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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. <u>2577</u>	Press Mis.
<u>426-27</u>	
Dated <u>28-10</u>	1870.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
28th October 1870.*

No. 426. Read the following letter from the Acting Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Dowlaishweram, 20th September 1870, No. 2,140:—

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of G. O. of the 13th instant, No. 72, and with reference thereto I beg to say I have very little more to add to what I have already stated to you in my letter of the 15th ultimo, No. 1,638: as this does not appear to have reached you, I beg to send a copy herewith.

2. As regards the statement made in paragraph 6 of the letter from the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, and printed with the G. O. under reply, regarding the value which the land will be able to realize if reclaimed, I beg to suggest the Chamber be called upon to furnish the Government with a guarantee, much the same as the ryots give us for any increase of water-supply, to pay the Government an increase of rent for 5 or 10 years of 50 per cent. on the present average value of the lands in Juggernaikpoorum. The Chairman merely makes an allegation; he offers no security, and as he is not responsible in any way to Government, no satisfaction could be obtained from him if the expenditure failed to realize the results he expects. I have already stated the works are worth doing for other purposes, and I am responsible for what I allege.

No. 427. ORDER THEREON, 28th October 1870, No. 2,577.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 47.

RECORDED, with reference to Proceedings, No. 2,206, under date the 14th September 1870.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Acting Superintending Engineer, 1st Division.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

82/638.

How.

To.

Sir.

Superintending Engrs. Office 1st Div.
Doolaiskuerum 15th August 1870.

Major J. H. Fisher M.E.
Acting Superintending Engineer
1st Division.

Colonel C. A. O. M.E.
Secretary to Government P.W.D.
Madras.

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of
Op. O. of the 5th August 1870 in 1871, and regret very much
to find the Government should consider I had in-
acted in any inconsistent manner in regard to the
improvements of the Cocanada river, but I do not
think that such a conclusion can be borne out after
a perusal of all the correspondence.

2. In my letter to your address of the 8th January
last printed with Op. O. of the 10th March last No 765
para 7 I did recommend that some of the proposals
for which Mr. Sage had sent in Estimates should be
carried out as affording present convenience, but these
could not be looked upon as permanent improve-
ments, and as far as I am aware, the only matter
which I could not undertake to recommend, was,
the holding out to Government, the prospect of being
reimbursed

re-imburse any outlay on account of these works, by filling up the swamp near Juggernautpuram and selling the land for building purposes, on this point my opinion has not changed in the slightest degree, I have made very careful enquiries regarding this, and I have very good authority for stating, there is no prospect of this land being taken up for this purpose, and I was strongly advised not to lend any support to, or countenance, the scheme in any way, and by that recommendation I abide.

3. On reading over para 2 of my letter printed with the G. O. under reply, I regret to say I nowhere find I had stated that on my late visit to Madras I had then only learnt any thing about the Estimate for Rs 45,000 for the River's improvements: there appears to be some misapprehension on this point, as I had already referred to this Estimate in January last, and my having done so, is noted in para 3 of G. O. of the 10th March last No 755. In my letter of the 23rd March last, I stated at length my reasons for not entering very heartily into this scheme, particularly as regards the financial results, but I do not find that I have anywhere utterly condemned the proposals, particularly as affording a very great present convenience. As regards my having learnt any thing about this matter when lately in Madras, I beg to observe I had not the pleasure of seeing either Mr. Dalrymple or Mr. Crother when there I went to their Office and

and as far as I can recollect I do not remember mentioning the matter to anyone in fact, after the receipt of G. O. of the 10th March last No 755 in which Government had resolved to wait for the advent of the Harbour Engineer from England. I dismissed the whole thing as far as the harbour was concerned from further consideration: on receipt of G. O. of the 17th June last No 86 I was obliged to take up the subject again and accordingly recommended such works as are most emergently necessary for the loading and unloading of boats in the river and keeping open the passage over the bar, there are docks which have been in contemplation for many years and have been partially executed, it is therefore very difficult to say who actually designed them, the Estimates for completing these however were prepared by Mr. Sage, and the late Master Attendant Captain Thompson particularly brought to my notice the state of the bar and on my return from Madras we went over this together taking soundings and as soon as an opportunity offered I recommended the dredging of it which has been neglected for some years being in his hand at once.

4. Nothing whatever can be done for the harbour itself at present and I may be permitted to add it would be inexpedient to take up this matter as long as there is a prospect of obtaining sound professional advice from England and had I thought of this I should not have ventured to give any opinion in this subject.

5 In conclusion I trust the Government will now be pleased to accept these explanations and allow the works to progress. I have to the best of my ability & judgment only recommended such works as are likely to be really useful & are absolutely necessary for present convenience; if a scheme for the whole harbour were prepared even now many years must elapse before it could be fully executed and its benefits realized but by executing such works as now proposed we can afford material assistance to the commerce of the port during this interval. I have only to add a provision should be made in future Budgets for the annual dredging of this estuary's mouth as this is retained as the means of giving access to the shipping.

6. I transmit with this letter a copy of the Mr. Master Attendant's letter to me informing me what had become of the estimate for the improvements of the Cocanada river. This, as will be observed, is dated the 21st June last and I left Madras on the 26th April last. This letter is in reply to a reference I had made to that Office as suggested in para 6 of G.O. of the 10th March last No 755 and this information was embodied in my letter printed with G.O. of the 5 August 1871, as I was unable to trace these satisfactorily in this Office.

I have &c. &c.
J. F. Fischer Major R.E.
Acting Superintending Engineer 1st Div.
True Copy
J. F. Fischer Major R.E.
Acting Superintending Engineer 1st Div.

MS 387 4/50

No. 2140

Supg. Engineers Office 1st Division
Dowlaiswaram 2nd September 1876

From

Major J. F. Fischer R.E.
Acting Supg. Engr 1st Division

To

Colonel J. A. Orr R.E.
Secy. to Government P.W.D.
Madras

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of G.O. of the 13th Instant No 72 and with reference thereto, I beg to say I have very little more to add to what I have already stated to you in my letter of the 15th ultimo No 1638; as this does not appear to have reached you, I beg to send a copy herewith.

2 As regards the statement made in para 6 of the letter from the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, and printed with the G.O. under reply regarding the value which the land will be able to realize if reclaimed. I beg to suggest the Chamber be called upon to furnish the Government with a guarantee much the same, as the ryots give us for any increase of water supply, to pay the Government, an increase of rent for

5 or 10 years of 50 per cent, on the ^{average} present value
of the lands in Juggaivaitpoom. The chair-
man merely makes an allegation he offers
no security, and as he is not responsible in
any way to Government, no satisfaction could
be obtained from him if the expenditure
failed to realize the results he expects.
I have already stated the works are worth
doing for other purposes, and I am responsi-
ble for what I allege.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your most obedient Servant

W. T. Tucker Major R.E.

Acting Supg. Surg. 1st Br.

M 1870 Sept
 No 2140 (23)
 From No 3874
 The As. Superintending
 Engineer's Division

The Secretary to
 Government
 D. P. W.
 Dated 20th September 1870

Received 30th
 Enclosure 1st
 Acknowledges the receipt
 of G.O. No 72 dated 15th August
 and states that he has
 already informed in letter
 No 1638 dated 15th June
 regarding the improve-
 ments of the Lagoon
 Harbour

No 2575-28th Sept 1870
 With an Order

For Mr. George
 No 2140

Recorded, with reference to
 proceedings. No 2206
 under date 14th

14th September 1870.

10th Sept 1870

Sept 31/10/70.

W. J. (W. J.)

2. 5. 1870 No 22

Up 387ⁿ
Govt. of 1870. M. C. S.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Superintendent Eng.
J. L. (C. S. S.)

Dated

Recd.

Eng. 1

G. O. 28th Oct. 1870, No 2577.

Nos. 426 & 427

Cocacunda Harbour. Letter

From the Super. Eng. of the 1st B.
Furnishing certain ex-
planations regarding the
improvements to the
Cocacunda Harbour,
Recorded.

Walter M. Orski