M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 14

(2) Date of repair 27-8-93

(3) Initials of the Referencer

CONCERNS BOTH BRITISH INDIA
AND INDIAN STATES.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2855 Press Mis.

367 & 368

Dated 26-11- 1873.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 367. Read the following letter from G. A. BALLARD, Esq., Resident in Travancore and Cochin, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Trevandrum, 30th October 1873, No. 97:—

ADVERTING to paragraph 3 of G. O., dated 27th August last, No. 2,138, Public Works Department, I have the honour to forward copy of a letter* to the Diwan from Mr. Crawford, the Travancore Commercial Agent, on the state of the coast of Travancore. The writer's long experience on the coast, and observation of the action of the sea, give considerable weight to his opinions on such questions.

* No. 516, dated 25th September 1873.

2. The Travancore Chief Engineer is on leave. Copy of his report on the subject will be forwarded when received.

From H. CRAWFORD, Esq., Commercial Agent, to A. SASHIA SASTRI, Diwan of Travancore, Trevandrum, dated Allepey, 25th September 1873, No. 516.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your letter No. 3,694 (P. W.) 980, of the 19th instant, with extract paragraphs 9 and 10, Lieutenant-Colonel Farewell's letter, extract paragraph 3, Government Order of 27th August 1873.

2. The encroachments alluded to on the coast of Travancore, as threatening the harbour of Cochin in the event of the sea at any time breaching the beach and flowing into the backwater carrying general destruction with it, need not be apprehended. The principal rivers of the country meeting in the great estuary near this all flow into the sea at Cochin, and the course of these rivers through the estuary carry a depth in their common channel of from 36 to 40 feet and upwards at a distance from the coast line of not less than four or five miles, and from a similar depth out at sea of not less than eight miles until at the island of Vendoorty, from whence the water flows over a shelf at the deepest of only 15, 12, and 10 feet until near the mouth of the harbour, when it falls again to 23, 30, and 40 feet or a little more, again decreasing as you approach the bar. There is therefore no necessity for groynes on the coast of Travancore, and there is no chance of the waters from the backwater finding any outlet to the sea but the present one at Cochin. I have said that near Vendoorty Island "a shelf" rises there carrying only a very small depth of water up to near the mouth of the river; indeed, the whole of that beautiful sheet of water from Vendoorty at the south, northward to a line eastward from Vypeen Point to Candle Island, Balghauty, and the shore of the mainland at Ernacollum is for the most part extremely shallow, except through a very narrow channel having 15 to 10 feet on the Muttencherry shore, so that this large area is for the most part 30 to 40 feet above the channel of the rivers at present flowing over it from the south. I have not examined to the north of Balghauty. To dredge therefore a deep channel, say, to 20 feet, through the soft mud to the entrance of the harbour (I think to the eastward of Vendoorty would be the proper channel to form) would, I think, assist very considerably the end sought by the Government of India—the keeping of the river open, by the heavy scour which the concentrated weight of water from all the rivers north and south flowing in a direct line from that area in front of Balghauty would have.

No. 368. ORDER THEREON, 26th November 1873, No. 2,855.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 22.

THESE papers will be communicated to the Inspecting Engineer for Ports and Communications, with the remark that His Excellency the Governor in Council is satisfied from the statements

made by an officer of so much experience as the Travancore Commercial Agent that there is no reason to apprehend any serious consequences to the harbour of Cochin from the present condition of the coast of Travancore.

2. The proposal to dredge a deep channel to the entrance of the harbour from the neighbourhood of Vendoorty is one which should be considered when the details of the harbour improvements are being matured.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Inspecting Engineer for Ports and Communications.
,, District Engineer, Malabar.
,, Resident in Travancore and Cochin.
,, Marine Department.

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies.

Govt. of {1873} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE INSPECTING ENGINEER FOR PORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

Dated November 28*th*.

Recd. *Encl.*

G. O., 26*th* November 1873, No. 2,855.

NOVEMBER.

Nos. 367-368.

Cochin Harbour.—Passing orders on letter from the Resident in Travancore submitting a report by the Commercial Agent on the state of the Travancore coast as affecting the Cochin Harbour.

1691

Commercial Office
Alleppy 25th September 1873

No 576
1873

To

A. Sashiah Sastri Esqre
Dewan of Travancore
Trevandrum

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge your letter No. 3694 of the 19 Inst. with Extract Para 9 & 10 Lt. Col. Farewell's letter & Extract Para 3 Govt. Order of 27th August 1873.

The encroachments alluded to on the Coast of Travancore as threatening the Harbour of Cochin are the great bar of the sea at any time breaching the Beach and flowing into the Backwaters carrying general destruction with it need not be apprehended. The principal rivers of the country meeting in the great Estuary near this all flow into the sea at Cochin & the course of these rivers thro' the Estuary carry a depth in their common channel of from 36 to 40 feet & upwards at a distance from the Coast line of not less than 4 or 5 miles, & from a similar depth out at sea, of not less than 3 miles until at the Island of Vendoorty from whence the water flows over a shelf at the deepest of only 15, 12 & 10 feet until near the mouth of the Harbour when it falls again to 23, 30 & 40 feet or a little more, again decreasing as you approach the Bar. There is therefore

no

no necessity for groynes on the Coast of Travancore, & there is no chance of the waters from the Backwaters finding any outlet to the sea but the present one at Cochin. I have said that near Vendoorty Island "a shelf" rises there carrying only a very small depth of water up to near the mouth of the river, indeed the whole of that beautiful sheet of water from Vendoorty at the South- Northward to a line Eastward from Typeen Point to Candle Island Balghauty & the shore of the main land at Ernacollum is for the most part extremely shallow except thro' a very narrow channel having 15 to 10 feet on the Mullencherry shore, so that this large area is for the most part 30 to 40 feet above the channel of the rivers at present flowing over it from the South- I have not examined to the north of Balghauty- To dredge there for a deep channel say to 20 feet through the soft mud to the entrance of the Harbour I think to the Eastward of Vendoorty would be the proper channel to form & would I think, assist very considerably the end sought by the Government of India the keeping of the River open- by the heavy scour which the concentrated weight of water from all the rivers North & South flowing in a direct line from that area in front of Balghauty would have-

I have &c
Sigd A Crawford
Commercial Agent

/ True Copy /
Sigd A Sashiah Sastris
Dewan

/ True Copy /

T. L.
Lt

Gas Ellis
Resident.

Resident's Office
Trichinopoly 30th October 1873

No 97

From,
C. A. Ballard, Esqre
Resident in Travancore & Cochin

To,
Colonel J. M. Walker, C.B.
Secretary to Government of Madras
Fort St George

Sir,

Adverting to para 3 G.O. dated 27 August last No 2138 MD, I have the
honor to forward copy of a letter to this address
x 1915 dated 25th Sept: 1873 from Mr Assistant Collector Travancore
Devicolum forwarding Agreement executed by the State of
Travancore and the Madras Government for the
Coast Canal extension from Quilon to Trivandrum
Extension of Pallikonam Canal
to Varkalay river and Agreement executed by the Travancore Government
to this extension and Agreement.

The Travancore Chief Engineer
is on leave. Copy of this report from the
Assistant will be forwarded hereafter
when received.

I have &c

1873.
Enclosed in a letter from the Resident in Travancore & Cochin to the Secretary to Government of Madras No 97 dated 30 October 1873.

From the Commercial Agent Alleppey to the Dewan of Travancore No 516 dated 25 September 1873 G.O. no. 2855-26-11-73

P.W. 6109/73

Reporting on the state of the Coast Canal in Travancore

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your mo ob Obedient Servant,
Ca[illegible]
Resident.

T.L.
Encl 5 L.

P. W. 1873 No 609 Dept
From
The Resident
Travancore & Cochin
To
The Secretary to Government
P.W.D.
Fort St George
Dated 30th October 1873
Rec'd 10th November 1873.

No 97

Enclosure one

Sir

Forwarding copy of a letter from the Travancore Commercial Agent to the Dewan of Travancore regarding the state of the Coast of Travancore.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant
Illegible

No 2853

These papers will be communicated to the Inspecting Engineer for Roads and Communications with the remark that His Excellency the Governor in Council is satisfied from the statements made by an officer of so much experience as the Travancore Commercial Agent that there is no reason to apprehend any serious consequences to the Harbour of Cochin from the present condition of the coast of Travancore.

The proposal to dredge a deep channel to the entrance of the Harbour from the neighbourhood of Vendoorty is one which should be considered when the details of the Harbour improvements are being matured.

G.W.W.

Inst. Engr. ✓
Pub. Wks. & Com. ✓
Dist. Engr. Malabar ✓
Resident Travancore & Cochin ✓
Copy
Dept. mail S.C. 27/11/73

34
1

No 367-68.
Rec'd 10th Nov 1873

CONCERNS BOTH BRITISH INDIA AND INDIAN STATES.

No 6109
Govt. of 1873 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Secretary Govt
for Forks & Correspondence

Printed
Read.
Encl. 1

26th March 2855.

Nos. 367 & 368.

on the State of the Travancore Coast as affecting the Cochin Harbour.

Cochin Harbour.

Passing orders on letter from the Resident in Travancore & Cochin submitting a Report by the Commercial Agent