M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 6

(2) Date of repair 13 1 47

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 748 Press ~~Mis.~~

107-108

Dated 6 — 3. 1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 6th March 1866.

No. 107. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Military Department:—

Passing orders on letter from the Quarter Master General, recommending the abandonment of Masulipatam as a sea-port for the landing or embarking of European Troops, and proposing certain arrangements for the movement of such Troops *vid* Bangalore, Bellary and Kurnool to Secunderabad, &c. } (Here enter 28th February 1866, No. 778.)

No. 108. ORDER THEREON, 6th March 1866, No. 748.

MILITARY WORKS, No. 5.

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer of the 2nd Division.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintending Engineer, 2nd Division.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter:—

From the Quarter Master General, Fort Saint George, 16th February 1866, No. 1922; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department.

I have the honor, by order of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, with reference to Proceedings of Government, No. 2420, dated 28th June 1865, to offer the following observations on the subject of reverting to Masulipatam as a port for embarkation and debarkation of troops, and of re-opening the road for their use, towards Secunderabad.

2. Without troubling Government with the voluminous reports received, the Commander-in-Chief thinks it will suffice to say that Masulipatam has never been known to be so healthy and so clean, as it has been since the cyclone. The water was never so good, because it is now brought in by conduits from the river. Provisions are scarce, very bad, and very dear; and the public buildings are in a state of dilapidation.

3. But provisions would be forthcoming for troops if required, and notice were given; and the buildings were to have been put in order for the cover of 150 Europeans, before the cyclone.

4. The only idea in restoring the station to its original use, was in connection with the movement of European troops by transit; but to make that possible, a transit would have to be re-established; and the buildings would have to be put in order. Now, there is no hope that any contractor can be found to enter upon such an engagement. The last declined to continue it when the then existing contract expired, on the plea that he was a loser; and now that a Mussulman has established a transit between Secunderabad and Kurnool, the idea would be entertained by no one.

5. The buildings, if repaired, would only be required until the rail to Ghooty was open, because then (three or four years hence perhaps) all Europeans not ordered to march, would be sent that way, transitting to Secunderabad from Ghooty *viâ* Kurnool. The cost of repairs would, therefore, be thrown away.

6. The exposure of Europeans during the passage from shore to ship is an evil, irremediable, and very great.

7. The Commander-in-Chief has, therefore, come to the conclusion that the wisest course to pursue, will be to send Europeans, who do not march, by transit from Bangalore *via* Bellary and Kurnool, as at present, to Secunderabad.

8. There is nothing to prevent Masulipatam being used for Native troops required to embark or land there; and for stores, the same facilities, such as they are, exist as heretofore.

9. The repair of the public Military buildings at Masulipatam need not be carried out, and the four rest-houses, on the Secunderabad road, may be sold or be disposed of, as Government or the Resident at Hyderabad may think best.

10. In thus abandoning for European troops this line of communication, the present temporary one has to be made permanent, at least from Kurnool to Secunderabad. Between Bellary and Kurnool, an inexpensive rest-house should be provided to last until the rail to Ghooty is completed. Between Kurnool and Secun-

derabad, two will be required, besides one at Kurnool—all to be permanent structures. Four rest-house superintendents were reduced on the Secunderabad and Masulipatam road, and they could be again authorized for these four new stations. Two of the rest-houses being in Government limits, Government might not object to build; the other two are in the Hyderabad country, and the Resident would have to be consulted. The Resident permits troops at present to use lately constructed public bungalows. Either, he might give them up as rest-houses, or he might allow of others being built.

11. When the rail to Ghooty is open, the rest-house establishment on the Bellary and Kurnool line, might be transferred to a place between Ghooty and Kurnool.

12. The Commander-in-Chief does not contemplate ever using Masulipatam for European troops, except when necessity impels; but as a rule it would not be used, and certainly never, after the rail to Ghooty is open.

13 Should these views meet with the concurrence of Government, the Commander-in-Chief requests the necessary communication may be made with the Resident at Hyderabad, and a report, as to the disposal of the public buildings at Masulipatam, shall be hereafter submitted.

ORDER, No. 778, 28th February 1866.

The Governor in Council concurs generally in the views expressed by the Commander-in-Chief, regarding the abandonment of Masulipatam as a sea-port, for either landing or embarking European troops, except on emergency—and approves of the proposed arrangements for the movement of such troops *viâ* Bangalore, Bellary and Kurnool to Secunderabad, until the opening of the railway to Ghooty.

2. On Government being informed at what points, on the route, rest-houses will be required, further orders will be passed, and the Resident at Hyderabad addressed on the subject.

(True Extract.)

Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Quarter Master General.
,, Public Works Department,
,, Controller of Military Accounts,
,, Commissary General,
,, Inspector General of Ordnance,
,, Adjutant General,
} for information.

Exd. A. W. Cooke.

P. W. 1866 Department.
No. 1/ Govt for Madras
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Military Works

No. 748

Copy of the Madras Govt
to the Military Depts

Dt 28th Feby
Recd 3d March 1866.

Comm.d the
Engineer
of the 2d Div.

Govt St George
6th March 1865

No 7748

Copy of Orders
on letter from the Dy
Mr Genl recommending the
abandonment of Masuli
-patam as a sea-port
for the landing or
embarking of European
Troops & proposing cer-
-tain arrangements
for the movement
of such Troops via Banga
-lore Bellary & Kurnool
to Secunderabad &c.

No 7748 6th March 1866.

No 107. 108

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