

(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.	984	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
73-79		
Dated	31-3-	1873

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
31st March 1873.*

No. 708. Read the following letter from the District Engineer, Madura, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madura, 5th March 1873, No. 5,203 :—

IN reference to G. O., 13th February 1873, No. 467, intimating that the Supervisor in charge of the Paumben Works will be replaced by an Overseer, I have the honour most respectfully to point out that should this ruling be adhered to, I cannot hold myself in any way responsible for the fitting maintenance of the Paumben channel.

2. Of course I am perfectly aware that there are Overseers, and that it is possible therefore that there may be some shining light on the list who is equal to the occasion; but taking the whole of the Overseers in this and the Tinnevely District, which until quite recently constituted the 8th Division, I can most confidently assert that there is not a single Overseer on that list who is competent to the charge of the Paumben works.

3. It is to be remembered that it has only been by unflagging and intelligent superintendence that the channel has reached its present state of effectiveness, namely, providing a depth of from 12 to 14 feet at low water, and if that superintendence be removed for a cheaper and inferior agency there can be little doubt but that the advantages now reaped by the public will rapidly become a thing of the past, in consequence of the channel's silting up, as must otherwise inevitably be the case.

4. It appears to me, moreover, that the public have a certain right to claim that their interests shall not be jeopardized in this connection. During the year 1871-72 the Government have received from pilotage fees no less than Rupees 22,385-6-1, *vide* G. O., 23rd October 1872, No. 123, and the public will naturally presume that something is to be done for them in return. It is, clearly therefore, extremely inadvisable for the Government to be running the risk of vessels sticking fast in the channel, owing to the nomination, to the charge of the channel works, of men wanting in departmental experience or knowledge of machinery. The Paumben works comprise a charge quite apart from the usual run of departmental work, and it is for this reason that I make this special representation on the subject.

No. 709. ORDER THEREON, 31st March 1873, No. 984.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 74.

CONSIDERING that the Madura District Engineer has the services of two Sub-divisional Officers, one an Assistant Engineer and one a Supervisor, available in the Madura Range, and that of a special officer in the Dindigul Range (for whom he has so little to do that he offers his services to Municipalities), His Excellency the Governor in Council is of opinion that the District Engineer is in a position to provide without difficulty for such additional superintendence for the Paumben channel as he may consider necessary, in addition to the Overseer allotted for the ordinary work connected therewith.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Madura.
Exd. S. T. Auctin.

No 5203 District Engineer's Office
Madras 5 March 1873

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

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

In reference to No. 13 February
1873, & by intimating that the
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it has the honor most respectfully
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this special representation on
the subject.

I have the honor to be

Yours Most Obedt. Servant

Local District Engineer

1873
No. 1595
From

The District Engineer
Madura

To
The Secretary to
Government, S.R.

Dated 5 March 1873
Received 11th

Requests that for
reasons assigned
the Supervisor
may be allowed
to continue to
have charge of
Ponnambur M.W.B.

No 708

617 March 1873

No 984-31 March 1873

No 984 P.D.
Proceedings of the Madras Government
Read the following
From
The District Engineer
Madura

Considering that
the Madras District
Engineer has the services
of 2 Sub-Divisional
officers, one an Assistant
Engineer and one a
Supervisor, available
in the Madras Range,
and that of a Special
officer in the Dindigul
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M

2
C. D. D.
Excellency the Governor
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provide such additional
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addition to the Overseer
allotted for the ordinary
work connected therewith.
C. D. D.
1708
2/6/73
18

1/15/55
Govt. of (1873) Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The District Engineer
Madras

Dated

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 31¹⁸⁷ "Mails" No. 984.

Nos. 7084-709

Pamuneri Channel. Being
orders on letter from the
Sd. Engr. Madras, requesting
that the Supervisor in charge
of the Channel may be
allowed to continue in
the work.