

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.		Press
~~B.P. No.~~	1045	Mis.
121, 122, 123		
Dated	14. 11.	18713.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
4th April 1873.*

No. 121. Read the following letter from the District Engineer, Madura, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Shevaghah, 12th March 1873, No. 5,324 :—

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of G. O., 3rd March 1873, No. 680, and to express my unfeigned regret that the Government should have considered it necessary to censure me in regard to the tone of my correspondence with the Postmaster General. I can with truth affirm that I have, in this connection, been actuated solely with a view to the convenience of the public and the Government, whose interests in this

matter are clearly identical, and I can conscientiously state that no offence whatever was intended on my part towards the Postmaster General.

2. It is only right for me to mention here that this gentleman has failed to submit to Government my letter No. 4,516, dated 20th January 1873, (copy enclosed,) in which I have fully explained my reasons for consulting the Municipal Commissioners, the absence of this letter from the file, as also of the date to his letter printed with the G. O. under reference, will no doubt attract attention.

3. To enable the Government to understand my action in this matter, it is necessary to explain that in a letter No. 697, dated 17th April 1872, copy enclosed, the Acting Collector of Madura informed me that he had been desired by Government to report whether accommodation can be provided in the palace for the Post Office at Madura, and he requested my advice on the subject. A copy of my reply, No. 257, dated 19th April 1872, is also enclosed; the result was the recommendation that the Post Office should be located in the palace.

4. This recommendation, however, was disapproved by the Postmaster General, owing to what he considered a fatal objection, namely, that the Postmaster could not reside in the Post Office; and upon other grounds it was set aside by Government, *vide* G. O., 21st October 1872, No. 2,476.

5. On the receipt of the Postmaster General's memorandum No. 5,142-899, dated 16th November 1872, it appeared to me a good opportunity to re-open the discussion as to the best site for a Post Office at Madura, inasmuch as the site selected by the Postmaster General was objected to by the whole of the community of Madura, and comprised what he himself considered a fatal objection, namely, that the Postmaster could not reside in the Post Office, which was to be on the Railway platform. Accordingly I referred the question to the Municipal Commissioners of Madura, in whom by the act are vested the interests of the public, and whose duty I considered it therefore to point out a suitable site for the Post Office.

6. In my letter No. 4,394, dated 9th January 1873, I duly explained to the Postmaster General that "the Madura Railway Station is entirely outside the town at its north-west corner, and that the location of the Post Office at the station would be attended with great inconvenience to the public, and especially

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
4th April 1873.*

so to the public functionaries, whose residences are at a distance of between two and three miles from the station; while in the same letter I informed him that I could recommend a site suitable in every way for the Post Office, and I entreated him therefore to abandon the Railway site.

7. Not the slightest notice has been taken by the Postmaster General of this suggestion, but instead he forwards up to Government the correspondence in an incomplete state, mixing it up with a subject which is quite irrelevant to the matter.

8. In conformity with the G. O. under notice, I shall now place myself in communication with the Railway Engineers and submit the plan and estimate as directed by the Government.

9. In conclusion, I have the honour to solicit the instructions of Government as to the course I am to pursue in regard to letters received without a docket from the Postmaster General—see my letter No. 4,823, dated 10th February 1873.

No. 122.

ORDER THEREON, 4th April 1873, No. 1,045.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 7.

THE Postmaster General will be requested to state clearly his views regarding postal accommodation at Madura, whether it is intended by him that an office at the Railway Station shall supersede or only supplement the office in the town.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Madura.
„ Consulting Engineer for Railways.
„ Postmaster General.

Ez1. E. C. Shunker.

N^o 4516 District Engineer's Office
Madura 20th January 1873

From,
Lieut. Colonel R. A. Roberts R.E.
District Engineer

To,
The Postmaster General,
Madras.

Sir,
In reply to your letter N^o 8252/877,
dated 15th instant, and received, as usual,
without docket, calling upon me to inform
you the authority under which I forward
your letter to the Municipal Commissioners
of Madura, I have the honor to refer you
to my letter N^o 3977, dated 28th November
last in which my reasons for doing so
are clearly explained, in as much as
the Municipal Commissioners are the
Constituted authorities in whom is vested
the

the consideration of the public.
Convenience in regard to the location
of a new Post Office for the Town.
2. I have always understood that
the Post was created for the convenience
of the Public, but as that convenience
would not be consulted by locating
the Post Office of Matara at the
Railway Station, it appears to me
that it is the duty of the Commission-
ers to bring this fact to your notice,
as indeed they have already done.
In the mean time, I have duly
communicated your first letter to
the Consulting Engineer for
Railways, and on the receipt of
his reply to the same, I will
take such steps as are necessary
in the matter.

3. I have in conclusion to invite
Yours

Your attention to the concluding
Para of my letter N^o 44. 66. dated
17th January 1873.

I have &c

(Signed,) R. A. Roberts J. C. R.

District Engineer

(True Copy)

Peter Roberts Lieut. Colonel R.E.
District Engineer of Matara

N^o 257

Superintending Engineer's Office
8th Division, Madras 19th April
1872.

From

Lieut. Colonel R. A. Roberts Esq.
Superintending Engineer 8th D^o

To

W. McLuhae Esq.
Acting Collector Madras

Sir,

In reply to your letter N^o 677
of the 17th inst. on the subject of proposed
sites for the Post Office, I have the honor
to observe that it appears to me that with
all the Public Offices situated in the
Palace, the bulk of the correspondence of the Town
will no doubt emanate from that quarter, &
consequently it will be a source of great in-
convenience hereafter should the Post Office
be located in the old jail buildings, as
proposed.

2/

In my opinion the Palace presents
many

Enclosure No. 1
Letter dated 12th March 1872 No. 5339
from the Asst Engineer, Madras
to
Mr 1738/73
The Secretary
1872.

Copy of letter No. 4515
dated 28th January 1872
from the Asst Eng^r Madras
to the Public Works
Madras

many attractions, as the locality for the
Post Office; but before furnishing any
decided opinion on the Subject I think
that the Post Master General should be
called upon to define the precise accom-
modation which is required for the
Post Office here.

I have &c.

Signed R. A. Roberts Lieut. Col. R. A.

Superintending Engineer S. L. A.

(True Copy)

R. A. Roberts Lieut. Col. R. A.

District Engineer Madras

Collector's Office.

Enclosure No. 3 In a letter
dated 12th March 1872 No 5324.
from the Dist. Engineer Madras

The Secretary to Govt.
M.A.

M/ 173 of 73.

Copy of letter to the acting
Collector of Madras dated
19th April 1872 No 2257-

Collector's Office.
Madras
17th April 1872.

No 697.

From, The Collector of
Madras.

To, The Superintending Engineer
8th Division,

Sir, As I have been desired by
Government to report whether accommoda-
tion can be provided for the Post office
in the Palace, I have the honor to request
your advice on the subject. It is suggested
that the Palace is not in the middle of the
Town and that the Post Office could be
provided for in the old jail buildings. If
the Post Office is to be in the Palace, I
think the only space available is that
marked "Vacant for a waiting Hall" in the
Diagram.

I have the
Signature of H. M. Subbar
Collector.
(True Copy)

Quing. N. R. S. Lieut. Col. R.
District Engineer, Madras

No 5324

District Engineer's Office
On Journal Shewagumgah 12 March 1873

From

Vicent Colonel R. A. Roberts R.E.
District Engineer, Madras

To

Colonel G. W. Walker R.E.
Secretary to Government

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of L.O. 3rd March 1873, No 680, and to express my unfeigned regret that the Government should

have considered it necessary to remove me in regard to the tone of my correspondence with the Post Master General. I can with truth affirm that I have, in this connection,

1. Copy of letter from the District Engineer to the Post Master General Madras No 4516 dated 20 January 1873.

1. Copy of letter from the Ag Collector of Madras to the late Superintendent Engineer 8th Division No 697 dated 17 April 1872.

1. Copy of letter from the late Superintendent Engineer 8th Division to the Ag Collector of Madras No 257 dated 19 April 1872.

Enclosure No 2. A letter dated 12 March 1873 No 5324 from the District Engineer Madras

To
The Secretary to Govt
G. W. Walker

W. W. Walker

13. 4th April 1873

13. 8. 121.

Copy of letter No 5697 dated 17 April 1873 from the AG Collector of Madras

been actuated solely with a view
to the convenience of the public
and the Government, whose interests
in this matter are clearly identical
and I can conscientiously state
that no offence whatever was
intended on my part towards the
Post Master General.

2. It is only right for me
to mention here that this gentleman
has failed to submit to Government
my letter, No 4516, dated 20 January
1873 (copy enclosed), in which
I have fully explained my reasons
for consulting the Municipal Commissioners -
the absence of this letter from the file,
as also of the date to his letter, printed
with the L.O. under reference, will
no doubt attract attention.

3. To enable the Government to
understand my action in this matter,

15
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copy enclosed, the Ag Collector of Madras
informed me that he had been
desired by Government to report
whether accommodation could be
provided in the Palace for the Post
Office at Madras, and he requested
my advice on the subject. A copy
of my reply, No 257, dated 19 April
1872, is also enclosed. The result
was the recommendation that the
Post Office should be located in
the Palace.

4. This recommendation, however,
was disapproved by the Post Master General,
owing to what he considered a fatal
objection, viz that the Post Master
could not reside in the Post Office;
and upon other grounds it was per-
mitted by Government. Vide L.O. 21 October 1872,
No 2476.

5 On the receipt of the Post
Master General's Memo, No 5142, dated
16⁸⁹⁹ November 1872, it appeared to me
a good opportunity to re-open the
discussion as to the best site for a
Post Office at Madras, in as much
as the site selected by the Post
Master General was objected to by
the whole of the community of
Madras, and comprised what
he himself considered a fatal
objection, viz. that the Post Master
could not reside in the Post Office,
which was to be on the Railway Station.
Accordingly I referred the question
to the Municipal Commissioners of
Madras, in whom by the act are
vested the interests of the Public,
and whose duty I considered it
therefore to point out a suitable site
for the Post Office.

6 In my letter, No 4394, dated
9 January 1873, I duly explained
to the Post Master General, that
the Madras Railway station is
entirely outside the town at its
N. W. corner, and that the
location of the Post Office at the
station would be attended with
great inconvenience to the Public,
and especially so to the Public
functionaries, whose residences are
at a distance of between 2 and 3
miles from the station, while in
the same letter I informed him
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Post Office, and I entreated him
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7 Not the slightest notice
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General of this suggestion, but instead he forwards up to Government the correspondence in an incomplete state, mixing it up with a subject which is quite irrelevant to the matter.

8. In conformity with the G.O. under notice I shall now place myself in communication with the Railway Engineers, and submit the plans and estimate as directed by the Government.

9. In conclusion I have the honor to solicit the instructions of Government as to the course I am to pursue in regard to letters received without a docket from the Post

Master General. See my letter No 4823 dated 10 February 1873.

I have the honor to be
Your most ^{devoted} obedient servant
Richd. Roberts Vicar Genl. &c.
District Engineer

Public Works Department
 Proceedings of the Madras Government
 1045 Read the following

From The District Engineer } H. E. No. 5324 of 12th March 1931
 Madras - }

The Government
 regret to observe that the
 tone of Lieut Colonel
 Roberts' communications
 has on more occasions
 than that referred to
 by him been objected
 to in their orders. Ano-
 ther objectionable passage
 in his correspondence
 occurs in para 2 of
 his letter now received,
 which

is not general.

I think we have flamed
 Col Roberts quite sufficiently
 in this matter & would say
 no more about it.
 Major Douke has not acted fairly
 or reasonably in continuing
 to send his letters undischelled
 giving no reason for it.

Dec 21/12 91365-288
 23 March 1931 - 5418

Mr 1875 Sept 5324
 16 1938

The District Engineer,
 Madras
 The Secretary to
 Government

Dated 12th March 1931
 Number 17

Enclosures 3
 He is a very good officer
 at being removed by
 the Government for the
 kind of correspondence
 with the Civil Master
 General and informs
 that he will not com-
 munication with
 the Railway Engineers
 submit the plans for
 the Civil no directed by
 the Civil Engineering
 and the Civil Master
 General is not to be
 the Civil Master is not to be

2/12/1-

2/12/1-

which conveys a vague
insinuation that had
better not have been
made. Had the last
para of Lieut Colonel
Robert's letter to the Post
Master General No 4466
of 17 January stopped
short of the threat it
conveyed, no doubt his
wish of having letters
doctored would have
been gratified.

He had been repeatedly
asked before writing this
& took no notice.

The Post Master
General will be requested
to state clearly his views
regarding Postal accommo-
-dation at Madras
whether it is intended
by him that an Office
at

ML

22/1/72

23
at the Railway Sta-
-tion shall supersede
or only supplement
the Office in the
Town. - GMW

For
The Atty Genl
"C. E. J. J. J."
Postmaster Genl

Desp 27/4/72

Tippec
from 1000

h-121-22.

62. Mar 73 R. 26.

12730
Gobt. of 1873 Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To

Date

Recd.

Encl.

G. O 4th April 1873. No. 1045.

No. 121-22.

Postal Accommodation
at Madras. The Post
Master General requested
to state his views upon
Postal Accommodation
at Madras.

No. 121-22.

621 Mar 1873 R. M.