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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Publications

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	3380	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	12-12	1876 195

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 294. Read the following letter from Colonel C. H. DICKENS, R.A., Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Establishment, Military, and Civil Works,) to Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to the Government, of Madras, Public Works Department, dated Simla, 31st August 1876, No. 432 E M and C:—

In reply to your letter, No. 1,429, of 8th June 1876, requesting that an Assistant attached to the Coast Survey may be deputed for the purpose of assisting in the new and detailed survey of the Madras roadstead in connection with the Harbour Works at that port, the necessity for which has been pointed out by Mr. Parkes, I am

Navigating Lieutenant Jarrad.
Mr. Falle.

directed to state that the officers noted in the margin, attached to the Marine Survey Department, have been ordered

by the Department of Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce to be deputed to carry out the proposed survey, and to add that the delay in complying with the request has been caused by the necessity of consulting the Superintendent of Marine Surveys.

2. I am at the same time to express the surprise and regret of the Government of India, that work should have been commenced on a project of such magnitude, as the formation of an artificial harbour at Madras, before the facts, which only such a survey as has now been proposed can elicit, had been first ascertained and determined. It should be a subject for the careful investigation and anxious consideration of the Madras Government whether, after taking the further opinion of the Engineer-in-Chief and designer of the Harbour, as well as that of its own local professional advisers, both Engineers and seamen, the works should not be suspended till the reliable data contemplated by the intended survey have been obtained. In the absence of these data, whilst little or no confidence can be placed on any estimates prepared to show the probable cost of any given work, physical changes may follow it prejudicial and dangerous to other interests which prolonged and careful observations would have prevented or remedied.

3. The suspension of the actual formation of the Harbour need not interfere with any contract or arrangement for the quarrying supply and delivery of material, which could, with certain modifications, be still continued, and be of ultimate advantage in the execution of the works being resumed.

No. 295. ORDER THEREON, 12th December 1876, No. 3,386.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 22.

BEFORE taking further action on this letter it will be communicated to Mr. Parkes, who, having since received the survey of the Madras Harbour, will be good enough to report whether, in his opinion, the works were commenced with insufficient data, and whether the survey has discovered any new features.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To W. Parkes, Esq., M. Inst. C. E., with letter in original to be returned.

Exd. S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies.

No 432 MTC

Govt of India

P. W. Dept

Original with Estab^t Public & Civil Works.
G.O. No. 3520 of

The 22nd December
1876, The Secretary to the Govt of
Madras.

P. W. Dept

Amila 31st Aug 1876.

Sir,

In reply to your letter No. 1429
of 8th June 1876, requesting that
an Assistant attached to the Coast
Survey may be deputed for the purpose
of assisting in the present detailed
Survey of the Madras Road-Channel
in connection with the Harbour
works at that Port, the necessity
for which has been pointed out
by Mr. Pankaj, I am directed to state
that the Officers posted in the
Mangin, attached to the Marine
Survey Department have been
ordered by the Department of

Navigation
Lieut. J. J. J.
Mr. S. L. L.

Revenue & Agriculture and
Commerce to be departed. To
carry out the proposed survey
and to add, that the delay in
complying with the request has
been caused by the necessity of
consulting the Superintendent
of Marine Surveys.

2. I am at the same time to
express the surprise and regret
of the Govt of India, that work
should have been commenced
on a project of such magnitude,
as the formation of an Artificial
Harbour at Madras, before the
facts, which only such a survey
as has now been proposed
can elicit, had been first as-
certained and determined. It
should be a subject for the
careful investigation and
anxious consideration of the

Madras Government whether,
after taking the further opinion
of the Engineer in Chief and Designer
of the Harbour, as well as
that of its own local professional
advisers, both Engineers and
Architects, the work should
not be suspended till the
reliable data contemplated
by the intended survey have
been obtained. In the absence
of these data, whilst little or
no confidence can be placed
on any estimates prepared to
show the probable cost of any
given work, physical changes
may follow it prejudicial and
dangerous to their interests
which prolonged and careful
observations would have
prevented or remedied.

3. The suspension of the actual
formation of the Harbour, must
not interfere with any contract
or arrangement for the quarrying
supply and delivery of material,
which could, with certain
modifications, be still continued,
and be of ultimate advantage
in the execution of the works
being recommended.

I have the honour to be
Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

Wm C Dickens Esq. Secy.
Secy to the Govt of India.

No 294

1507
sent with
to Mr. Pankes
12/27
Mr. Pankes

No 3306 Alwaks
Public Works Department.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 12th Decr 76.
Read the following:—

From
The Govt of India - (H.O. No. 432 Immediate
31st Decr 1876)

Before taking
further action on this
letter it will be com-
municated to Mr.
Pankes, who, having
since received the
survey of the Madras
Harbour, will be
good enough to report
whether in his opinion
the works were com-
menced with in-
sufficient data, and
whether the survey

Jan 33
has discovered a
new feature.

mm

With letters in orig.

W. A. H. S. H.
H. A. H. S. H.
H. A. H. S. H.
H. A. H. S. H.

N^o 294/5

W. A. H. S. H.
M. J. C. E. with
letter in original to be
re turned - 5 Dec 12/12

S. L. H.

207/655
Govt. of 1876 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

H. Parker Esq.

Dated

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 12 Nov 1876, No. 2386

Nos. 294/5

Madras Harbour Works.

H. Parker requested to
report, whether the
works commenced with in
sufficient data, and
whether the survey has dis-
covered any new features

A.R.

For Mr. P. P.

Returned - 5 Dec 1876

S. Little