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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. <i>191-92</i>	Press
B.P. No.	Mis.
Dated <i>23.1.</i>	<i>195</i> <i>1875</i>

Original

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
23rd January 1875.*

No. 398. Read the following endorsement of the Acting Chief Secretary, dated 30th December 1874:—

From Captain J. H. TAYLOR, R.N.R., Acting Master Attendant, Administrative Department, to the Hon. D. F. CARMICHAEL, Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Marine Department, dated Madras, 18th December 1874, No. 7,866.

AFTER reading the letter* of Messrs. Chance Brothers regarding the small red light for Cadiapatam, and considering the question in all its bearings, I am of opinion that the project may be abandoned, and the whole question of lighting these two points, Cadiapatam and Comorin, might, I respectfully submit, be reconsidered. There is no instance of two first-class lights, overlapping each other many miles, being placed on a barren coast, and the expense attending their construction should compel great attention before the principle of their necessity is admitted. When it was decided that this portion of the coast required lighting, a question arose as to the eligibility of the site, the coasting interest, confined to the British India Steam Navigation Company's ships, desiring Cape Comorin; but the convenience of the rest of the maritime world pointing to Cape Cadiapatam, the idea of two lights not entering into the minds of either, while the one minor light was incorporated in the scheme as a compromise to the losing party. There is no necessity for two lights, and, as I had the honor to submit in a former letter,† I am of decided opinion that Muttum Point, in the neighbourhood of Cadiapatam, and exactly in a line with Adumbah Islet and Crocodile Rock, is certainly the best site for the light-house.

2. The difficulty of making land about the Crocodile Rock arises from most vessels coming in from deep water when soundings in a steamer are most difficult to get, whereas off Comorin the water is shallow, and bottom with a hand lead can be obtained without necessitating the complete stoppage of the vessel. It is purely a technical question, and while Comorin would be, as I observed, a convenience to coasting steamers, Muttum is a necessity for safe navigation of the coast, now that trade through the canal has increased so rapidly. The other first-class light, if already ordered and expense incurred, might, with greatest advantage to Eastern trade, be placed on Minicoy Island. I imagine the allotment of expense between the Madras Government, the Government of India, and Imperial could be settled without delaying the work. The chief point, one to which I would implore the attention of Government, is the waste of money that would follow the present plan of two lights.

3. I had proposed, as a temporary measure, the old Hare Island light to be placed on a staging at Muttum, and this would have been a very good means of testing the value of the site. The establishment was entertained agreeably to the sanction granted in G. O., Marine Department, No. 153, dated 12th May last, but countermanded on receipt of G. O., Public Works Department, No. 2,434, dated 27th August last, directing the stoppage of all work, but evidently, in my mind, intending to relate to the great work only. I would advise that the temporary use

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
23rd January 1875.*

of the Island light be sanctioned, and the Diwan asked to defray the expense, so that the Madras Government will not be committed to the vexed question of its liability to incur an expense on foreign territory.

4. Referring again to my letter of the 19th June last, No. 3,699, on the subject of the light-houses, I beg to repeat that an elevation of 125 feet is ample for a light on Muttum Point, giving a radius of 18 miles equal to the Madras light; of this, 75 is gained by the site, 6 by the raised frame-work of the lantern, and an inexpensive tower of, say, 44 or 45 feet is all that is required for the light and establishment.

REFERRED to the Chief Engineer for his remarks, prior to the communication of this letter to the Secretary of State for India.

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

No. 399. ORDER IN COUNCIL, 23rd January 1875, No. 191.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 25.

ORDERED that copy of this letter be forwarded to the Government of India in continuation of the letter forwarded with docket No. 1,913, of 16th July 1874, of letter No. 2,434, of 27th August, and of the correspondence forwarded with docket No. 1,273-C, of 11th May 1874.

(Here enter No. 192, dated 23rd January 1875.)

(True Extract.)

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

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
FORT ST. GEORGE, 23rd January 1875.

No. 400.

No. 192.

FROM

COLONEL G. W. WALKER, R.E.,
*Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Public Works Department,*

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
Public Works Department.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 26.

SIR,—In reply to endorsement in the Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, No. 203, of 9th

November, I am instructed to forward the accompanying copy of a letter from the Acting Master Attendant of Madras, in continuation of the letter from that gentleman forwarded with docket No. 1,913, of 16th July 1874, and I am to request that the subject may be finally disposed of by the Government of India with reference to my docket No. 1,273-C, of 11th May 1874, forwarding all correspondence connected with it, and intimating that the Government of Madras have withdrawn from a scheme affecting Imperial interests, involving operations in a foreign territory and altogether beyond their means of accomplishment.

2. No entry referring to the works was made in the schedule of requirements from Imperial Funds forwarded with my letter No. 2,628-B, of 15th September 1874; but in case the Government of India should think fit to proceed with them, it is proposed that entries in the Imperial Budget of 1875-76, under Civil Buildings, Miscellaneous Public Improvement, Light-houses, shall be made as follows, viz.:—

	RS.
1. Cape Comorin	75,000
2. Point Muttum	75,000
besides an entry of Rupees 1,00,000 for the Cocanada Light-house.	

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

Exd. A. Grubert.
Spare Copies

Administrative Department.

Madras

Marine Office

18th December 1874.

No. 7866.

From Captain J. H. Taylor R.N.R.
Acting Master Attendant
Administrative Department
Madras.

To The Honorable H. F. Carnichael
Acting Chief Secretary to Government
Marine Department
Fort Saint George.

Sir,

After reading the letter of Mr. Chance Brothers regarding the small red light for Cadiapalam, and considering the question in all its bearings, I am of opinion that the project may be abandoned, and the whole question of lighting these two points, Cadiapalam and Comorin, might, I respectfully submit, be reconsidered. These instances of two first class lights overlapping each other in any order, being placed on a barren coast, and the expense attending their construction should compel great attention before the principle of their necessity is admitted. When it was decided that this portion of the coast required lighting, a question arose as to the eligibility of the site. The Coast was of interest, confined to the British India Steam Navigation Company's ships, desiring Cape Comorin, but the convenience of the rest of the maritime world pointing to Cape Cadiapalam - the idea of two lights not entering into the minds of either, while the one minor light was incorporated in the scheme, as a compromise to the losing party. There is no necessity for two lights, and as it had the honor to submit in

G. O. No. 435,
dated 7th Decr 1874.

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The Maine Dept. of Agr. - Sept 18 1895

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The Secretary to the
Govt. of India
C.M.D.

192

[unclear] [unclear] [unclear]

In reply to m.
dorsement in the De-
partment of Revenue
Agricultural and
Commerce N: 203 of 9th
November I am in-
structed to forward
the accompanying co-
py of a letter from
the Acting Master
Attendant of Madras

[unclear] [unclear] [unclear]

21/12

information of
the letter from that
gentleman forwarded
with my Docket no. 1912
of July 1874 and I
now request that the
subject may be finally
disposed of by the go-
vernments of India
with reference to my
Docket no. 1236 of 11 May
1874 forwarding all
correspondence connected
with it and intimating
that the Government

[unclear] [unclear] [unclear]

of Madras have with-
drawn from all con-
nection with a scheme
of magnitude affecting
Imperial interests and
involving operations
in a foreign territory.

No intimation refer-
ring to the work
was made in the
Schedule of requisitions
from Imperial Funds
forwarded with my
letter No. 2620 B of 13 Sep-
tember 1874, but in case
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then means of ac-
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the Government of
India should think
fit to proceed with them
it is proposed that ex-
traneous in the Imperial
Budget of 1875-76 under
Civil Buildings Mis-
cellaneous Public Im-
provement Light House
shall be made as fol-
lowing

1. Cape Comorin - Rs 75,000
 2. Point Malabar - " 75,000
 3. ~~Cochin~~ - 10,000
- besides an entry
of Rs 1,00,000 for the
Cochin Light
house - 1,00,000

Doct. with before copies
of go. of 191 of 1875.
to be 12-2-75

Govt. of 1875 Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

of certain papers.

The highest
Legal Officer
P. M. L. C.
23 Jan. 1912

Nos. 398-400.

Light Houses

A copy of the Ag.
Master Attendant's
letter regarding
Letter from the Ag.
Master Attendant of
Madras, regarding the
Cadeapattam, Cape
Comorin, & Mutton
Light-Houses, ordered to
be forwarded to the Govt.
of India in continuation of

Forwarding for order
copy of a letter from
Ag. Master Attendant
of Madras regarding
the Cadeapattam, Cape
Comorin, & Mutton
Light-Houses & intimating
the provision of funds
in the Imperial Budget
of 1875/76 for the Light
Houses at Cape Comorin,
Point Mutton &
Cocanada.

617-175