

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair _____

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 2638	Press
B.P. No.	Mis.
478-479	
Dated 29.10.1873. 195	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
29th October 1873.*

No. 478. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel R. A. ROBERTS, R.E., District Engineer, Madura, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madura, 9th October 1873, No. 2,916 :—

I HAVE the honour to report that during the heavy thunder storm, that passed over this place on the evening before last, (the 7th instant,) the Madura Palace was struck by lightning.

2. The storm approached Madura from almost due west, and the lightning appears to have been attracted by the westernmost of the pinnacles that ornamented the dome of that portion* of the palace that is to form the District Engineer's Office. This pinnacle, which stood upwards of 80 feet above basement level, was hurled down to the ground.

3. The lightning appears then to have followed the outline of the western face of the dome, and to have passed through a fissure in the terraced roof of the adjoining gallery and to have descended to the earth by a scaffold pole—the trunk of a cocoanut-tree—which it completely gutted and destroyed in its course, scattering its fragments all over the place.

4. As far as can be ascertained no particular damage was done to the building on this occasion. But the dome in question is in a precarious state, and it will be tied up so soon as the iron ties indented from England are supplied.

5. Two lightning conductors are now in course of erection in the palace, but at least four more are required, and an estimate for the same will be submitted in the course of a few days.

No. 479. ORDER THEREON, 29th October 1873, No. 2,638.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 28.

ORDERED to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Madura.

Exd. S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies

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District Engineer's Office
No. 2916 Madras 9 October 1873
From

Lieut. Col. R. A. Roberts R.E.
District Engineer, Madras

Col. L. W. Walker R.E.
Secretary to Government
Madras

Sir

I have the honor to report that during the heavy thunder storm that passed over this place on the evening before last (the 7th instant), the Madras Palace was struck by lightning.

The storm approached Madras from almost due West, and the lightning appears to have been attracted by the westernmost of the pinnacles that ornamented the Doric of that portion of the Palace that is to form the District Engineer's Office

Office. This pinnacler, which stood upwards of 80 ft. above basement-level, was hurled down to the ground.

3. The lightning appears then to have followed the outline of the Western face of the dome, and to have passed through a fissure in the terraced roof of the adjoining gallery, and to have descended to earth by a scaffold pole - the trunk of a coconut tree which is completely gutted and destroyed in its course, scattering its fragments all over the place.

4. As far as can be ascertained no particular damage was done to the building on this occasion. But the dome in question is in a precarious state, and it will be tied up so soon as the iron ties -
indented from England are
Supplied

~~supplied to the~~
5. Two lightning conductors are now in course of erection in the Palace, but at least 4 more are required, and an Estimate for the same will be submitted in the course of a few days.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Yours obd^t Serv^t

Chief Engineer, etc.

Op. 557²
Govt. of 1873 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To the District Engineer
Madras

Dated

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 29th Oct 1873. 27/38.

Nos. 4781479

Seromal Ricks Palace
in Madras. Letter from
the District Engineer,
reporting that a portion
of the Palace was
struck by lightning
on the 7th Oct, recorded.