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(2) Date of repair 12. 11.

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1369	Press ~~Mis.~~
Bm-406-07	
Dated 19. 5.	1865.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
19th May 1865.*

No. 406. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel G. W. WALKER, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, to Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E., Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Coonoor, 12th April 1865, No. 313 :—

SIR,

1. The subject of a new Light-house at Cochin having been so long practically laid aside in spite of its importance, I desire, in the report called for by G. O. No. 621 of 6th March, to explain the cause of my apparent inaction in the matter.

2. The first call in G. O. No. 64 of 8th January 1864, was for a new Flagstaff. It had already been anticipated by me in communication with the Master Attendant at Cochin, who was good enough to prepare an estimate of Rupees 1,994 for the work in question, and was prepared to carry it out, as being quite within the scope of his own profession. At the same time he earnestly recommended, with approval of the Superintendent of Marine, that a laterite column should be substituted.

3. The Supervisor in executive charge of Paulghat Range was accordingly ordered to proceed to Calicut by rail, to take measurements of the Light-house at that place, from which he prepared a plan, subsequently revised as to height and proportions according to specifications from my Office. It allowed for 105 feet height of tower, at an estimated cost of Rupees 11,000. This again was brought down to a height of 95 feet and cost of Rupees 8,800. And I should have had no hesitation in undertaking the erection of either structure, attributing the failure of the original laterite column, that gave way immediately on completion, to the insufficient thickness of its walls.

4. But I was not satisfied that the height stipulated for was actually necessary, or that sufficient notice had been taken of the facility which the old square tower already existing, afforded of raising a cheap superstructure thereon. I did not see my way to provision of the necessary funds, and could get no information as to the Port Funds available, until receipt of the Government Order under reply. Nor were Government prepared to supply another Overseer for Cochin, without which extra executive assistance the work could not be undertaken.

5. Hearing, therefore, indirectly that the Collector and Marine authorities had taken up the notion of obtaining the materials of the Basses Light-house for Cochin, I moved no further in the matter save to send for correct plans of the old square tower, and to suggest its use as the pedestal of a frame work whereon to exhibit the light. Now that I see from the correspondence accompanying the Government Order that the minds of those concerned are disabused regarding the transfer of materials from Ceylon (a point which I could have settled, if consulted,) and that a height of 80 feet is acquiesced in as sufficient, I no longer delay submitting the sketches which I have received of the square tower, and expressing the views which I have formed as to the superstructure needed.

Enclosures 2.

6. The tower is rectangular, $31\frac{1}{2}$ feet by $18\frac{3}{4}$ feet inside, and 52 feet high, with a thickness of $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet at bottom and $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet at top. Nothing is known as to its foundation, and the walls are stated to be cracked in places and bulged in others. But I cannot conceive them incapable of supporting such a superstructure as would be adequate for the purpose: 28 feet high, in horizontal section on octagon, described about a circle of 20 feet diameter below, and one of 10 feet above. On one of the tower plans I have shewn how I would design the top and bottom octagonal frames, prolonging their sides to form squares for the purpose of obtaining additional bearings, and doubling the number of upright supports. Where the best of Teak is procurable and first rate Carpenters, I see no occasion to resort to iron as the constructive material, and I reckon the utmost cost at Rupees 2,000, exclusive of that of the lights, for which I have no data. Should it be thought advisable to strengthen the tower by the use of iron straps and tie-rods, Rupees 500 more would probably be required. A Flagstaff would be unnecessary, as signals might be exhibited on halliards running from the level of the light to that of the tower top.

Have had no hesitation in undertaking the erection of the structure.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
19th May 1865.*

Referred to the Marine Department with reference to the Orders in that Department, No. 43, dated 22nd February 1865.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
20th April 1865.

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

No. 407.

ORDER THEREON, 19th May 1865, No. 1,369.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 58.

1. With this letter the Superintending Engineer of the 7th Division, after explaining the cause of his apparent inaction in the matter of the proposed new Light-house for the Port of Cochin, submits a plan for providing a structure on which to place a suitable lantern at the very moderate estimated cost of Rupees 2,000.

2. Nothing definite, however, has yet been placed before Government regarding the site of the Light-house or of the height to which it should be raised. They are therefore of opinion that, as the best means of arriving at a satisfactory conclusion upon these points, the Superintending Engineer and Superintendent of Marine should meet at Cochin and consult on the subject.

3. Colonel Walker will accordingly be requested to place himself at once in communication with Mr. Franklin and arrange for an early meeting. These Officers will then, after a careful examination of the locality, fix upon the most fit site for the Light-house, and determine to what height it should be raised. This being done, Colonel Walker will prepare and submit plans and estimates for a suitable column.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Marine Department.

.. Superintending Engineer, 7th Division.
.. Superintendent of Marine.

Ed. S. T. Augustin.

No. 313

Superintending Engineer's Office
7th Division
Cooonoor 12th April 1865

From Lieut Colonel G. M. Walker R.E.
Superintending Engineer 7th Div.
To Colonel C. A. Orr R.E.
Secretary to Government - D. M.

Sir, The subject of a new Light house at Cochin having been so long practically laid aside in spite of its importance, I desire in the report called for by G.O. No. 621 of 6th March, to explain the cause of my apparent inaction in the matter.

2 The first call in G.O. No. 64 of 8th January 1864, was for a new Flagstaff. It had already been anticipated by me in communication with the Master Attendant at Cochin, who was good enough to prepare an Estimate of Rupees 1994 for the work in question, and was prepared to carry it out, as being quite within the scope of his own profession. At the same time, he earnestly recommended, with approval of the Superintendent of Marine, that a Luteite Column should be substituted.

3 The Supervisor in Executive charge of Pamboligat Range was accordingly ordered to proceed to Calicut by Rail, to take measurements of the Light House at that Place, from which he prepared a Plan, subsequently revised as to height and proportions according to specifications from my office. It allowed for 105 feet height of Tower, at an estimated cost of Rupees 1000. This again was brought down to a height of 95 feet and cost of Rs 8800. And should have had no hesitation in undertaking the erection of either structure, attributing the failure of the original

original. Later to Column, that gave way immediately on completion, to the insufficient thickness of the walls.

But I was not satisfied that the height stipulated for was actually necessary, or that sufficient notice had been taken of the facility which the old square Tower already existing, afforded of raising a cheap superstructure thereon. I did not see any way to provision of the necessary funds; and could get no information as to the Port Fund available until receipt of the Government Order under reply. Nor were Government prepared to supply another Overseer for Cochin; without which certain executive assistance the work could not be undertaken.

Hearing, therefore indirectly that the Civil and Marine authorities had taken up the notion of obtaining the materials of the Paper Light House for Cochin, I moved on further in the matter and to send for correct Plans of the old square Tower, and to suggest its use as the pedestal of a frame work wherein to exhibit the Light.

Now that I saw from the correspondence accompanying the Government Order that the minds of those concerned are disabused regarding the transfer of materials from Ceylon (a point which I could have settled, if consulted,) and that a height of 80 feet is acquiesced in, I no longer delay submitting the sketches which I have received of the square Tower, and expressing the views which I have formed as to the superstructure needed.

The Tower is rectangular, $31\frac{1}{2}$ feet by $10\frac{3}{4}$ feet inside, and 52 feet high with a thickness of $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet at bottom and $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet at top. Nothing is known as to its foundation, and the walls are started to be cracked

cracked in places and bulged in others. But I cannot conceive them incapable of supporting such a superstructure as would be adequate for the purpose; 28 feet high, in horizontal section an octagon, described about a circle of 20 feet diameter below, and one of 10 feet above. On one of the Tower Plans I have shown how I would design the top and bottom octagonal frames, prolonging their sides to form squares for the purpose of obtaining additional bearings, and doubling the number of upright supports. Where the best of materials is procurable, and first rate Carpenters, I see no occasion to resort to Iron as the constructive material. And I reckon the utmost cost at Rs 2000, exclusive of that of the Lights for which I have no data. Should it be thought advisable to strengthen the Tower by the use of Chim straps and Ties rods, Rs 500 more would probably be required. A Flag staff would be unnecessary as signals might be exhibited on balliards running from the level of the Light to that of the Tower top.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most obt. servant

Walker Lieut Col R.E.
Superintending Engineer, &c.

Santerre at the very moderate estimated cost of Rupees 2000.

2. The Government think the plan would answer if at the site of the old Dutch flag staff tower an elevation of 80 feet above the level of the sea could be relied upon as sufficient for the light-mission and to be raised. They have, however, reason to believe that it is not, and that a better site for the light-house will be found about the spot marked on the accompanying Survey Map of Cochin, where

We must have some definite opinion from a Chief P.W. Engineer authority who on the part of the Government can take responsibility in case of failure as to what the height of the light tower should be. I find nothing definite. I would care to walk in common. Franklin was the first to mention at the spot - but for a long as a proposition. I should be with the light house - until in the black & white and in various - taken from the

shall not be lost - when we have it in the house and upon it unless there be some strong reason to the contrary J.P.

I think the course proposed by Mr. Dwyer is the better one, and, referring to the difficulties we have usually encountered at another station, it seems to me to be the only safe one for adoption.

W.D.



To The Surveyor General with 3 plans
Marine Dept

W.D.

where a Light on the summit of a Column of from 80 to 100 feet in height will, it is believed, be visible in every direction in which it is required to be seen, and will not be liable to being obscured by the growth of Coconut trees or other plantations.

Col. Walker will be requested to prepare and submit a plan and estimate for such a column at his earliest convenience.

[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side.]

Civil Works
1327

(12)

28th May 1865 Pr 115 Recd 15 May 65 Pr 167

Public Works Dept
Civil Works 1369
87
No 1369

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 19th May 1865
Read the following

From the Superintending Engineer
7th July

Stating the circumstances
under which the subject of
a new Light House at Cochin
having been so long laid
aside.

With this letter the
Superintending Engineer
of the 7th Division, after
explaining the cause
of his apparent inaction
in the matter of the
proposed new Light
House for the Port
of Cochin, submits a
Plan for providing a
structure on which to
place a suitable
lantern at the very

MD
JP
WDN

Moderate estimated cost
of \$2000-

Nothing definite, however,
has yet been placed
before Government re-
-garding the site of the
Light House or of the
height to which it
should be raised. They
are therefore of opinion
that as the best means
of arriving at a satis-
-factory conclusion upon
these points the Superintending
Engineer and Superintendent
of Marine should meet
at Cochon and consult
on the subject -

Colonel Walker will
accordingly be requested
to place himself at
once in communication
with Mr. Franklin and
arrange for an early
meeting ~~these~~ ~~officers~~ ~~with~~ ~~them~~

after a careful examination
of the locality fix upon the
most fit site for the
Light House, and de-
-termine to what height
it should be raised. This
being done, Colonel Walker
will prepare and submit
Plans and Estimates for
a suitable column -

A.B.

by The Marine Dept
- Supd of Bn
- Supd of Marine
H. H. 2 Plans

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Decr 20 May

J. W. 1865) Depo.

Pro: of Govt for May

No. 1369

Pro: of the Madras Govt.

Dy 19th May 1865

The Supt. Engineer

Y^e Do. requested to meet the
Supt. of Marine at the Port
of Cochin for the purpose of
fixing upon a site for the
proposed new Light-house
at that Port.

A. 406. 407.

Cid 15 May 1865 Dr. 1865