M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 8

(2) Date of repair 27-5-42

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. Press
Mis.

Dated 18

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 4th March 1862.

No. 39. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel J. CARPENDALE, Acting Deputy Chief Engineer, Central Circle, to Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. HORSLEY, Chief Engineer and Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Chepauk, 6th February 1862, No. 10,271 :—

SIR,

1. Mr. Dopping, Acting District Engineer of Madras, has just addressed me regarding the very high price of teak wood in the Madras market, and suggested the expediency of an Agent being deputed for the purpose of shipping wood to Madras expressly for the Department Public Works.

2. Captain Mayne, Executive Engineer of Bangalore, made the same subject one of special correspondence on the 19th December last, and having shown that the rate per cubic foot in the log which in 1858, was 14 Annas, and had now risen to Rupees 2¼ with every probability of still higher rise ; he proceeded to observe that the demand in the Mysore Department Public Works, was likely to be so great that he might not be able to obtain what was requisite at any price; and the Barracks under construction would be brought to a stand still. Captain Mayne attributes the difficulty in obtaining wood at Bangalore in a great measure to the high price at which it is sold in the Government Forests, and he instances Goondelpett and Bandipoora, in which he is informed that the price in the log is Rupees 1¼ and 1½ per cubic foot, and on this point I have requested information from the Conservator of Forests.

3. According to the data last furnished the price of *wrought* teak was at the Presidency, per cubic foot..... 2 11 2
Madras District..... 2 13 0
North Arcot from Rupees 3 to..... 3 12 0
Bangalore..... 3 0 0

Now it has risen in Bangalore to Rupees 3½ and 4 per cubic foot unwrought. You are aware that it has been gradually rising in the Presidency, and the latest estimate that I have seen from the District Engineer provides Rupees 4 per cubic foot wrought, and in Bellary the same.

4. It is such a ruinous rate that some special Agency appears to be urgently called for, and fully concurring in Mr. Dopping's suggestion, I would propose to you to bring under the consideration of Government the expediency of establishing an Agency in Rangoon or Moulmein for the purchase of teak wood, the salary of the person employed, or the commission of the Agent, if in trade, being added to the price of the wood.

5. I think it is also deserving of consideration whether in Bangalore especially, other woods might not advantageously be substituted for teak. In substantially built Government buildings of stone in chunam, or brick in chunam, which white-ants will not pass through, and where, by good covering, the timbers in a roof are protected from damp, there are other woods well suited for the purpose. I particularly remember one in the Mysore and Coorg jungles called "Nundy," which was procurable of considerable length: a straight grained wood, admirably adapted for rafters and similar purposes.

No. 40. ORDER THEREON, 4th March 1862, No. 352.

1. The Government observe that the question of establishing an Agency for the purchase of teak for purposes connected with the Commissariat and Ordnance Departments is now under consideration in the Military Department, and they are of opinion that it would not be advisable to appoint a separate Agency for the Department Public Works, as such a measure would only tend to defeat the object sought. There is no reason, however, why the Public Works Department should not take advantage of the Agency referred to, as soon as it is established, and the

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 4th March 1862.

Government accordingly resolve to communicate the Acting Deputy Chief Engineer's letter to the Military Department, with a view to an early reply being solicited by that Department to the Despatch No. 2,389, dated 12th July 1861, addressed to the Secretary to the Government of India, on the subject under notice.

2. The Government quite approve of Colonel Carpendale's suggestion for the substitution of other suitable woods for teak in cases where they will answer, and direct that instructions may be issued accordingly.

(Signed) W. H. HORSLEY, Lieut.-Colonel,
Secretary to Government.

59

Deputy Chief Engr's Office
Central Circle
Chepauk
6 February 1862.

No 1071

From
Lieutenant Colonel J. Carpendale
Acting Deputy Chief Engineer C.C.

Public

To
Lieutenant Colonel W. H. Horsley
Chief Engineer and Secretary
to Government P.W.D.

Sir,

Mr Dopping Acting District Engineer of Madras has just addressed me regarding the very high price of Teak wood in the Madras Market and suggested the expediency of an Agent being deputed for the purpose of shipping wood to Madras expressly for the Department Public Works.

2. Captain Mayne Executive Engineer of Bangalore made the same subject one of special correspondence on the 19th December last, and having shewn

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purposes.

Deputy Chief Engineer's Office
Central Circle
Chepauk
6 February 1862

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obedient Servant
J Cashmore Lieut
Actg Dy Chief Engr C.C.

To
Lieutenant Colonel W.H. Horsley
Chief Engineer and Secretary
to Government P.W.D.

X. 18 F

4th June 1861 Nos 42 - 43.
23d July " " — 320 - 324.

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The Govt quite approve of Colonel Carpendale's suggestion for the substitution of other suitable woods for Teak in cases where they will answer, and direct that instructions may be issued accordingly —

L.D.P.R.

Fort St George
No 68 4th March 1862.
13 Enclos

The Offg Chief Engr C.C.
Dispd
Military Depth

No 239 of 40.

19 July 1861

(1)

P.W. 1862. Depart.
Recd 6th Feby
No 336

From
Lieutenant Col. J. Carpendale
Acting Dy Chief Engr CC

To
Lieut Col. W. H. Hawley
Chief Engr & Secretary
to Government P.W.D.

Dated 6th February 1862.
Rec'd 7th " "
No 1021

Brings to notice the high price of teak wood in the Madras Market and suggests the expediency of establishing an Agency in Rangoon or Moulmein for the purchase of teak wood the salary of the person employed being added to the price of timber.

With an Order
No 352 4th March

No 352.

The Government observe that the question of establishing an agency for the purchase of teak for purposes connected with the Commissariat and Ordnance Depts is now under consideration in the Military Dept, and they are of opinion that it would not be advisable to appoint a separate agency for the Dept of Public Works, as such a measure would only tend to defeat the object sought. There is no reason however why the Public Works Dept should not take advantage of the agency referred to as soon as it is established, and the Govt accordingly, resolve to communicate the acting Deputy Chief Engineer's letter to the Military Dept, with a view to their early reply being solicited by that Dept to the despatch No 2389 dated 12th July 1861 addressed to the Secretary to the Govt of India on the subject