

(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.	3525	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	22-12	195
		6876

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
22nd December 1876. No. 3,525.*

No. 549. Read the following letter from W. PARKES, Esq., M. INST. C.E., Engineer-in-Chief, Madras Harbour Works, to Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 14th December 1876 :—

IN reply to your reference to me dated 12th instant, on the subject of the letter of the Government of India, dated 31st August last (herewith returned), I have the honor to report as follows.

2. The Government of India appear to have misapprehended the object for which the Marine Survey was required. The data for making the design and estimate in 1873 were quite complete, and all that was required before the commencement of the works was a more detailed record of the depth at any point within the limits of possible future disturbance directly or indirectly due to the works. In the absence of such a record it would have been impossible to test the truth of any allegations that may be made of such changes.

3. There existed no special chart of the roadstead, and, at the time of my visit in 1873, there were no facilities for making one; but for the purposes of design and estimate the general features given by the Admiralty chart, supplemented by a few sections at right angles to the shore which had been taken for various purposes at different times, were sufficient to enable me to lay down contours of average depth at certain distances from shore, from which however the actual depths at given points might be expected to vary slightly.

4. The following will show how close was the approximation obtained.

Distances from shore.					DEPTHS.		
					Parkes' both Piers.	Jarrad's	
						North Pier.	South Pier.
1,000 feet	...	...	...	...	18 feet.	In Surf.	16·9
1,400 "	...	...	...	...	24 "	22·9	23·9
1,800 "	...	...	...	...	30 "	27·9	28·9
2,500 "	...	...	...	...	36 "	34·0	35·0
3,300 "	...	...	...	...	42 "	42·0	40·8
4,300 "	...	...	...	...	48 "	46·0	45·10

5. The depths I assumed are in every case greater than those given in the recent chart, and it is probable some of the difference may be due to the soundings having been corrected to different levels. In any case the differences are too small to affect the question of the capacity of the Harbour, while a slight saving will be effected on the estimate.

6. As to tides, currents, nature of bottom and other physical elements, the recent survey has added nothing to our knowledge, nor was it expected to do so. On all these points the best evidence, so far as it affected the Harbour question, was available in 1873. The evidence of the Marine Surveyors simply confirms this so far as their short period of observation allowed.

7. It is right to add that the survey appears to be an excellent one for the purpose intended.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
22nd December 1876. No. 3,525.*

No. 550.

ORDER THEREON, 22nd December 1876, No. 3,525.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 33.

ORDERED that the following letter
be addressed to the Government of
India.

(Here enter No. 3,526, dated 22nd December 1876.)

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

To W. Parkes, Esq., M. Inst. C.E.
To the Superintendent, Madras Harbour Works.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
FORT ST. GEORGE, 22nd December 1876.

No. 551.

No. 3,526.

FROM

MAJOR-GENERAL 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. 34.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge your letter under date the 31st August, No. 432, E M and C, requesting the Madras Government to consider whether the opinion of the Engineer-in-Chief of the Madras Harbour Works should not be taken as to the expediency of suspending the Harbour Works until the reliable data contemplated by the intended survey had been obtained.

2. I am to say that the Madras Government have consulted with Mr. Parkes upon the subject, and I am to forward a letter from him containing answers upon the points raised in your letter under reply.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

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

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

All communications
should be addressed to
the Secretary.

No. 432 Sup. 3

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
Establishment
Military & Civil Works.

To

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
P. W. Department.

Simla 31st August 1876.

Sir,

In reply to your letter No. 1429 of 8 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 directed to state that the Officers noted

Navigating Lt. Jarrad.
Mr. Lalle.

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

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 a ultimate advantage in the execution of the works being resumed.--

I have the honor to be,

Sir

Your most obed^t servant

(D. Dickson)

Colonel, R.A.

Secretary to the Govt of India
Ind

9030-5-74 1432 & 14327
8-6-76 - 1428 & 1429
26-8-76 - 2262

P.W.

P.W.D.

8 SEP 76

No. 6507

From

The Govt of India

Dated. 31st Aug: /76

No. 432 B.M.S.L.

Intimating that Lt. General
& Mr. Fille have been
to Madras to undertake
the survey of the River

Recd. 16-10-76.
in 9-9-76 Reto

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

From Govt. of India,
No. 432 B.M.S.L. dated the 31st
August, 1876

FOR ORDERS.

Secretary to Govt.
P.W. Dept.

There is some truth in
the rather unpleasant
remarks of the Govt of India
It is probable that in
an anxiety to commence
that was believed to
a very useful work, we
have begun with inap-
propiate preparation &
etc. I would not answer
is better till we have
perused with Mr. Parker on his arrival next month
then we can give a full statement of the case

M. J. 22/9

W.
W.D.
876.

From W. Parker Esq M. Inst. C.E.
Engineer in Chief Madras H.W.
To the Secretary to Government P.W.D.
dated Madras
14 Decr 1876.

GO. no. 3386
12-12-76
Sir In reply to your reference to me
dated 12th instant on the subject of
the letter of the Government of India
dated 31st ^{August} last (herewith returned)
I have the honor to report as follows

2. The Government of India appear
to have misapprehended the object
for which the marine survey was
required. The data for making
the design and estimate in 1873
were quite complete, and all that
was required before the commencement
of the works was a more detailed
record of the depth at any point

within the limits of possible future disturbance directly or indirectly due to the works. In the absence of such a record it would have been impossible to test the truth of any allegations that may be made of such changes -

3. There existed no special chart of the Roadstead, and at the time of my visit in 1873 there were no facilities for making one; but for the purposes of design and estimate the general features given by the Admiralty chart supplemented by a few sections at right angles to the shore which had been taken for various purposes at different times were sufficient to enable me to lay down contours of average depth at certain distances from shore, from which however the actual depths at given points might be expected to

vary slightly -

4. The following will show how close was the approximation obtained

Distances from <u>Shore</u>	<u>Depths</u>		
	<u>Parker both piers</u>	<u>N. Pier</u>	<u>S. Pier</u>
1000 feet	18 feet	in surf	16.9
1400 "	24 "	22.9	23.9
1800 "	30 "	27.9	28.9
2500 "	36 "	34.0	35.0
3300 "	42 "	42.0	40.8
4300 "	48 "	46.0	45.10

5. The depths I assumed are in every case greater than those given in the recent chart, and it is probable some of the difference may be due to the soundings having been corrected to different levels. In any case the differences are too small to affect the question of the capacity of the Harbour while a slight saving will be effected in the estimate

Letter from W. Parker Esq. dated 14th Decr 76

FOR ORDERS.

Comd'r Major Gould
Secretary to Govt. Board

P.W.D.

14 DEC 76

No. 549

W. Parker Esq.

Dated 14th Decr 1876

Encl's: One

Received
14 Dec 76
H. S. M. S.

6. As to tides, currents, nature of bottom and other physical elements, the recent survey has added nothing to our knowledge, nor was it intended to do so. On all these points the best evidence so far as it affected the Harbour question was available in 1873. The evidence of the marine surveyors simply confirms this so far as their short period of observation allowed.

7. It is right to add that the survey appears to be an excellent one for the purpose intended.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your most obedient servant

W Parker

808-6-76 1428 & 1429
" 26-8-76 - 2262
" 12-12-76 - 3386.

No 549

14-12-76

9072

Harbours

No 3525 Public Works Department.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the

22nd Decr 76

Read the following:—

~~Letter from the Govt of India (H.E. No. 4329 of 23rd Sept 76)~~
Letter from W. Parker Esq. M. Inst. C. E.
Engineer in Chief, Madras Harbours & Works
dated 17th December 1876.

Ordered that the
following letter be ad-
dressed to the Government
of India

(H.E. No. 3526 of 22nd Decr 76)

No 3526

The Secretary to the
Govt of India
Mr Dept

Sir, I am directed to
acknowledge your letter
under date the 31st Aug 76,
No. 432 E. M. & C, requesting
the Madras Government
to consider whether the

Dated 26/12/76

W. Parker Esq. M. Inst. C. E.
Supt. M. & W. Works.

16-12-76.

16-12-76.

opinion of the Engineer-in-Chief of the Madras Harbour Works should not be taken as to the expediency of suspending the Madras Harbour Works until the reliable data is contemplated by the intended survey had been obtained.

I can so say that the Madras Government have consulted with Mr. Parkes upon the subject and I am to forward a letter from him containing answers upon the points raised in your letter under reference.

AMW

Decd 26-12-76

No 549-551

Copy of 118761 Madras
PUBLIC WORKS

To

Mr. Parkes

Dated

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

th. 22-12-76 No. 3525

No. 549/57

Madras Harbour Works.

Passing order on correspondence as to the expediency of suspending the Madras Harbour Works until certain reliable data had been obtained.

Submitting information as to the expediency of suspending the Madras Harbour Works until the receipt of certain reliable data.

But no reply

AMW

Dec 16-12-76