

19TH APRIL 1882, No. 91, MARINE.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
MARINE DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following Proceedings of Government, dated 24th March 1882, No. 92-B, Marine:—

Read—the following G.O., dated 22nd March 1882, No. 681-C, Public Works:—

Read—the following Proceedings of the Government of India, Public Works Department (Civil Works—Miscellaneous), dated Fort William, 10th March 1882, No. 115-M:—

Copy of the following forwarded to the Government of Madras in the Public Works Department, for information, together with a copy of the letter, No. 99 C.W.—276, of 18th February 1882, from the Bombay Government.

(By Order.)

(Signed) G. R. GIBBS, Major,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt. of India.

ENCLOSURES.

From the Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Public Works Department, dated Fort William, 10th March 1882, No. 114-M.

With reference to your letter, No. 99 C.W.—276, of the 18th February last, regarding the dredging of the Karachi Harbour, I am directed to convey the approval of the Government of India of the proposed transfer to the Karachi Harbour Works of the Dredger *Albuquerque* with four 80-ton sailing hopper barges belonging to the Madras Government now for sale, and to state that outlay incurred this year for adopting the dredger for deeper dredging, &c., may be admitted against Imperial Funds to a limit of Rs. 10,000. All further outlay this year in excess of this limit of Rs. 10,000, as well as the outlay incurred after 31st March 1882, must be met from Provincial Funds.

2. As the Karachi Harbour Works will become Provincial after 31st March 1882-83, it will henceforth be within the competence of the Local Government to increase the annual grant for dredging if required.

3. I am at the same time to inquire whether the Dredger *Albuquerque* and the barges are to be transferred with or without value, and, in the event of the former, how it is proposed to supply the funds.

From Colonel C. J. MERRIMAN, R.E., Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Public Works Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, dated Bombay Castle, 18th February 1882, No. 99 C.W.—276.

The Port Engineer, Karachi, having brought to the notice of this Government, shortly after the arrival of the dredging fleet sent out for that Harbour in 1880, certain defects in those vessels, owing to which the outturn of work fell very far short of the stipulated requirements, the reports received from that officer were forwarded to the Store Department of the India Office in August last for inquiry and such action as may be deemed necessary, but to this representation no reply has as yet been received.

2. The Port Engineer has now forwarded copies of letters received from the Master Attendant at that port, bringing to notice the frequent grounding of vessels in the anchorage owing to the insufficient depth of water and urging strongly that the dredging be pushed on.

Mr. Price has also represented that additional dredging power is absolutely necessary, and should, if possible, be at once provided to enable him to meet the requirements of the port, and he states that an opportunity for acquiring such on favorable terms now presents itself in the Dredger *Albuquerque* belonging to the Madras Government now at Bombay, together with four 80-ton sailing hopper barges built for her at Calicut, which are now at Pámban, being for sale. The former vessel has been inspected at Bombay and favorably reported on as admirably adapted if altered at a cost of Rs. 6,000 to meet the requirements of the Karachi Harbour and as likely to greatly exceed the performances of the Dredger *Nearchus* of the existing fleet. The vessels have been valued by the Superintendent of Marine at Bombay, who has furnished a statement (copy annexed) showing that their present price, after allowing for depreciation, is Rs. 1,84,580.

3. I am now desired to recommend, as additional dredging power is so greatly needed at Karachi, that the Government of India will be pleased to sanction the transfer of the vessels alluded to to Karachi, such transfer, it being understood, involving no fresh outlay by the Government of India, excepting the small cost of navigation and altering for deeper dredging, say Rs. 10,000 at most, for which alone an additional grant will be needed.

4. As the increased dredging plant could not, of course, be worked as cheaply as one dredger, Mr. Price proposes that the balance of the existing grant of Rs. 1 lakh per annum for dredging, which has still six years to run, be allotted in four years, thereby increasing the present annual rate by 50 per cent., and to this also I am to request sanction should the Government of India see no objection.

5. I am, in conclusion, to request very early orders on the subject, not only for the sake of the improvements to the Harbour, which are urgently needed, but also to enable all the vessels to be despatched in time, so as to arrive at Karachi before the setting in of the south-west monsoon should the proposals meet with the approval of, and be sanctioned by, the Government of India.

From Captain G. O'B. CAREW, I.M., Superintendent of Marine, Western Division, to the Port Engineer, Manora, Karachi, dated Bombay, 30th January 1882, No. 7130.

With reference to my telegram of the 27th instant, I have the honor to forward for your information the accompanying extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Madras, Marine Department, dated 13th May 1881, relative to the value of the Steam Dredger *Albuquerque* and four spoil barges.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Madras, Marine Department, dated 13th May 1881, No. 227.

I would recommend that, if an offer of Rs. (1,84,580) one lakh eighty-four thousand five hundred and eighty be obtained, it should be accepted.

2. I base my valuation on the items noted below:—

	RS.
Original cost of <i>Albuquerque</i>	2,22,070
The vessel is as nearly as good as new, having just completed a thorough overhaul in Bombay Dockyard at an expense of Rs. 14,292, but, allowing a depreciation of 5 per cent. for five years, this would give her value as	1,66,555

3. This does not include the cost of the four spoil barges built to work in conjunction with the dredger, and which should be sold with her, as they will be of no service without her. They cost Rs. (24,000) twenty-four thousand, and all have lately been repaired, so that the purchase price would be—

	RS.
<i>Albuquerque</i> , as she now stands, with four spoil barges, carrying 87 tons each*	1,88,155

Order—dated 22nd March 1882, No. 681-C, Public Works.

Transferred to the Marine Department.

(Signed) R. H. SANKEY, Col., R.E.,
Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

* Including Rs. 21,600 for the spoil barges, deducting depreciation at 5 per cent. for two years on original value.

Telegram—dated 24th March 1882, No. 92-B, Marine.

To Military (Marine), Simla.

May we expect orders in Military (Marine) regarding transfer *Albuquerque* to Karachi?

(Signed) R. DAVIDSON,
Chief Secretary.

READ—also the following letter from J. H. TAYLOR, Esq., Lieut., R.N.R., Master Attendant, Madras, to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 13th April 1882, No. 2792:—

Administrative Department.

Adverting to the correspondence as per margin, I have the honor to inquire how matters stand in reference to the transfer of the Steam Dredger *Albuquerque* to the Karachi Port Trust. I am anxious to have early information, as I may very probably have to utilize the services of

Mr. McKean, her Commander, to take charge of the port of Pámban for six months, he having acquired local knowledge while the *Albuquerque* was employed in dredging operations there.

ORDER—dated 19th April 1882, No. 91, Marine.

* Under endorsement, No. 681-C, dated 22nd March 1882. The papers received* from the Public Works Department will be communicated to the Master Attendant.

2. The Government will await a reply to the telegram to the Government of India in the Military (Marine) Department before passing orders in regard to the details of the sale and the credit to Port Funds.

3. Meanwhile Captain Taylor should put himself in communication with the Port Engineer, Karachi, in regard to the approaching transfer of the vessel.

4. Copy of these Proceedings will be forwarded to the Government of India, Military Department (Marine), and to the Government of Bombay, from whom a communication on this subject will doubtless be received in due course.

(True Extract.)

60223
for Acting Chief Secretary.

Copy to the Secretary to the Government of India, Military (Marine) Department.
Copy to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

To the Master Attendant, Madras.
„ Public Works Department. ✓
„ Accountant-General.

Exd. J. W. Fischer.

J. W. C. No. 2766

Govt. of (1882) Madras.

MARINE.

Recd. 2 May '82

Order, dated 19th April 1882, No. 91.

J. S. C.

Entd. in Receipt Regr

Steam Dredger "Albuquerque."—Communicating to the Master Attendant, with instructions, papers received from the Public Works Department regarding the transfer to the Karachi Harbour Works of the Steam Dredger Albuquerque with four 80-ton sailing hopper barges.

1095 W. a/p 2nd May/82
B Recorded

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275.62

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