

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair _____

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1354	Press
B.P. No.	922-203.	Mis.
Dated	15-5-	18 73.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
15th May 1873.*

No. 222. Read the following letter from Major the Honourable E. R. BOURKE, Postmaster General, Madras, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R. E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 9th April 1873, No. 538-343:—

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Government Order No. 1,045, dated 4th April 1873, and in reply to the Resolution of Government number as above, it is my intention, as soon as I have myself approved the plan and estimate for the new Post Office at the Railway Station, Madura, to recommend, to the Director General of the Post Office in India, that the proposed Post Office at the Railway Station at Madura shall supplement the existing one in the town. I have no doubt whatever that the Railway Station is the proper place to have the new office, and that it will be a great boon both to the inhabitants as well as the whole of the lines radiating from Madura; for it is self-evident that the sooner mails can be dealt with and delivered, and the longer the Post Office can be kept open for the receipt of letters, greater is the advantage to the public; this can only be effected to the maximum degree by having the Post Office as near the rail as possible, for Madura being both a large sorting and transit office, it is most desirable that the Post Office should be, if possible, at the Railway Station.

2. It was with the intention of improving the postal arrangements at Madura and the surrounding district that I applied to the District Engineer for plans and estimates for a Post Office at the Railway Station, that they might retain the present office for registration and inquiry purposes, but the bulk of the mails would be dealt with with greater expedition and ease, and with greater economy at the Railway Station. I can quite understand the inhabitants of Madura condemning the removal of the Post Office altogether to the Railway, but this never was in contemplation.

3. The District Engineer complains that his letter No. 4,516, in which he fully explains his reasons for consulting the Municipal Commissioners, was not in the file. I regret much that a copy of this letter—entirely through a mistake—was not sent; but I would beg to point out the only reasons I forwarded the correspondence to Government was not on account of the reference made to the Municipal Commissioners at Madura, for that would not have prevented my obtaining the plans and estimates which was all that I wanted, but because the District Engineer threatened, and in rather curtly-expressed terms, that unless I docket my letters addressed to him in a peculiar manner, he would not reply to me any more. As I thought this would create a further delay, and seeing that I should have been obliged to have issued special orders on the subject of docketing in this peculiar way letters to the address of the District Engineer, I submit I had no other course to pursue but to seek the aid of Government.

4. And while regretting much being forced to take such a course, it appears to me to be the only one open.

No. 223. ORDER THEREON, 15th May 1873, No. 1,354.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 11.

The explanation given by the Postmaster General of his intentions regarding increased postal accommodation at Madura will no doubt be satisfactory to the community of that town. It

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
15th May 1873.

will obviate the risk of misunderstandings in future, and be more in accordance with the usual practice, if the Postmaster General submit his views in such matters to the Government in the first instance, and obtain their authority to call for detailed plans and estimates of new works.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

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

Ed. E. C. Shunker.

POSTMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,

MADRAS, 7th April 1873

From Major the Honorable E. R. Bonte

Postmaster-General, Madras.

To Colonel G. W. Walker R.E.

Secretary to Government,

Public Works Department,

Fort Saint George.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Government Order No. 1045 dated 11th April 1873, and in reply to the Resolution of Government No. 1045 as above it is my intention, as soon as I have myself approved the Plan and Estimate for the new Post Office at the Railway Station, Madura, to recommend to the Director General of the Post Office in India, that the proposed Post Office at the Railway Station at Madura shall supplement the existing one in the town. I have no doubt, whatever, that the Railway Station is the proper place to have the new office, and that it will be a great boon to both

both to the inhabitants, as well as
the whole of the lines radiating
from Madras, for it is self-evident
that the sooner mails can be
dealt with, and delivered, and
the longer the Post Office can be kept
open for the receipt of letters, greater
is the advantage to the public,
this can only be effected, to the
maximum degree, by having the
Post Office as near the rail as possible,
for Madras being both a large
Sorting and Transit Office, it is most
desirable that the Post Office should
be, if possible, at the Railway
Station.

It was with the intention
of improving the postal arrange-
ments at Madras and the
surrounding District, that I
applied to the District Engineer
for Plans and Estimates for a
Post Office at the Railway Station,
that they might retain the
present Office for Registration and
Inquiry purpose, but the bulk of
the mails would be dealt with, with
greater

greater expedition and ease, & with
greater economy, at the Railway
Station. I can quite understand
the inhabitants of Madras con-
demning the removal of the Post
Office altogether to the Railway, but this
never was in Contemplation.

The District Engineer complains
that his letter ^{of 1876} in which he fully
explains his reasons for consulting the
Municipal Commissioners was not in
the file. I regret much that a copy
of this letter - entirely through a mis-
take - was not sent, but I would beg
to point out, the only reasons I forward-
ed the Correspondence to Government
was, not on account of the reference made
to the Municipal Commissioners at
Madras, for that would not have prevented
my obtaining the Plans and Estimates
which was all that I wanted, but because
the District Engineer threatened, & in rather
a very improper terms, that unless I dated
my letters, assigned to him, in a peculiar
manner, he would not reply to me any
more. As I thought this would create a
further delay, and seeing that I should
have been obliged to have issued special
orders on the subject of dating, in this
peculiar way, letters to the address of the
District Engineer, I submit I had no other
course to pursue, but to seek the aid
of Government -
and while regretting much
being

being forced to take such a course,
 it appears to me to be the only one open.
 I am, Sir,
 your obedient servant

Wm. M. M.
 Postmaster-General

From The Postmaster-General,
 Madras.
 To The Chief Secretary to Government,
 Madras.
 Dated 9th Dec 1854.
 Received 10th Dec 1854.
 Answered 10th Dec 1854.
 No 538
 343

On the subject
 of the proposed construction of
 a road from the railway station
 to the Government
 Office at Madras.

It is the duty of the
 Government to provide for the
 convenience of the public in
 the use of the railway.
 It is the duty of the
 Government to provide for the
 convenience of the public in
 the use of the railway.

4
 1854
 12/23
 Chief Secretary
 Madras

4th 1854

The explanation given by the

Postmaster-General of his intention regarding
 the proposed road from the railway station
 to the Government Office at Madras will be
 found in the accompanying paper.

It is the duty of the
 Government to provide for the
 convenience of the public in
 the use of the railway.
 It is the duty of the
 Government to provide for the
 convenience of the public in
 the use of the railway.

PUBLIC WORKS

The District Engineer
Madras

15 May 1854.

No. 222 & 223

Post Office at Madras

Paying orders on the
Bank of the Postmaster
General on the subject
of the proposed con-
struction of the Railway
at the Railway
Station at Madras.

A 21356

One copy forwarded to the