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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Public works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2963 W	Press.
B.P. No.		Misr
Dated	22. 7. 1878	197

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

1/2/82

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

22nd July 1878, No 2,963 W

Buildings and Roads
Civil Works

Read the following paper —

No. 227 From A MACKENZIE, Esq, Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce,
to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department dated Madras,
5th July 1878

The Chamber are indebted to the Government for the attention that has been given in Proceedings, Public Works Department, 5th May, No 2,058 W, to their representation of the 12th April of the necessity of rearranging the drainage of the foreshore. They are, however, disappointed to find that, as yet, only one of the eleven sewers which have their outlets between the two groynes has been taken in land and diverted through the southern surf bank. It seems to the Chamber that, as none of the sewers referred to can be permitted to discharge themselves into the Harbour when that work is completed, it is expedient to at once intercept the whole of them by a drain running parallel to the beach road. This intercepting drain might have two outlets, one south of the southern groyne, at the point where the steam pump is now working, and the other at a similar distance north of the northern groyne, at a point where a corresponding pumping station may be established. The outfall from the two ends would then be sufficiently far from the Harbour groynes to prevent any of the sewage being washed into the Harbour, or accumulated in the outer elbow or angle, formed by those groynes with the beach. Near the shore end of the screw pile pier, at a point about midway from the extremities of the intercepting sewer, piers might be erected for raising sea water and discharging it into the drain in order to flush it daily.

The Chamber venture to impress upon Government the importance of dealing in a comprehensive manner with the drainage question that has arisen from the Harbour Works, since it appears to them that, as the beach enclosed between the two groynes is now protected from the influence of the littoral currents, there is far less opportunity than formerly for the sea, by an occasional overflow, to cleanse the sand from sewage pollution. Some of the ten drains that have their outlets in the space referred to are probably more useful for the escape of storm water than of actual sewage, but during heavy rain there is not much difference in the character of the discharge from any of the sewers. Owing to the imperfect system of drainage in the town, and the infrequency of flooding rain, the sewage accumulates for months, and must emit, during hot weather, gases that are inimical to public health. At length, in falls of abundance, and the putrid accumulations are washed down, and at last are discharged either into the sea when the tide is unusually high, or on to the sand where it forms a permanent lake of the most poisonous matter. Thus the beach, in the busiest part of the port, is daily more or less saturated with sewage, and the shipping operations are conducted by crowds of coolies, boatmen, &c., while exposed to the danger of inhaling the effluvia from the filthy pools at the outlets of the drains. Not only are the persons engaged in the several nautical offices and banks exposed to the danger arising from the evaporation from the beach, but the health of the

2 PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, 22ND JULY 1878, No. 2,963 W.

Judges, officers and clients of the High Court, as well as of the officers and persons doing business at the Custom House, Stamp Office, Commissariat Office, &c, is seriously endangered by the same cause. Under these circumstances the Chamber are of opinion that no time should be lost in affording public health better protection against a risk which has been aggravated by the Harbour Works.

No 228. ORDER THEREON, 22nd July 1878, No 2,963 W.

The Chamber's letter will be communicated to the Superintendent of the Madras Harbour Works who will, in communication with the President of Madras Municipality, draw up a scheme for intercepting all the drainage referred to. The cost of the project, together with the cost of subsequent maintenance, should be given. The project should be accompanied by such remarks as the President of the Municipality may have to offer.

(True Extract)

(Signed) E. A. FOORD, Colonel, R E,
Secretary to Govt, P W D.

(True Copy)

Major, R E,
Under Secy. to Govt., P W.D.

To the Superintendent, Madras Harbour Works.
" President Madras Municipality
" Chairman, Chamber of Commerce.
" District Engineer, Presidency
" General Department.

Encl. T D Ryan
Spare Copies



RECEIVED
CIVIL ENGINE

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PUBLIC WORKS,

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Chamber of Commerce
Madras 15 July 1873

From

The Chairman,
Chamber of Commerce

22/7/63

To The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department,
Coltacamund.

Sir,

The Chamber are indebted
to the Government for the attention that
has been given in Proceedings, C.P.W.
8 May 1873 to their representation
of the 12 April of the necessity of
re-arranging the drainage of the forewells.
They are, however, disappointed to find
that, as yet, only one of the eleven
sewers which have their outlets between
the two groynes has been taken in
hand, and diverted through the
southern surf bank. It seems to the
Chamber that as none of the sewers
referred

referred to can be permitted to discharge
themselves into the Harbour when that
work is completed, it is expedient to
at once intercept the whole of them
by a drain running parallel to the
beach road. This intercepting drain
might have two outlets, one south of
the southern groynes, at the point
where the storm pump is ^{now} working,
and the other at a similar distance
north of the northern groyne, at a
point where a corresponding pumping
station may be established. It is felt
that the two inlets would then be
sufficiently protected from the Harbour
groynes to prevent any of the sewage
being washed into the Harbour, or
accumulated in the outer oblique
angle formed by these groynes
with the beach. It is also there

end of the storm tide, at a point
intermediate between the limits
of the intercepting drain, a pump
might be provided for receiving the
water and discharging it into the
Harbour in order to flush it daily.
The Chamber venture to
express their opinion that the im-
portance of dealing in a comprehensive
manner with the drainage question
that has arisen from the Harbour
works, since it appears to them that,
as the beach enclosed between the two
groynes is now protected from the
influence of the littoral currents, there
is far less opportunity than formerly
for the sea, by an occasional overflow,
to cleanse the beach from sewage
pollutions. Some of the ten drains
that have their outlets in the space
referred to

represent to me probably, more useful
for the escape of storm water than of
actual sewage, but during heavy
rain there is not much difference
in the character of the discharge
from any of the sewers. Owing to
the imperfect system of drainage
in the town, and the infrequency
of flooding, rain, the sewage accumulates
for months, and must emit, during
hot weather, gases that are injurious
to public health. At length rain
falls in abundance, and the putrid
accumulations are washed down, and
at last are discharged, either into
the sea when the tide is unusually
high, or on to the strand, where it forms
a permanent lake of the most
poisonous matter. Thus the beach, in
the busiest part of the port, is always
more

more, or less, saturated with sewage, and
the shipping operations ^{are} conducted
by crowds of coolies, boatmen & while
exposed to the danger of inhaling the
effluvia from the filthy pools at the
mouths of the drains not only are
the persons engaged in the several
mercantile offices and banks exposed
to the danger arising from the evaporation
from the beach, but the health of
the judges, officers and clients of the
High Court, as well as of the officers
and persons doing business at the
Custom House, Stamp office, Commissariat
office & is seriously endangered by
the same cause. Under these circumstances
the Chamber are of opinion that
no time should be lost in affording
the health better protection against
a risk which has been aggravated
by

by the Harbour works

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

James Brown

Chairman

40 ho 2672w of 13 June 78
 80 -- 2088w -- 8 May 78 over 2
 100 -- 1766w -- 10 April --
 120 -- 984w -- 28 Feb 78 --
 140 -- 563w -- 4 Jan --
 160 -- 321w -- 22 Nov 70

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Letter from the Chairman, Chamber of
Commerce, dated 5 July 1878.

593

FOR ORDERS.

Edmond Caird

President of the M.C.

Much that is to be done in
 opinion of the committee
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10th July 1878

I am sorry to hear that
 the same as the same

Let 17.7.78
 at 25/7/78

FOR ORDERS

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT

UNDER date the 22nd July 1878

Read the following. —

Letter from the Chairman
Chamber of Commerce } (H.C. dated 5th July 1878)

The Chamber's
letter will be communi-
cated to the Superintendent
of the Madras Harbour
Works who will, in com-
munication with the
President of Madras
Municipality, draw up
a scheme for intercepting
all the drainage referred
to. The cost of the project
together with the cost of
subsequent maintenance
should be given. The
project should be accompa-
nyed by such remarks as the

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at 1000 25 1000

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President of the Municipality
may have to offer
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Sept. 26-7-78
Supt. M. Harbour Works
President M. Municipality
Chairman Chamber of Commerce
District Engr. Presidency
Financial Dept.
Sept. 26-7-78

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PAID WORKS

The Dept. of Hydrography

22 July 1875

RECEIVED

Drainage of the fore-shore
between the groynes of the
Madras Harbour

Passing orders on the
letter of the Chamber of
Commerce regarding the
re-arranging of the

Entry in Page