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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

P. W. DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1133.	Press
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262-3.		
Dated	15-4-	1868.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
15th April 1868.*

No. 202. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the
Marine Department:—

Approving of certain works proposed to be
executed at Vypeen and Cochin within British } (Here enter 7th April 1868, No. 107.)
territory.

No. 203. ORDER THEREON, 15th April 1868, No. 1,133.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 25.

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

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Marine Department,
1st April 1868.*

No. 4. Read the following letter from Captain J. CASTOR, Master Attendant, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Cochin, 23rd March 1868, No. 49.

In continuation of my letter of the 13th instant, No. 42, I have the honor to submit a plan of the Vypeen Coast, showing the position of the groynes necessary to be constructed for its protection, as well as for that of the Cochin Harbour.

2. It will be observed that of the groynes proposed to be constructed on the Coast, only one, and the most important one, has to be laid in British territory; and as this is the point on which the action of the sea is greatest, I have resolved to extend the groyne to 200 feet. I purpose sinking boats laden with stone in the formation of this groyne, if the process can be effected at a reasonable cost. The position of all the other groynes will be in the territory of His Highness the Rajah of Cochin.

3. The groyne proposed on the face of the Cruz Milagree Gap is intended to silt up the channel formed there, which is unquestionably a permanent source of evil to this harbour; the divergence of a large volume of the tidal stream through this outlet, necessarily diminishing the scouring power through the ship channel, and consequently tending to its progressive deterioration.

4. I have carefully sounded along the shore on both sides of the harbour, and find that the depth of water is somewhat greater than when examined in October last, at which period the groynes might have been laid not only with less cost and much less difficulty, but a smaller extension of the work seaward would have been sufficient to secure the object in view, when some portion of the beach still remained. The groynes would, moreover, have exerted their resisting influence further out from the town.

5. The fair season having nearly passed away, there is a ground swell, and a surf which breaks close in shore, to contend against. This will be aggravated by the setting in of the least bad weather; and the appliances necessary to lay down the stones must consequently be of increased strength. I anticipated this difficulty so far back as October last, when I urgently represented the necessity of any work undertaken for this purpose being completed before March or April.

6. My preliminary arrangements are nearly completed, and I hope soon to be able to commence the work now sanctioned.

7. As a question must naturally arise as to the protection which these groynes will afford to the Sirkar territory, I beg to be permitted to offer a few observations. The line of demarcation between the British and Sirkar territory is clearly defined in the plan, from which the far greater extent of coast lying within the Rajah's limits will be at once obvious. The ulterior advantages that might accrue from the remedial measures to be adopted on this coast, must be experienced in no small degree by the Cochin State; whilst, the devastation that is gradually sapping the material resources of the place, and desolating hundreds of homesteads, cannot but be proportionately prejudicial to its best interests. It is unquestionable that the main interest of Government, in taking action in this direction, must centre in the conservation of this harbour; but where the remedies to be effective involve extraordinary expenditure, and the results to be achieved are fraught with immense collateral benefit to the neighbouring State, it remains for Government to determine whether that State may not be fairly called upon to co-operate in meeting the inevitable outlay.

8. I beg to solicit that the Resident might be requested to move the Cochin and Travancore Sirkars to afford the needful facilities for the removal of stones from those territories.

No. 5. ORDER THEREON, 1st April 1868, No. 107.

The works proposed to be executed *within the British territory* are in accordance with the intention of Government, and will be carried out by Captain Castor under the Orders of Government, dated 10th and 26th March 1868, Nos. 84 and 103.

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Marine Department,
1st April 1868.*

2. The question of the extension of operations by the construction of groynes within the territory of the Cochin Sirkar had better be postponed, until the effect of those in the British territory has been ascertained.

3. The Resident in Travancore and Cochin will be requested to secure the necessary facilities for procuring stone for the sanctioned works from the territory of the Sirkars.

(True Extract).

Pratt

Chief Secretary.

To the Superintendent of Marine.

- „ Master Attendant, Cochin, with two plans returned.
- „ Resident in Travancore and Cochin.
- „ Collector of Malabar.
- „ Public Works Department.
- „ Revenue Board.
- „ Accountant General.
- „ Revenue Department.

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*Just St George
15th April 1868*

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Command to the

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And to the

responsible

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Recd. 16/4/68

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W 1868 Sept
Govt of India for India
No 1296.

Pro. of the Madras Govt
Marine Dept

of the 3rd April 1868
No 70. No 107.

Approving of cer-
tain works proposed to
be executed at Vypren
& Cochin within the
British Territory.

1133. 15th April 1868

No 202-203

With an Order