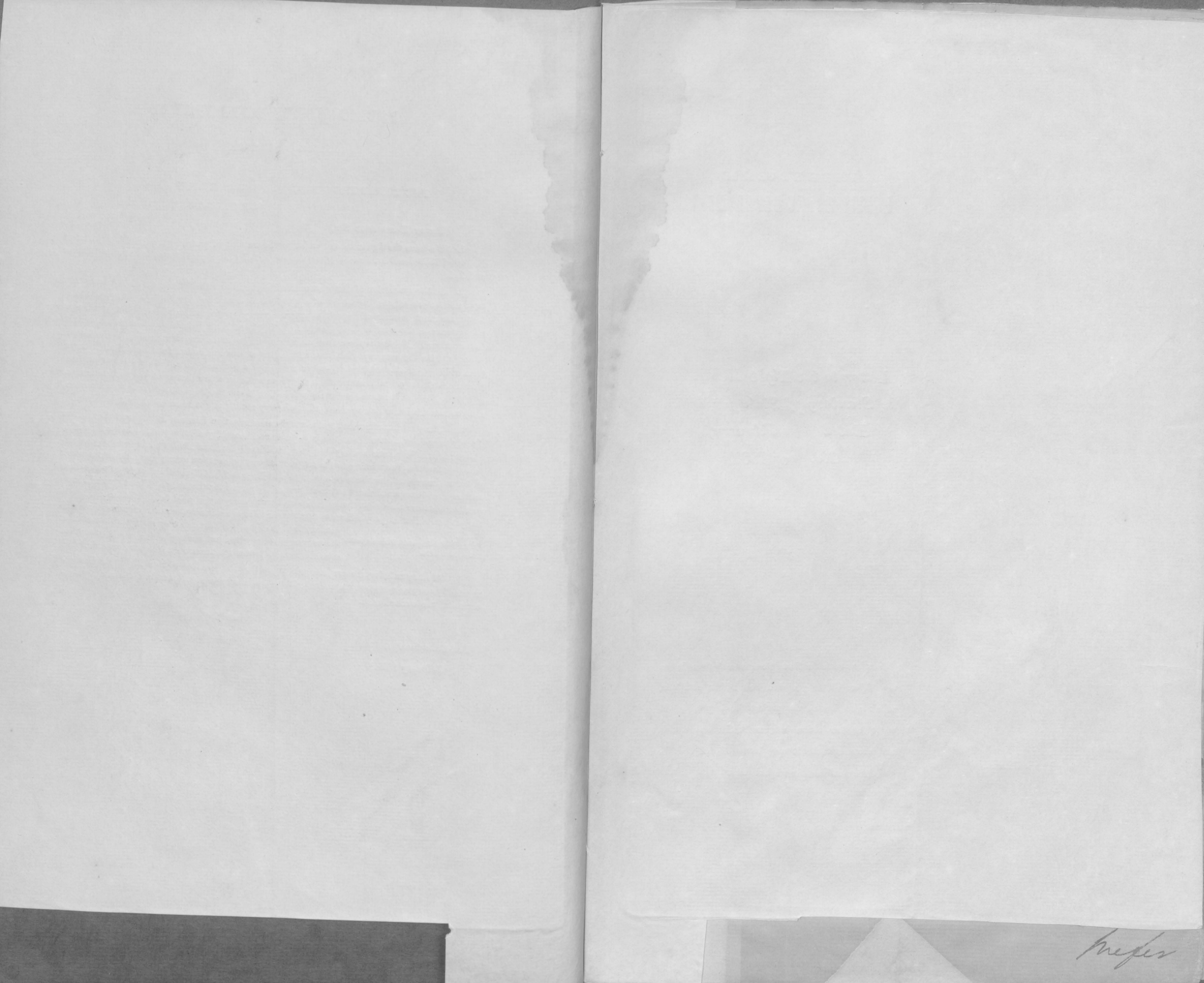
We have the honor to be,

Right Honorable Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servants,

Fort Saint George, }
10 February 1860. }

Exd. Wm. Thomas.



Mejer

116-71-244

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Letter to the Right Honorable
the Secretary of State for India,
Dated 10th February,
No. 5 of 1860.

In reference to the Home Government's remarks on
the subject of the proposed boat harbor at Bépúr,
solicit attention to the project for improving the
water communication between Ponáni and Cochin
and recommend that it may be sanctioned and the
early prosecution of the work allowed.

Ms. 5)
No. 5 of 1860
The Right Honorable
The Secy. of State
for India
Rt. Hon. Sir,

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Fort St George
10th February 1860.

J. P.

J. W. D.

No. 5 of 1860

Letter of the Right Honble
the Secretary of State
for India

Dated 10th February 1860

Origl & Copy for Steamer Colombo
14 Feb 1860.

Copy to the Govt of India
15th February 1860.

In reference to the same
Government's remarks on the subject
of the proposed Boats Harbor at
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project for improving the water
communication between Pondiché
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Replied. on 31 of 14 April 60.
Do. — " 23 of 18 61 51
" 17 June