

(1) Number of pages 10

(2) Date of repair

(3) Initials of the Referent

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.

7

Press

Mis.

Dated

12

1

1877

Not to be folded or roughly handled

15

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
4th January 1877. No. 7.*

No. 12. 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, 2nd January 1877:—

REFERRING to the Orders of Government, Nos. 3,343, dated 9th December and 3,490, of 19th December 1876, I have the honor to inform you that I consider the work is now in such a state that there is no occasion for my further stay at Madras.

2. The transitional system of work between the surf bank and the abutment was commenced on the 18th ultimo, and has steadily advanced from that day to the present time with some interruptions from holidays and bad weather, but with no accident or drawback of any kind.

3. Thirty-one blocks, mostly of the full size of 27 tons, have been set by the Titan, forming a length of 45 feet of substantial built work. The last course is founded at a depth of $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet below low water; and the two or three courses previously set were founded at such a depth that no means could be adopted for levelling the foundation. Nevertheless they have taken a position sufficiently regular for stability, proving that the rubble has been left by the sea with a fair surface. This is the only point on which I felt any doubt, and it is now certain that a description of work superior to the "random pile of blocks," I anticipated in paragraph 32 of my Report of 30th November, will be made. I see no reason to suppose that any difficulty will be found in continuing the same description of work till a sufficient depth is attained to enable the helmet divers to level the foundations and make perfectly regular work. Mr. Thorowgood's Report of 31st December 1876 gives more particulars on this subject.

4. With respect to the second subject, to which the Government desired my personal attention, viz., the experiments on currents, &c., I have to state that no favorable opportunities have as yet occurred for making direct observations. There has been much wind and sea, rendering observations difficult and untrustworthy, but very little current, never, except on one day, more than half a mile per hour. I think, however, that the method suggested in the G.O. of 19th December will be much more useful than any isolated experiments, and in furtherance of this object two iron crates have been made, $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet cube, which will be sunk in $5\frac{1}{2}$ and $7\frac{1}{2}$ fathoms respectively and filled with stone. The height of each corner above the sand will then be measured and recorded, and they will be examined from time to time and the results reported. I do not think I can do more than this in the matter.

5. I therefore propose to leave Madras on Friday evening next if up to that time the work continues to proceed in the present satisfactory manner.

No. 13. ORDER THEREON, 4th January 1877, No. 7.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 1-A.

WITH reference to the concluding portion of paragraph 3 of this letter, it is very desirable that Mr. Parkes should prolong his stay some time longer until it has been seen whether the helmet divers are able, as anticipated, to level the foundations. At all events the decision of the question of Mr. Parkes leaving Madras will be postponed until His Grace the Governor returns.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
4th January 1877. No. 7.

2. The arrangement made for the co-operation of the Committee with the Harbour Engineer is not being carried out as was intended by the Government. There ought to be fortnightly meetings, as is the case with the Railway Manager and staff and the Government Consulting Engineer. At these meetings *proposed* contracts should be dealt with and all matters connected with the works be freely discussed.

3. Copies of Mr. Thorowgood's Reports should go to the Committee on the same dates as those on which they are submitted to Government.

(True Extract.)

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

To W. Parkes, Esq., M. Inst. C.E.
To the Superintendent of Madras Harbour Works.
" Harbour Committee.
" Marine Department.

From

W. Parkes Esq. M. Inst. C.E.
Engineer in Chief.
Madras Harbour Works

Major General G. W. Walker Esq.
Secretary to Government
Public Works Department.
Fort St. George.

Madras, 2nd January 1877

Sir,

1. Referring to the orders of Government No. 3343 dated 9th December and 3490 of 19th December 1876, I have the honour to inform you that I consider the work is now in such a state that there is no occasion for my further stay at Madras.

2. The transitional system of work between the surf bank and the abutment was commenced on the 18th ultimo, and has steadily advanced from that day to the present time with some interruptions from holidays and bad weather, but with no accident or drawback of any kind —

3. Thirty one blocks mostly of the full size of 27 tons have been set by the Titan forming a length of 145 feet of substantial built work. The last course is founded at a depth of $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet below low water, and the two or three courses previously set were founded at such a depth that no means could be adopted for levelling the foundation. Nevertheless they have taken a position sufficiently regular for stability, proving that the rubble has been left by the sea with a fair surface. This is the only point on which I felt any doubt and it is now certain that a description of work superior to the random pile of blocks I anticipated in para 32 of my report of 30th November will be made. I see no reason to suppose that any difficulty will be found in continuing the same description of work till a sufficient depth is attained to enable the helmet divers to level the foundations and make perfectly regular work. Mr Thorogood's report of 31st December 1876, gives more particulars on this subject.

4. With respect to the second subject to which the Government desired my personal attention,

viz: the experiments on currents &c, I have to state that no favorable opportunities have as yet occurred for making direct observations. There has been much wind and sea rendering observations difficult and untrustworthy, but very little current, never except on one day more than $\frac{1}{2}$ mile per hour. I think however that the method suggested in the G.O. of 19th December will be much more useful than any isolated experiments and in furtherance of this object two iron crates have been made $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet cube which will be sunk in $5\frac{1}{2}$ and $7\frac{1}{2}$ fathoms respectively and filled with stone. The height of each corner above the sand will then be measured and recorded and they will be examined from time to time and the results reported. I do not think I can do more than this in the matter.

5. I therefore propose to leave Madras on Friday evening next if up to that time the work continues to proceed in the present satisfactory manner. Have the honour to be

Your most obedient servant

A. Parker
Engineer in Charge
Madras Harbour Works

With reference to the con-
cluding portion of para 3
of this paper letter, I think
it very desirable that Mr
Parker should prolong his
stay some time longer
until it has been seen whether
the helmet ^{divers} are able
as anticipated to level the
surface. At all events I
would postpone the decision
of the question of Mr Parker
leaving Madras until Mr
Grace returns.

I am of opinion that the
arrangement made for the
cooperation of the Committee
with the Harbour Engineer
is not being carried out as was
intended by the Govt.
There ought to be weekly
meetings, as is the case
with the Railway operations
Manager & Staff & our Consulting
Engineer. At these meetings

proposed contracts should be
dealt with & all matters
connected with the works be-
fully discussed.

The copies of Mr. Thoroughgood's
reports, should go to the
Committee at the same
dates, ^{as they} ~~are~~ on which
they are submitted to
Govt. RK

MR 3/1

Mr. Parker's letter
of 21st Jan 1877
to the Govt.

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to the Govt.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the 4th January 1877.
Read the following:—

From

Mr. Parker Esq. M. Inst. C.E.
Engineer-in-Chief
Madras Harbour Works

(H.E. of 2nd Jan 1877)

With reference to
the concluding portion
of para 3 of this letter,
it is very desirable
that Mr Parker should
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it has been seen whether
the helmet divers are
able as anticipated
to level the foundations.
At all events the
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of

MR 3/1

of Mr Parker leaving
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poned until his
Grace the Governor
returns.

The arrangement
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tion of the Committee
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as is the case with
the Railway Manager
and staff and the
Government Con-
sulting Engineer.

At these meetings pro-
posed contracts should
be dealt with and
all matters connected
with the works be
freely discussed.

Copies of Mr.
Shorwood's reports
should go to the
Committee on the
same dates as those
on which they are
submitted to Lord.

W. Parker Esq. M. L. C. E. Secy. in Inf. 4-1-77
Supt. H. W. R.
Harbour Committee
Marine Dept

Recd - 17-1-77

574
Govt. of 1870 Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To

W. Parker Esq. Secy. to Govt.

Dated

Issued 23

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 11th Decr 1870 No. 7

Nos. 12/13

Madras Harbour Works

Mr. Parker's departure
to England postponed
till the return of his grace
the Governor, and orders
issued regarding meeting
of the Committee -

Sent to Rep.