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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works. DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2591.	Press Mis.
653-54	
Dated 31 - 10 - 1970.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 453. Read the following letter from the Acting Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Dowlaishweram, 30th September 1870, No. 2,217:—

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of G. O., of the 14th instant, No. 2,206, and with reference to paragraph 2, to request you will be good enough to point out to me any order of Government specially directing me to report particularly on the estimate therein referred to.

2. I have already shown how wholly unfounded the charges of a personal character preferred against me were, and it remains now to see how far the present allegation is well founded.

3. I beg to request some distinct instructions may be sent to me as to what the Government wishes regarding this harbour are: by one G. O.* I am told

* No. 755, dated 10th March 1870. everything is postponed for the advent of an Hydraulic Engineer from England, and paragraph 6 of that same order refers the matter of the Cocanada river to the Marine Department for their report, and nothing has been sent to me from them; again, by another G. O., No. 86, dated 17th June 1870, I am required to furnish a report for such works as are most emergently necessary for the loading and unloading of boats, and this has accordingly been sent. But now again, by the G. O. under reply, I am called upon to submit a project for the improvement of the harbour, with carefully prepared plans and estimates, notwithstanding that this matter had already been ordered to lie over for the coming of the Hydraulic Engineer from England above referred to; and by paragraph 4 of G. O. of the 10th March 1870, No. 755, it was alleged that so long ago as 1863 these had already been submitted to Government, but I know not with what results.

4. It is thus quite clear that up to this date the orders of Government, whatever these are, have not been conveyed in such a specific manner as to enable an officer to gather any idea of what is really wanted, and I beg most respectfully and earnestly to request some definite instructions may be sent to me. If Mr. Sage's designs and estimates for the Cocanada river, which are understood to be still in your office, are considered to be incomplete or unsuitable, I beg they may be returned to me for revision with a view to their being re-submitted for sanction for the works emergently necessary.

5. As regards the dredging of the bar, I have already reported to you the boilers of both the dredges are useless, having been allowed to rust away from idleness and neglect apparently.

No. 454. ORDER THEREON, 31st October 1870, No. 2,591.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 52.

THE orders of Government on the subject of the improvement of the harbour of Cocanada by works of the simple and inexpensive description proposed by Mr. Sage are, in the opinion of His Excellency the Governor in Council, sufficiently explicit. The letter of

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
31st October 1870.*

the Chamber of Commerce of that port, which was forwarded to the Acting Superintending Engineer of the 1st Division for report on the 7th December 1869, made special allusion to Mr. Sage's estimate of Rupees 45,000 and to no other, and as Major Fischer had been furnished in Proceedings of Government in the Marine Department, No. 244, of the 27th September 1869, with a copy of Mr. Dalrymple's letter of the 10th idem, No. 5,195, in which that officer described Mr. Sage's estimate in the fullest detail, the Government are at a loss to perceive on what grounds Major Fischer now seems to take up the position that he had not been required to report on that estimate when his opinion on the subject of the Cocanada harbour improvements was called for. With these remarks the Government trust that Major Fischer will not engage the attention of Government with needless references, and will lose no time in submitting the specific proposals for the improvement of the harbour of Cocanada, which were called for in the last paragraphs of Proceedings Nos. 1,871, of 5th August 1870, and 2,206 of 14th September 1870.

2. With reference to the Acting Superintending Engineer's remarks on the inefficient state of the steam dredge at Cocanada, Major Fischer's attention will be invited to paragraph 2 of the earlier of the orders above referred to, from which he will gather that the Government are not of opinion that any permanent advantage is to be obtained from dredging on the bar.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Acting Superintending Engineer, 1st Division.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No 2217
Superintending Engineer's Office
Cochin 30th September 1870.

From.

Major J. H. Fischer R.E.
Acting Superintending Engineer
1st Division.

To.

Colonel C. A. Orr R.E.
Secretary to Government
Madras

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of O. C. of the 14th instant No 2206, and with reference to para 2, to request, you will be good enough to point out to me, any Order of Government specially directing me to report particularly on the Estimate therein referred to.

2. I have already shown, how wholly unfounded the charges of a personal character preferred against me were, and it remains now to see, how far the present allegation is well founded.

3. I beg to request some distinct instructions may be sent to me, as to what the Government's wishes regarding this harbour are, &c. More by our O. C. I am told, every thing is postponed for the advent of an Hydraulic Engineer from England, and para 6 of that same Order refers to the

the matter of the Cocanadah river to the Marine Department for their report, and nothing has been sent to me from them again by another Op. O. No 86 dated 17th June 1870, and required to furnish a report for such works as are most emergently necessary for the loading and unloading of boats, and this has accordingly been sent, but now again by the Op. O. under reply, I am called upon to submit a project for the improvement of the Harbour with carefully prepared plans and Estimates, notwithstanding that this matter had already been ordered to lie over for the coming of the Hydraulic Engineer from England who is referred to and by para 4 of Op. O. of the 15th March 1870 No 755, it was alleged that so long ago as 1863 there had already been submitted to Government, but I know not with what results.

4 It is thus quite clear that, up to this date the Orders of Government whatever there are, have not been conveyed in such a specific manner as to enable an Officer to gather any idea of what is really wanted, and I beg most respectfully and earnestly to request, some definite instructions may be sent to me; if Mr Sage's designs and Estimates for the Cocanadah river, which are understood to be still in your Office, are considered to be incomplete or unsuitable, I beg they may be returned to me for revision with a view to their

then being re-submitted for sanction for the works emergently necessary.

5 As regards the dredging of the bar, I have already reported to you, the boilers of both the dredges are useless having been allowed to rust away from idleness and neglect apparently.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your Obedt Servt

Wm. H. Kitchin Major R.E.

Acting Superintending Engineer 15th June 1870

N. 2591
 Proceedings of the Madras Government
 Under date the 31st Oct. 1901.
 Read the following
 From The A. G. L. 9. Eng. 1901 / H. E. N. 2217 d/30th Sept. 1901

[illegible]

2/30th October 1870.
 James D Webb Esq
 Messrs Dainbrook
 to their order of York
 specially drawing hands
 Robert Frederick Owen Esq
 Estimate for the improvement
 = mnd of the Dainbrook
 River &c

2/2453

Adelphi 2000

to Mr. Sage's estimate of Rs
45,000 and to no other, and
Major Fischer had been
furnished in Proceedings
of Govt in the Marine
Department No. 244 of the 27th
September 1869, with a
copy of Captain Dalrymple's
letter of the 10th idem No.
5195, in which that officer
described Mr. Sage's estimate
in the fullest detail, the
Govt are at a loss to per-
ceive on what grounds
Major Fischer now seems
to take up the position
that he had not been
required to report on that
estimate when his opinion
on the subject of the Coco-
nada harbour improv-
ements was called for.

trust that Major
Fischer will not
engage the attention
of Govt with needless
references but will

With these remarks
the Govt (~~desire~~ Major
Fischer to understand
that they are not pre-
pared to waste their
time in considering
needless references and
His Excellency in Council
trusts that Major Fischer
now seeing what is re-
quired of him) will lose
no time in submitting
the specific proposals
for the improvement of
the harbour of Coconada
(accompanied by carefully
prepared plans and
estimates) which were
called for in the last
paras of Proceedings Nos.
1871 of 5th August/70 and
2206 of 14th September 1870.
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10.

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With

1/2 3955

Govt. of (1870) Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To the *Superintending Eng^r*
1st Division

Dated

Recd.

G. O. 31st Dec 1870. No. 2571.

Nos. 1183 & 1184

Cananada Harbour. Papering orders
on the letter from the *Superintending Eng^r*
the *1st* *Division* regarding the im-
provement of the Cananada
Harbour.