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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2457	Press ~~Mis.~~
294-95	
Dated 12 . 8	1867 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

18

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department.
12th August 1867.

No. 294. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the
Military Department :—

Communicating letter from the Collector of
Malabar on the subject of the proposed Rest } (Here enter 6th August 1867, No. 2,901.)
House for troops at Beypore.

No. 295. ORDER THEREON, 12th August 1867, No. 2,457.

MILITARY WORKS, No. 21.

Communicated to the Superintend-
ing Engineer of the 7th Division.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. H. M. SHAW STEWART, Major, R. E.,
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

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MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter :—

From the Collector of Malabar, Calicut, 19th July 1867, No. 82; to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Madras.

I have been informed that it is the intention of Government to erect a rest-house for troops at Beypore immediately on a large scale, with a view to their embarkation thence westward. I trust I shall not be considered as going out of my province if I venture, unasked, to offer a few remarks which the subject suggests.

2. The Madras Government are well aware of the great inconveniences attaching to Beypore as a terminal station.

The railway buildings stand on the narrow extremity of what is in fact an island bounded by the sea on the west; the Beypore river (some 400 yards wide) on the north; a backwater, creek and low swampy land on the east; and the Kadalhundi estuary (some 173 yards wide where the railway crosses it) on the south.

The whole of the land at the narrow northern apex of this confined spot is taken up by the railway premises, saving small and not very convenient sites obtained with difficulty for a Government salt store, post office, police station, &c.

For the establishment of offices, warehouses, and such buildings, public and private, as an expanding trade would absolutely necessitate, there is simply no suitable space whatever.

3. The site of the proposed rest-house is consequently not at the railway station; but some $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile south of it. There are no particular facilities for superintendence of the men before embarkation, for supplies, transport to vessels, or any advantage attaching to the site save only comparative nearness to the present railway terminus.

4. At Calicut there is now, and it seems probable there will be, maintained a European detachment at west hill barracks; there is consequently a Commissariat establishment in existence and an Officer Commanding the station. Any amount of supplies, boats for transport and such like conveniences can be had at once, Calicut being the civil Head Quarters of the district, with bank and currency office, money transactions are easy.

The lying ground for vessels is much the same as at Beypore.

A suitable site I think could be taken up on the beach, close to west hill barracks.

5. The disadvantage is that there would be a distance of about 10 miles between the railway terminus and the rest-house, were it built as above suggested.

But the railway cannot always stop at its present unsatisfactory terminus—Calicut, both from the convenience of the local communications upon it, its thoroughly established native trade and its position as the natural port of Wynaad, must sooner or later have the railway extended to it; and the only really considerable obstacle, the Beypore river being once crossed, the line will easily and certainly be extended northwards through the rich and populous country and towns intervening between Calicut and Cannanore.

With the railway extended to Calicut, the only obvious disadvantage to the rest-house being established thereat would disappear.

I would suggest then, for the consideration of competent authorities, whether it would not be better to establish the rest-house at Calicut?

It would be of comparatively little use locally to improve the bar, unless some land is made available for building purposes.

P. S.—As about to dispatch the above, I have just received from the Superintending Engineer, Government Order, Public Works Department, dated 8th instant, No. 2037, suspending the erection of the proposed rest-house at Beypore; but I forward the letter as it was written in hopes it may assist towards a settlement of the question.

Collector: ~~_____~~

Communicated to the Commander-in-Chief and Public Works Department.

(True Extract.)

Deputy Secretary to Government.

Exd. T. Stubbs.

To the Collector of Malabar, with Proceedings, No. 2418 of 1867.
 " Quarter Master General.
 " Public Works Department.

Exd. T. Stubbs.

with 20 spare copies

Received by Mr. [illegible]

Decr 23/86

2454

Lieut. [illegible]

Comm. [illegible]

M.

Stout & Co

12th August 1867

P. N. 1867 Dept
Pro: of Govt for August
No. 2986

Pro: of the Madras Govt
Only Dept

Dated 6th Aug 1867
Recd 9th Aug 1867

No. 2901

Communica-
ting letter from the
Collector of Malabar
on the subject of the
proposed rest house
for troops at Bey-
koor.

No 294-295

With an Order
No. 2157 - 125 Oct 1867