

(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.	1912-13	Press
B.P.—No.		Mis.
309-5311		
Dated	16-7-1894	195--.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
16th July 1874.*

No. 309. Read the following endorsement of the Marine Department, dated Ootacamund, 23rd June 1874:—

From Captain J. H. TAYLOR, R.N.R., Acting Master Attendant, Administrative Department, Madras, to the Honourable D. F. CARMICHAEL, Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Marine Department, dated Madras, 19th June 1874, No. 3,699.

I HAVE the honor to forward, for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor in Council, a few remarks on, and a rough sketch of, the position of the proposed lights on Comorin and Muttum, the work upon which is deferred by G. O., No. 1,273 B., dated 11th May 1874, Public Works Department.

2. In the first place there is no open coast in the world, where the exigencies of navigation require two first-class lights, at a distance of fifteen miles from one another. They are certainly not required in the present instance. One large light would be enough; but supplemented by a small one, it would meet the utmost demand of the most cautious navigation. The accompanying rough sketch will, I think, show that Muttum Point is the most useful site for the large light. Ships from all quarters, Aden, Persian Gulf, Bombay, and back round Galle, all aim to make this particular part of the coast at a point as nearly opposite Muttum Point as they can, regard being had to the Crocodile Rock, the only danger in the neighbourhood from which no care could save them. The red peck line in the sketch shows how small a segment of the light circle of Comorin is taken in, and how large of Muttum. The small light now removed from Tuti-corin and being placed temporarily on Muttum Point would do well enough for Comorin, when the first-class on the other was erected.

3. If two first-class lights have been already ordered, one might be retained for erection either on Minicoy or the Dolphin's Nose, both situations being very much in want of lights.

4. In the second place, I would beg leave to remark that the interests of navigation suffer much from the great expense that appears to be considered necessary when placing a lighthouse on our shores. It is a subject of general surprise to travellers (in the Mediterranean for instance) to find the coasts of countries allowed to be poor, and at best semi-nautical, brilliantly lighted up. The fact is they utilize old towers or projecting rocks, or anything that will bear the light, which then becomes almost the sole expense. Now in the case of Muttum, I would suggest, with all submission, that a light as high or say a little higher than Madras would be all that could be reasonably expected, 130 feet from the sea level. Of this height 75 is gained by the site, 11½ by the focal height above the building, and a substantial brick-tower of 44 feet would complete the erection, and find ample accommodation for the establishment and stores. In such an out-of-the-way place architectural beauty is at best a secondary consideration; and when it is remembered that even 70 feet more elevation, gained at vast expense, would only render the light visible three miles further, I think a strong case can be made out for a modified form of building, and speedier execution in this particular instance.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
16th July 1874.

TRANSFERRED to the Public Works Department for consideration and disposal.

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Acting Chief Secretary.

No. 310.

ORDER THEREON, 16th July 1874, No. 1,912.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 23.

ORDERED that copy of this letter
be forwarded to the Government of
India in continuation of letter, No.
1,229, of 8th May, and Proceedings of Government, forwarded with docket, No.
1,273 C., of 11th May 1874.

(True Extract.)

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

No. 311.

DOCKET No. 1,913, dated 16th July 1874.

COPY of the above forwarded to the Government of India.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

Ed. M. C. Shunker.

Spare Copies

Administrative Department.

Madras.

Marine Office.

19th June 1874.

No. 3699.

From

Captain J. H. Taylor R.N.

Acting Master Attendant.

Administrative Department.

To

The Honourable D. F. Carmichael

Acting Chief Secretary to Government

Marine Department

Fort Saint George.

Sir

I have the honour to forward

for the consideration of his Excellency the

Governor in Council, a few remarks on,

and a rough sketch of the position of

the proposed lights on Coorin and

Mutton, the work upon which is de-

ferred by G. O. No. 1273 B dated 11th May 1874.

In the first place there is

no open coast in the world where the

exigencies of navigation require two first

class lights at a distance of 15 miles

from one another. They are certainly not

required in the present instance. One

large light would be enough, but sup-

plemented

plemented by a small one, it would
meet the utmost demand of the
most cautious navigation. The accom-
panying rough sketch will, I think,
show that Mutton Point is the most
useful site for the large light. Ships
from all quarters, Aden, Persian Gulf,
Bombay, and back round Galle, all
aim to make this particular part of
the Coast at a point as nearly opposite
Mutton Point as they can, regard
being had to the Crocodile Rock, the only
danger in the neighbourhood, from
which no care could save them.
The red peck line in the sketch shows
how small a segment of the light
circle of Comorin is taken in, and
how large of Mutton. The small
light now removed from Tuticorin,
and being placed temporarily on
Mutton Point, would do well enough
for Comorin, when the 1st Class, or
the other is erected. If two 1st Class lights have
been

been already ordered, one might be
retained for erection either on
Municonj or the Dolphins nose,
both situations being very much
in want of lights. In the second place I
would beg leave to remark that the
interests of navigation suffer
much from the great expense that
appears to be considered necessary
when placing a lighthouse on our
shores. It is a subject of general
surprise to travellers (in the Medi-
terranean for instance) to find the
coasts of Countries allowed to be
poor, and at best seminautical,
brilliantly lighted up. The fact is they
utilize old towers or projecting rocks,
or any thing that will bear the
light, which then becomes almost the
sole expense. Now in the case of
Mutton I would suggest, with
all submission, that a light as
high

high or say a little higher than
Madras would be all that could
be reasonably expected. 130 feet from
the sea level. Of this height 75 is
gained by the site, $11\frac{1}{2}$ by the focal
height above the building, and a
substantial brick tower of 44 feet
would complete the erection, and
find ample accommodation for the
establishment and stores. In such
an out of the way place architectural
beauty is at best a secondary con-
sideration: and when it is remembered
that even 70 feet more elevation, gained
at vast expense, would only render
the light visible 3 miles further, I
think a strong case can be made
out for a modified form of building,
and speedier execution in this par-
ticular instance.

I have the honour to be
Your most obedient servant.

W Taylor

Acting Master Attendant
Administration

say a little higher than

19/2 RHM Cml

Transmitted to Public Works Department
for consideration & approval -
Lt. Col. H. H. Lawrence
23 June 1874
By the Public Works Department
22/6/74

P. H. (1874) / Depart.
Marine Department
From 11/28/74
The Ag. Master Attendant
Administrative Department
To
The Chief Secy to Govt
Marine Department
Fort St. George
Dated 19 } June 1874
Recd 22 }
No. 3699
Enclosure 1
Offers a few remarks
and a rough sketch of
the position of the proposed
lights on Comorin and
Muttam.

Transferred

P. W. 1874 Depart.
 No. of York for C. by
 No. 4114.
 From.
 The Chief Secretary
 to Govt. P. D.

Dated 22nd June 1874.
 Recd 6th July 1874.
 Encl. 1.

Transferring
 a letter from the
 Master Attendant
 Madras, regarding
 the proposed lights
 on Comorin and
 Muttam -

1913-14
 Ql. No. 1913. 16-7-74.

Ans. 30.9

Administrative Department

1912 P.W.C. Civil
 No. 113
 Pro. of the Madras Govt.
 Read the following:-

From The Secy. Master Attendant
 Administrative Department
 thro' the Marine Dept. } (H. E. No. 3699 of 19th June 1874)

Ordered that copy
 of this letter be for-
 warded to the Govt.
 of India in contin-
 -uation of letter No. 1229
 of 8th May, and Proce-
 -dings of Govt. forward-
 -ed with Docket No.
 1243 C of 11th May 1874.
 H. E. No. 1913 dated

Copy of the above for-
 -warded to the Govt. of
 India -

b.L. Copies & ans. Delivered
 despd. 22/7/74. ✓

Copy

4114
Govt. of 1874 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

Secy. to Govt. of India

Dated

Recd.

Encl. /

G. O. 11th July 1874, No. 1912
1913

NO 309-311

Forwarding copy of
proceedings passed on
a letter from the Ag.
Master Attendant
Madras, offering cer-
tain remarks on the
position of the ^{proposed} lights
on Comorin and of
Muttam -

Lights on Comorin and
Muttam - A
the letter from the
Master Attendant M.
offering remarks on the
position of the proposed
lights, forwarded to
Govt. of India in con-
-tinuation of certain
papers -