

(1) Number of pages _____

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.**Government of Madras.***Public Works* **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 3586	Press
245-246	Mis.
Dated 13-12	1864

Not to be folded or roughly handled

15

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
13th December 1864.*

No. 245. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel J. C. ANDERSON, R. E.,
Superintending Engineer, 2nd Division, to Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E., Secretary
to Government, Department Public Works, dated Masulipatam, 24th November 1864,
No. 104;—

SIR,

1. In continuation of my letter No. 101, dated 18th instant, I have the honor to forward a
map shewing the extent of the inundation from the sea on the night of the 1st instant.

2. Although the area submerged to the north of Masulipatam was very great, the loss of
life as compared with that to the southward and at Masulipatam itself, was small; and I can only
account for this by the sea beach, on the former portion, being bordered by a nearly continuous
sandy ridge, which though not sufficient to withstand the wave, must have broken its force con-
siderably.

3. The principal wave seems to have rushed in along the line of coast, commencing from a
distance of about two miles north of the fort, and extending the whole way to the southern
mouth of the Kistna. Had it not been that the ridge along the shore, immediately opposite the
Cantonment, is very high, I have no doubt that the residents would have suffered even more
severely, than they did. The sea certainly broke in at numerous places further up, and the
fact of the Sultanagram bridge having given way, shews that an immense body of water passed
over the comparatively high land on which the Cantonment lies, and which extends for some miles
to the northward; but I question if the European residents would have escaped, had the deep
wave which entered to the north of the fort been four miles wide, instead of about two.

4. The villages south, between Masulipatam and Divi, and in the lower half of Divi itself,
seem to have suffered as severely in proportion to their size as Masulipatam. I question if
30,000 is not a low estimate of the total loss of human beings by this fearful cyclone, beside
an incalculable loss of cattle, grain, and property of all kinds.

5. The country along the coast, south of the Kistna, suffered less severely, though the exte-
of land submerged was very considerable. As yet I have received no report of the limit to
which it extended. The projecting mouths of the Kistna doubtless acted as a barrier to that sec-
tion of the Delta, while they may have had the effect of producing a much more severe inundation
on the Masulipatam side, than would have occurred, had the line of coast been straight.

No. 246. ORDER THEREON, 13th December 1864, No. 3,556.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Editor's Table.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No 101-
0000

Sups. Engrs. Office and D^y
Maoulipatam
24th November 1864-

From

37

To Lieut Col J. C. Anderson R.E.
Sups. Engineer and D^y
Colonel C. A. Orr R.E.
Secretary to Government
D. B. C.

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I have the honour,
Sir
Your Most Obedt Servt.

J. Anderson Esq. M. B.
Super Engineer & D. G.

L. H.
Fris

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1846-1847

Received of the
Hon. Secy. of the
Treasury
for the
1846-1847

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