M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-31.

(1) Number of pages 10

(2) Date of repair 18 9 1931

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 987 Press Mis.

31-32

Dated 1 — 4 — 1864.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department.
1*st April* 1864.

No. 31. Read the following letter from Captain F. J. MOBERLY, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E., Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Madura, 8th March 1864, No. 2,034:—

SIR,

1. In reply to G. O. No. 474 of the 16th ultimo, I have the honor to report that the Steam Dredge has worked seventeen years at Paumben, three at Cocanada, and one at Jaffna, twenty-one in all.

2. None but petty repairs to the machinery could be effected in India during that period, but I believe that it has been fairly worn out; damage is caused possibly by the varying substances in which it works, it works easily enough through the coral and softer stone, but if the buckets suddenly come on hard sand stone as they occasionlly do, the power of the engine forces the bucket on, and several of these are frequently torn to pieces before any discovery is made, this I should think must tell on other parts.

G. O. Nos. 801, 955, 1,938 and 3,194, dated 31st March, 18th April, 22nd July, and 3rd November 1863 respectively.
Letters from the Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, Nos. 800, 1,154 and 1,890, dated 7th October and 13th November 1863, and 16th February 1864 respectively.

3. This is one reason why in letters as per margin all the Officers concerned at Paumben have advocated the use of Hand Dredges. I trust the Government will sanction the construction of two as proposed in my No. 1,890 of 16th February 1864.

4. I suppose that the old machinery might fetch something at either Negapatam or Madras, nobody is likely to buy it at Paumben; the hull might be repaired for another engine if the Government consider it advisable, but it cannot be moved from Paumben in its present condition as it leaks enormously.

5. Work is now in progress with only one Hand Dredge, but very unsatisfactorily.

No. 32. ORDER THEREON, 1st April 1864, No. 907.

1. From the facts now elicited, the Government are of opinion that the present condition of the Steam Dredge at Paumben is to be attributed to fair wear and tear during the last twenty-one years. The Superintending Engineer will, however, observe that the time of the Government has been unnecessarily occupied with this subject, and that much correspondence might have been avoided, if his original report had been full and complete.

2. Even now, the information supplied by Captain Moberly is far from satisfactory. In paragraph 3 of the previous Order,* he was directed to state what he recommended to be done with the Dredge; and this, in his letter under review, he has quite failed to do. It contains some hypothetical conjectures as to what *might* be done with the Dredge; but Captain Moberly abstains from expressing his own opinion on the subject.

* 16th February 1864, No. 474.

3. It is impossible for the Government to determine anything upon such vague information. Captain Moberly must bear in mind that his position is that of a highly responsible and highly trusted head of a Department, and that he must not shrink from stating his opinion clearly, and from giving his advice when called for.

4. In the present case Captain Moberly will ascertain whether the Dredge can be advantageously disposed of at any of the neighbouring ports, such as Columbo, Jaffna, Tuticorin and Negapatam; and he will state, clearly and decidedly, his own opinion on the matter, and the course which, as the local adviser and agent of the Government, he recommends them to pursue.

5. With reference to paragraph 3 of the letter under review, the Superintending Engineer will bear in mind that no Estimate for the conversion of the Spoil Boats into Hand Dredges has yet been submitted. The Government will await its receipt.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintending Engineer, 8th Division.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Supty Engr's Office 8 Division
Madurao 8th March 1864.

No. 2084

From,

Captain F. J. Moberly R.E.
Superintending Engineer 8 Division

To,

Colonel C. A. Orr R.E.
Secretary to Government D.P.W.

Sir,

Public

In reply to G.O. No. 474 of the 16th Ultimo, I have the honor to report that the Steam Dredge has worked 17 years at Paumben, 3 at Cocanada, and 1 at Jaffna, 21 in all.

2 None but petty repairs to the machinery could be effected in India during that period, but I believe that it has been fairly worn out — damage is caused possibly by the varying substances in which it works — it works easily enough through the coral and softer stone, but if the buckets suddenly come on hard sandstone as they occasionally do, the power of the engine forces the bucket on, and several of these are frequently torn to pieces before any discovery is made — this I should think must tell on other parts.

3 This is one reason why in letters as per margin all the Officers concerned at Paumben have advocated the use of hand Dredges. I

trust

G.O. Nos 801, 955, 1988 & 3194, — dated 31st March, 18th April, 22d July, & 3d November 63 respectively.
Letters from the Supty Engr 8th to the Secretary to Govt. D.P.W. Nos 800, 1154 & 1890, dated 7th October & 13th November 63 & 16th February 1864 respectively

trust the Government will sanction the construction of 2 as proposed in my No. 1,890 of 16th February ll.

4 I suppose that the old machinery might fetch something at either Negapatam or Madras — no body is likely to buy it at Paumben — the hull might be repaired for another engine if the Government consider it advisable — but it cannot be moved from Paumben in its present condition as it leaks enormously.

5 Work is now in progress with only one hand Dredge, but very unsatisfactorily.

I have &c.

Supty Engr's Office
8th Dn Madura &c
8th March 1864

J. F. Mulberry Captn R.E.
Superintending Engineer 8th Dn

To,

Colonel C. A. Ow R.E.
Secretary to Government D.P.R.

No. 907 Public Works Department

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 7th April /64.

Read the following letter from the Superintg Engr. 8th Dn.

Reports upon the state of the Steam Dredge at Paumbum and requests the sanction of Govt. for the construction of 2 Hand Dredges.

H.E. of 8th March 1864 No. 2084.

From the facts now elicited, the Govt. are of opinion that the present condition of the steam dredge at Paumbum is to be attributed to fair wear and tear during the last 21 years. The Superintending Engineer will, however, observe that the time of the Govt. has been unnecessarily occupied with this subject, and that much correspondence might have been avoided, if his original report had been full and complete.

Even now, the information supplied by Captain Moberly is far from satisfactory. In para. 3 of the previous order, he was directed

x 16. February. 64
474.

17th Feby 1864 No. 337
338

Dup. 1864 Dup. Govt. 7th April
Fol. No. 1136
The Supy Engineer
5th Dn.

To
The Secretary to Govt.
D.O.W.

Dated 5th March 1864.
No. 14

Reports upon the state of the Steam Dredge at Paumbum, and requests the sanction of Govt. for the construction of 2 Hand Dredges.

No. 31.

No. 907 - 1st April /64

C. 21st March 1864 B. 205

to state what he re-
-commended to be done
with the dredge; — and
this, in his letter under
review, he has quite
failed to do. It contains
some hypothetical conjectures
as to what *might* be done
with the dredge; but
Captain Moberly abstains
from expressing his own
opinion on the subject.

It is impossible
for the Govt. to determine
anything upon such
vague information.
Captain Moberly must
bear in mind that his
position is that of a
highly responsible and
highly trusted head of a
Department, — and that
he must not shrink
from stating his opinion
clearly, and from giving
his advice when called
for.

In the present case
Captain Moberly will
ascertain whether the
dredge can be advantageously
disposed of at any of
the neighbouring ports,
such as Columbo, Jaffna,

Anticorin & Negapatam;
and he will state, clearly
and decidedly, his own
opinion on the matter,
and the course which, as
the local adviser & agent of the
Govt., he recommends
them to pursue.

With reference to
para 3 of the letter under
review, the Supt. Engineer
will bear in mind that
no estimate for the
conversion of the spoil
boats into hand dredges
has yet been submitted.
The Govt. will [illegible] await
its receipt.

[illegible]

To
The Supt. Engr. 8th Dn.

93

Dept. 2nd April

V. T. 1864 Dept.
Pro. of Govt. for April
No. 907
Pro. of the Al. Govt.
D. 1st April /64

C. No. 4178/64

No. 31. 32

Dept. March 1864. No. 30th