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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.
B.P. No.

3198

Press
Mis.

Dated

28 - 11 - 195 -

C876

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
28th November 1876. No. 3,199.*

No. 523. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Revenue Department, dated 25th October 1876, No. 1,512 :—

ABSTRACT.—*Cyclone at Vizagapatam, Bimlipatam, and Vizianagram.*—Expressing regret at the destructive effects of the late — ; ordering enclosure of Board's Proceedings to be communicated to the Public Works Department; and observing that the cutcherry is a recent structure.

No. 524. ORDER THEREON, 28th November 1876, No. 3,199.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 31.

ORDERED to be recorded and communicated to the District Engineer, Vizagapatam.

2. From comparison of the enclosure referred to with the plans to which Revenue Department Order No. 257 of 8th February 1872 relates, it is seen that the rooms referred to are portions of the old Ordnance buildings, not the new buildings sanctioned in that order.

(True Extract.)

Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Vizagapatam.
,, Revenue Department.

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
25th October 1876.*

No. 240. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 17th October 1876:—

Read the following letter from H. St. A. GOODRICH, Esq., Acting Collector of Vizagapatam, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 12th October 1876, No. 1,433.

I HAVE the honor to submit herewith a copy of my Deputy Collector's letter to me on the damages suffered in the late cyclone by the records in the hoozoor cut-cherry and by the building itself.

2. I also enclose a copy of my Principal Assistant's telegram to Government, despatched Tuesday 10th. A detailed report of the damage done and of the character of the storm will be submitted as soon as possible. I was at Vizianagaram on the 7th and 8th, where we experienced a violent cyclone accompanied by 16 inches of rain. All cutcha buildings were destroyed or much injured. Two or three lives only were lost. The bridge at Chittivalsa was broken, and the cause-way and telegraph line carried away by a heavy fresh, nor was there any communication on Monday or Tuesday. I crossed on an elephant on Wednesday morning early, and went into Bimlipatam where the damage had been of no very serious amount; found that the gale and flood had carried the thatch coverings of the salt heaps out to sea, and the salt is lying exposed. Similar damage must have happened at Konada where a fine French ship the *Jules Roze* is reported totally wrecked with the loss of two lives.

3. Mr. Sharkey was at Konada, so I sent him instructions as to immediate steps for saving salt as far as possible. There was no communication with Vizagapatam, the road being very deeply breached by the Uppada river and the bursting of the Gambhiram tank.

4. I managed to reach Waltair last night, and found equinoctial spring tide damming up the land-water which the heavy rain-fall brought upon the swamp made the flood rise upon the town of Vizagapatam, and caused great loss of life and property. About thirty deaths are reported in the town. The loss of boats in the ports has been very serious. A public meeting is convened this afternoon to collect money

Rs. 3,000 collected.

for the relief of the destitute, and the Municipality are doing their best to provide funds for the emergency. The lines of the Native Infantry Regiment here are destroyed, so is the temporary jail; the hitherto unoccupied jail building is being used by the prisoners.

5. The salt heaps at Karassa, as well as in every other salt station, must certainly be restored and are seriously damaged; the damage to buildings, roads, and channels is also very great. Under the circumstances, I must withdraw the recommendation given in my letter, No. 1,419, dated 22nd September 1876, to my Salt Deputy Collector's application for privilege leave, unless it may be found possible to depute an experienced officer.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
25th October 1876.*

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From J. W. McMURRAY, Esq., Deputy Collector, to H. Sr. A. GOODRICH, Esq., Acting Collector of Vizagapatam, dated 11th October 1876, No. 808.

I BEG to report damages sustained by the records and office-buildings caused by the late cyclone on the 7th and 8th instant.

2. Past experience showed that the ridge ventilation was defective, and the District Engineer was requested to remedy the evil. A few bamboo tats were put up which were considered would keep out the rain, but on the present occasion these were of little or no use whatever. The upper rooms let in the rain copiously, considerably damaging the records and stationery contained therein. The water thus let in ran down into the lower rooms, damaging the records, &c., in them also.

3. The cash-room leaked a little, but nothing was damaged there.

4. The general record-room suffered most, the rain coming in through the ridge—
English Records, Revenue, damaged.—Nine volumes Board's Proceedings; one hundred letter-file books of letters received.
Telugu Records, Revenue.—Forty-five Inam Registers; ten baskets of records relating to sub-division of estates; twenty baskets of summary suits; four baskets maramut accounts.

Agency Records, English.—Slightly damaged.

Do. Telugu.—Very much damaged.

Stationery room.—Let in the rain on the double-double pot paper and other articles of stationery, but it is of no significance.

Press-room.—Leaked very much wetting every thing, the type-cases were filled with water.

Every measure is being adopted to dry and restore the records as far as possible.

Buildings.—Tiles blown off in several places from the roof of the press-room, the record-room, the Salt Deputy Collector's room, the Shroff's room, the Manager's room, the English Writer's room, and the gun-shed.

5. These damages happened on Sunday when no portion of the establishment was present. The wind burst open windows. In writing to the District Engineer about repairing the buildings, I beg to propose that his attention be drawn to the want of bars and locks throughout.

SUBMITTED for information of Government.

2. With reference to last paragraph of Collector's letter, the Board recommend that Mr. Sharkey's privilege leave be not granted for the present, and the Collector will retain him pending further orders.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

No. 241.

ORDER THEREON, 25th October 1876, No. 1,512.

Miscellaneous.

THE Government much regret the destructive effects of the late cyclone as here reported, especially the serious loss of life.

2. The enclosure will be communicated to the Public Works Department; the cutcherry, it is observed, is a recent structure.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
25th October 1876.*

3. The Collector will be informed by telegram that the Head-quarters Inspector of Police has been gazetted to act for Mr. Sharkey; but that he is at liberty to detain the latter, if he thinks proper.

(True Extract.)

J. S. Canning
Secretary to Government.

Buildings; not the new
buildings sanctioned
in that Order.

Q.M.

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Gobi. of 1870 Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To

No. N.B. Vizagapatam

11/16/79

Date

Issued

Recd.

Recd.

G. O. 25th 1879, No. 3199

Nov. 5 23/24

Cyclone at Vizagapatam,
Bimlipatam and Vizianagaram.

From the Revenue Dept.
on report of the effects of
the —, and the damages ^{sustained by}
the Collectors Catching at
Vizagapatam, recorded and
committed to the D.C. Vizaga-
patam with remarks.

No. 523/24