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(2) Date of repair _____

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2788

Press
Mis.

26-37

Dated 1-9-1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
1st September 1866.*

No. 36. Read the following letter from the Collector of the Godavery District, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Cocanada, 4th August 1866, No. 20—

I have the honor to forward, for the consideration of Government, a Memorial prepared by the merchants of this place regarding the wants of the port. It was their wish and intention to have presented it to Lord Napier during his late visit to Cocanada, but his Lordship's brief stay here did not admit of this being done. He, however, intimated to the merchants his wish that it should be sent to Madras for the consideration of Government, and, as it has been forwarded to me with this view, I have the pleasure to transmit it.

Memorial from the Merchants of Cocanada, to His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor of Fort Saint George, dated Cocanada, 17th July 1866.

1. We, the undersigned European and Native Merchants of Cocanada, seize the favorable opportunity of your Lordship's visit to our town to bring briefly under your Lordship's notice the present unsatisfactory condition of the several Public Works of our Port and District.
2. We need scarcely allude to the importance of Cocanada as the only safe port for shipping on the entire Coromandel Coast, and to its high rank as a commercial town. The value of its exports, second in the Presidency to that of Madras only, sufficiently attests this.
3. Your Lordship may have observed the unfinished state of the canal embankments in the town itself, which renders the employment of wheeled conveyances impossible, except in the immediate vicinity of the bridge, and obstructs communication with the Sea Custom House.
4. The unsafe condition of the existing bridge between Cocanada and Jaganatpóoram also demands immediate attention. The abutments of a new bridge were completed about eighteen months ago, and although the screw piles are also in readiness, the work has apparently been abandoned.
5. The same remarks apply to the Lighthouse which, commenced more than twelve years ago, and now nearly completed, likewise appears to be quite neglected.
6. We would also draw your Lordship's attention to the fact that communication with the interior, whence our produce is derived, is entirely dependent upon the canals, and when the water in these fails, or is required for purposes of irrigation, all trade is for the time suspended.
7. We would suggest the gradual construction of roads along the bunds of these canals, which should not be attended with any very heavy outlay.
8. Finally, we would speak of the Harbour, which is so rapidly and seriously deteriorating as to render immediate and thorough investigation, and the employment of energetic remedial measures urgently necessary. The shipping are compelled to anchor farther and farther from the port every year, owing to the silt which is steadily accumulating.
9. This has given rise to serious apprehensions, and to a rumour of an intention on the part of Government to remove the port to Upada. Although we can hardly credit this, the natural advantages of Cocanada being great, while Upada on the contrary offers no safe anchorage nor landing, yet the mere rumour is sufficient to check the investment of private capital in local undertakings.
10. It would be a great source of relief to your Lordship's Petitioners to see the public works, before alluded to, again taken in hand, their suspension having tended to give an appearance of truth to such rumours.
11. We hope that this our petition will meet your Lordship's favorable notice, and have the honor to subscribe ourselves your Lordship's most obedient and humble servants.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
1st September 1866.*

Transferred to the Public Works Department.

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Under Secretary.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
15th August 1866.

No. 37. ORDER THEREON, 1st September 1866, No. 2,788.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 10.

The Government, fully recognizing the value of Cocanada as a shipping Port and as a Town of commercial importance, have for many years past made great efforts for the improvement of the entrance to the river, and for increasing the facilities afforded to the landing and shipping of cargo in the harbour. Large sums have been annually spent with these objects, and it is only after the experience obtained during a succession of working seasons, that the Government have become convinced of the futility of endeavouring, by such means as are within their power, to do any thing more than maintain the harbour in a state to enable it to accommodate cargo boats.

2. As the Bay, forming the Roadstead of the Port of Cocanada, is undergoing the gradual but unavoidable progress of silting up, in the same manner as the coast in the neighbourhood is becoming extended seaward by the deposition of alluvium brought down by the flood waters of the Godavery, the Government see no means by which the gradual removal of the anchorage further and further from the present town can be stayed, and it is observed that the Memorialists do not suggest any.

3. Such operations as the Superintending Engineer may consider it necessary to undertake for keeping open the harbour will be carried out, and the Memorialists will be informed that any measures which may be suggested, which offer a reasonable prospect of successfully maintaining, or of improving the port, will be gladly taken into consideration by Government.

4. The attention of the Superintending Engineer is called to the Memorialists' representations regarding the unfinished state of the Canal embankments within the town, and the consequent difficulty of using wheeled conveyances upon them.

5. The Memorialists are mistaken as to the abandonment of the construction of the new iron lattice girder bridge over the river. It appears that, the masonry abutments being complete, the girders are all ready and put together in the Workshop at Dowlaisweram; and, as the balance of the estimate has been allotted in the current Budget, the Government have no reason to doubt that as soon as the girders and screws can be sent down from Dowlaisweram, and the season will admit of operations being carried on, the work will be rapidly completed.

6. The question of the character of the light to be affixed to the Lighthouse at Cocanada is now under reference in the Marine Department.

7. The Memorialists complain of the means of communication with the interior being defective when the canals are empty, in consequence of the embankments of those canals not being formed into road-ways; but, seeing that Cocanada enjoys especial advantages of communication with all parts of the interior of the District by means of the easy and cheap carriage supplied by the canals throughout the greater portion of the year, the Government consider that, even if it were

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
1st September 1866.*

practicable to form roads in the manner suggested by the Memorialists at anything like a reasonable cost, it would be unadvisable to divert money for the purpose of making those roads until other Districts are placed, as respects their communications, on an equally advantageous footing.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Collector of the Godavery District.
" Superintending Engineer, 1st Division.
" Marine Department.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

To

His Excellency
the Right Honorable
Lord Selkirk K. J.
Governor of Fort Saint George

We the undersigned European and
merchants of Occanada, seize the favorable
of your Lordship's visit to our town to bring
your Lordship's notice the present state
of the several public works of our Port and

We need scarcely allude to the
Occanada as the only safe Port for ships from
Coromandel Coast and to its high rank in
town. The value of its exports, second in the
that of Madras only, sufficiently attests

Your Lordship may have observed
state of the canal embankments in the
renders the employment of wheelbarrow conveyance
except in the immediate vicinity of the bridge
communication with the Sea Custom-house

The unsafe condition of the existing
between Occanada and Paganatpouram
immediate attention. The abutments of a
completed about 18 months ago, and all the
are also in readiness, the work has appeared
done.

The same remarks apply to
which, commenced more than twelve years
nearly completed, likewise appears to be
We would also draw your Lordship's

Finally we would speak of the harbour, which is so rapidly and seriously deteriorating and requires immediate and thorough investigation and the employment of energetic measures urgently necessary. The shipping are compelled to anchor farther and farther from the Port every year, owing to the silt which is steadily accumulating.

This has given rise to various apprehensions and to a rumour of an intention on the part of Government to remove the Port to Upada. Although we can hardly credit this, the natural advantages of Cocanada being great, while Upada in the contrary offers no safe anchorage nor landing, yet the mere rumour is sufficient to check the investment of private capital in local undertakings.

It would be a great source of relief to your Lordship's petitioners to see the public works, before alluded to, again taken in hand, their suspension having tended to give an appearance of truth to such rumours.

We hope that this our petition will meet your Lordship's favourable notice and have the honor to subscribe ourselves your Lordship's most obedient and humble servants.

Cocanada
17th July 1866

J. D. Simson
Wm. Simson
Wm. Simson
H. M. Simson
London Boro Co

H. A. de la Haye
J. F. Phillips
R. H. de la Haye
J. F. Phillips
R. H. de la Haye
J. F. Phillips

H. A. de la Haye
J. F. Phillips
R. H. de la Haye
J. F. Phillips
R. H. de la Haye
J. F. Phillips

H. A. de la Haye
J. F. Phillips
R. H. de la Haye
J. F. Phillips
R. H. de la Haye
J. F. Phillips

H. A. de la Haye
J. F. Phillips
R. H. de la Haye
J. F. Phillips
R. H. de la Haye
J. F. Phillips

H. A. de la Haye
J. F. Phillips
R. H. de la Haye
J. F. Phillips
R. H. de la Haye
J. F. Phillips

21/7/1866

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and second

No. 20

Godman's District
Collector's Office
Cocanada
4th August 1866

From

James Fraser Esq.
Collector

To

The Honorable A. J. Arbuthnot,
Chief Secretary to Government
Fort Smith George

Sir,

I have the honor to forward
for the consideration of Government
a memorial prepared by the merchants
of this place regarding the wants of
the port. It was their wish and inten-
tion to have presented it to Lord
Napier during his late visit to Cocanada
but his Lordship's brief stay here
did not admit of this being done.
He however intimated to the merchants
his wish that it should be sent
to Madras for the consideration of
Government, and, as it has been
forwarded to me with this view,

1866 Dep.

Enailed from the
Collector Godman's D.
to the Chief Secretary
to Government
Fort St. George

Dated Aug. 1866

Recd

No. 20

No.

P H 3374/16

Memorial prepared
by the merchants of

have the pleasure to transmit it
I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt servant

J. Traver,
Collector -

E. A. P. Remondino
H. D. Clark

Large sums have been annually spent with these objects, and it is only after the experience of time during a succession of winter seasons, that the Government have become convinced of the futility of endeavouring, by such means as are within their power, to do any thing more than maintain the harbour in a state to enable it to accommodate Cargo boats.

As the Bay, forming the Roadstead of the Port of Coanada,

is undergoing the gradual but unavoidable progress of silting up, in the same manner as the Coast in the neighbourhood is becoming extended seaward by the deposition of alluvium brought down by the flood waters of the Godaverry; the Government see no means by which the gradual removal of the anchorage further and further from the present town can be stayed, and it is observed that the Memorialists do not suggest any -

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for keeping open
the Harbour will be carried
out, and the Memorialists
will be informed that
any measures which
may be suggested, which
offer a reasonable prospect
of successfully maintain-
ing, or of improving the
port, will be gladly taken
into consideration by Govt.

The attention of the
Suptg Engr is called to the
Memorialists representations regarding

P. IV. 186 . Department.

No.

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT.

Dated

the unfinished state of
the Canal embankment
within the town, and the
consequent difficulty of
using wheeled conveyances
upon them.

The Memorialists ~~would~~
~~appear to be~~ ^{are} mistaken
as to the abandonment
of the construction of the
new iron lattice girder
bridge over the river. It
appears that, the masonry
abutments being complete,
the girders are all ready
and put together in the
Workshop at Doulishoven
and as the balance

of the Estimate has been
allotted in the Current
Budget, the Govt have
no reason to doubt that
as soon as the girders
and screws can be sent
down from Doolahivaram,
and the season will admit
of operations being car-
ried on, the work will
be rapidly completed.

The question of the
character of the light
to be affixed to the
Lighthouse at Cocanada
is now under reference
in the Marine Dept.

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The Memorialists
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being formed into road-
ways, but, seeing that
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pecial advantages of
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parts of the interior of
the District by means
of the easy and cheap
carriage supplied by
the Canals throughout

disturbance. The
the greater portion of the
year, and the Govt con-
sider that even if it
was practicable to form
roads in the manner
suggested by the memo-
rialists at any thing like
a reasonable cost, it would
be inadvisable to divert
money for the purpose
of making those roads
until other districts are
placed as respects their
communications on an
equally advantageous
footing.

32

[Signature] The Colly of the fornamery Rich
" S. Engle 12th Dec
" Marine Dept
Dept of the Navy

J W 1866 Sept

Pro. of Court for Sept

No 2488

Pro. of the Mayor & Court

24th Sept/66

Referring to
on a letter from the Collector
of the Godavari District
Submitting Memorial from
the inhabitants of Cananda
bringing to notice the condition
of the Public Works of the
Godavari District.

No 36 37