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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1692 Press Mis.

LHS-616

Dated 23-6- 1871.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 23rd June 1871.

No. 415. Read the following Endorsement of the Marine Department, dated Fort St George, 17th May 1871 —

From H. D. E. DALRYMPLE, Esq, Master Attendant, Administrative Department, to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Marine Department, dated Madras, 13th May 1871, No. 2,826

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the orders of Government, under date the 20th and 24th ultimo, on my letters of the 31st January and 20th March last, having reference to the censure passed upon me in the Proceedings of Government dated the 19th July last

2. In the letters in question I endeavoured to show that the statements in the report submitted by me last year, on my inspection of the works at Cochin, regarding the breach reported by the Assistant Engineer at that time in charge of the works, and regarding the alleged closing of a boat channel by the same official, had been based on a careful enquiry, which proved that the alleged breach had not taken place, and that the boat channel had never been closed.

3 His Excellency the Governor in Council has been pleased, in the order of the 20th ultimo, to exonerate me from the charge of having submitted a report based upon insufficient enquiry, but has abstained from expressing any opinion as to the correctness or otherwise of the conclusions stated in my report.

4. I venture very respectfully to submit that, under the circumstances, and especially with reference to the severe censure which had been previously passed upon me, it was only due to me that the Government should pass a definite decision on the points on which my report had been called in question.

5 With reference to the remark made in the second paragraph of the order of the 24th ultimo, that there had been no cross examination, or close enquiry of the witnesses, whose depositions were submitted to Government with my letter of the 20th March last, I beg leave respectfully to observe that the witnesses in question were closely examined by me; that the depositions were recorded in the form usually observed by Magistrates both here and, I believe, in other parts of the world, and that they contain, in a continuous form, the answers given to the various cross questions put by me.

TRANSFERRED to the Public Works Department.

(Signed) W HUDLESTON,
Acting Chief Secretary.

No. 416. ORDER THEREON, 23rd June 1871, No. 1,692.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 20

ORDERED to be recorded

2. The Government have already exonerated Mr. Dalrymple from all blame except in regard to not having communicated with the Assistant Engineer at Cochin, and they see no necessity for re-opening the question.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E,
Secretary to Government.

To the Master Attendant, Madras.
Exd. S. T Augustin.

Administrative Department

No 2826. Madras
Marine Office
13th May 1870

From
H. D. C. Dalrymple Esqre
Master Attendant
Administrative Department
Madras.

To
W. Hudleston Esqre
Offg Chief Secretary to Govt
Marine Department
Fort Saint George

Sir I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the Orders of Government under date the 20th and 24th ultimo, on my letters of the 31st January and 20th March last having reference to the censure passed upon me in the Proceedings of Government, dated the 19th July last.

2 In the letters in question, I endeavoured to show that the statements in the Report submitted by me last year, on my inspection of the works at Cochin regarding the breach reported by the Assistant Engineer at that time in charge of the works, and regarding the alleged

closing

closing of a Boat Channel by the same Official had been based on a careful enquiry which proved that the alleged breach had not taken place, and that the Boat Channel had never been closed.

3 His Excellency the Governor in Council has been pleased in the order of the 20th ultimo to exonerate me from the charge of having submitted a report based upon insufficient enquiry, but has abstained from expressing any opinion as to the correctness or otherwise of the conclusions stated in my Report.

4 I venture very respectfully to submit that under the circumstances, and especially with reference to the severe censure which had been previously passed upon me — it was only due to me that the Government should pass a definite decision on the points on which my Report had been called in question.

5 With reference to the remarks made

made in the 2d para of the order of the 24th ultimo, that there had been no cross examination, or close enquiry of the witnesses, whose depositions were submitted to Government with my letter of the 20th March last, I beg leave respectfully to observe that the witnesses in question were closely examined by me, that the depositions were recorded in the form usually observed by Magistrates both here, and, I believe, in other parts of the world, and that they contain, in a continuous form, the answers given to the various cross questions put by me.

I have the honour to be
Sir
Your most obedient servant

W. D. E. Dalrymple
Master Attendant
Administrative Department

Memorandum for information of Government

A further Memorandum from Mr Dalrymple against the orders of Government in regard to his and Mr O'Shaughnessy's contradictory reports about Cochin Works is circulated.

In this letter Mr Dalrymple presses for a definite expression of opinion from Government as to the correctness or otherwise of the conclusions stated in his Reports. I do not think

Transferred to the Public Works Department.

L. Probyn
Actg Chief Secy

Rec'd 26 May 1871
Rec'd 27 May 1871
No. 2826

Public Works Department
Letter dated 13th May 1871
No. 190

Submits that Mr Dalrymple's request that the Govt should have a definite decision on the points in which his reports have been called in question and that the questions referred to Captain Strachey may be submitted to the various experts for their opinion

Rec'd 26 May 1871
No. 2826

From W. Dalrymple Esqr
Chief Engr Cochin Works
To Secy to Govt
Public Works Department
Dated Cochin 13th May 1871
Rec'd 19th "
No. 2826

Chief Engineer Cochin Works
Fort St George

Sir

I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to lay before Government the following remarks in connection with my letter No. 190 of the 13th instant.

In that letter I have requested that Government will be pleased to express a definite opinion on the points in which my reports have been called in question and which are specified in the letter of Captain Strachey dated 24th April 1871 No. 1 of 1871 Public Works Department.

In my reports I have stated my opinions on the points in question and I have not changed them. I have not been informed that Government have arrived at any decision on the points in which my reports have been called in question and which are specified in the letter of Captain Strachey dated 24th April 1871 No. 1 of 1871 Public Works Department.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant
W. Dalrymple
Chief Engr Cochin Works

information of Government.

I circulate herewith a drawing of Mr O'Shaughnessy's which formed an enclosure to and is illustrative of his report of having closed the boat Channel.

I am very much inclined to think that Mr Dalrymple may not have seen this drawing when Mr O'Shaughnessy's report was communicated to him, for by some oversight it was not in the file of papers communicated to me when I visited Cochin, and I never saw it until the 20th May /71. It represents however exactly what I understood was the state of the case in October 869, as described

[illegible]

understood. As my work I have no doubt - but O'Shaughnessy was fairly [illegible] engineering.

A. D.

I have given due to [illegible] been carefully with the aid of the Head Asst Collector General & Asst. and attentively and the conclusion I have arrived at is that Mr O'Shaughnessy has been in a very unfortunate [illegible] his own direction -

The Typee Main [illegible] No. 9. the obstacle by the [illegible] the [illegible] the [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

...w Mr O'Shaughnessy's report, and it is also a most correct delineation of the state of the sea bed - the beach - and Mr O'Shaughnessy's works - as I saw them in May 1870, though I can easily understand how a different condition of things could and did exist at an intermediate period - namely at the time of Mr Dalrymple's visit.

Justice to Mr O'Shaughnessy requires that his report should be read in connection with the Drawing made to illustrate it - and this Drawing must entirely exonerate him from a misconception, if such ever existed except in Mr Dalrymple's mind, of having

channel" closed - This was in Augt or Sept 1869.

The part of the Quay in blue shows the channel S. there and channel S. there as it has been for 480 ft between these 2 lines and a depth of 3 to 6 ft at low water.

In the following April CC Carbines died & visited to ascertain from the Contractor the extent to which the Encroachment of 20 ft at the Low-water Mark

It is clear from the above that all that has been done by Mr Dalrymple's visit to Greenock to take a Vertical section across the channel

from the Harbour Office to the Shore with the Quay in blue & the Low water Mark. CC Carbines duly visited the ground & pointed out the channel as existing then & now. The Quay in blue was virtually closed at the shore by a floating chain & a Pontoon and by Quay in blue about

The Contractor's Engineer has similarly drawn a line thus - on the Contractor's Plan which I saw in Greenock - but I am sure that Mr Dalrymple intentionally misled the Government, or having purposely used language to convey any idea except the exact and true state of the case.

This Drawing taken in connection with Mr O'Shaughnessy's report, clearly shows where the channel was that he traced, and where the sand bank was that has connected with the main land, and it tallies exactly with my own description of the state of things as I found them in May 1870. but, as noticed in my report, there was an ambiguity in Mr O'Shaughnessy's language, read without the Drawing, that would mislead any one familiar

with the Port of Cochin as to the exact position of the channel which Mr. Shaughnessy said he had closed. Mr. Dalrymple was I believe so misled, and he appears to have been further misled in another direction by letters from Cochin stating that the channel had never been closed. He was not there at the time himself, and consequently could have no personal knowledge of the existing condition of things at the time in question.

It seems needless that I should offer any remarks regarding the

breach, as I believe the Govt are quite satisfied as to the nature of what actually happened, and consider that the term "incipient breach" would have been more appropriate than the expression that was used. I will only add therefore that Mr. Dalrymple must be well aware that, under the conditions at Cochin, a breach always begins by the sea topping the bank or beach - that there is no other way in which a breach could be caused, and that no one has any doubt that the breach called the Cruz Milagre Gap was

formed on that way

(7)

May 22nd

No 2263

I should like
before the Govt
write to the Govt
on Monday after
Council

Rec. 26 May 1871 (R. 29
& 26 Read in C. 25th

Pub Dept
No 1692.
8

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 23rd June 1871
Read the following

From the Master Attendant / Lr & No 2826 of 13th May 1871.

Ordered to be recorded

The Government have already exonerated Mr Dalrymple from all blame except in regard to not having communicated with the Assistant Engineer at Cochin and they see no necessity for reopening the question.

N.

To
The Master Attendant
Madras

Dispd 26/6/71

Cost of 1871 Works.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Master Attendant

Madras

Dated

Read

No.

G O 23 June 1871, No 1692.

416

with Remarks.

26 June 1871, No 1692