

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Rural - DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. *2/3*

Press
~~Mis.~~

Dated

27-2 18*67*.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
27th February 1867.*

Read the following papers :—

No. 144. From the Officiating Under Secretary to the Government of India, to the Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George ; dated Fort William, the 30th January 1867, No. 981.

Home Department.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 852, dated the 27th August, and in reply to state that the proposals made therein, for the introduction of a system of Meteorological Observations into the Madras Presidency, have been referred to the Financial Department for consideration.

2. Meanwhile, the Governor General in Council will be glad if the Madras Government will re-consider the omission from the scheme of the stations of Kamptee and Rangoon, and submit their views on the subject.

No. 145. From the Government Astronomer, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George ; dated Madras Observatory, 19th January 1867.

As no reply has yet been received from the Government of India, in reference to the Proceedings of the Madras Government, 27th August 1866, in which a Scheme of Meteorological Observations, throughout the Madras Presidency, was proposed by the Madras Sanitary Commission, as a means of comparing the increment and decrement of disease with climate (the said scheme to be under the immediate direction of the Government Astronomer), I have the honor to submit the few following considerations to Government in reference thereto :—

1st. The contemplated amalgamation of the two Government Observatories, as suggested in the Despatch of the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, dated London, 31st October 1866, and announced in the Proceedings of Madras Government, 11th December 1866, need in no way interfere with or delay the accomplishment of the Meteorological Scheme proposed by the Sanitary Commission. For whether the future single Indian Observatory is to be maintained at Madras or at Bombay, it is expressly stated in Lord Cranborne's Despatch that Meteorology and Magnetism are to be the chief pursuits of the new Establishment. A considerable time must necessarily elapse before any decision can be arrived at in regard to the proposed amalgamation of the two Observatories, and, meanwhile, it is most highly desirable that a scheme, so urgently needed for furnishing systematic records, whether for sanitary or for scientific purposes, and which so entirely accords with the future wishes and intentions of the Home Government, should be at once started, and got into efficient working order with the least possible delay.

2nd. Prompt publication of the results obtained would be indispensable, for it is obvious that, otherwise, the observations themselves would be perfectly useless. In the Proceedings of Madras Government, 14th April 1866, in my letter, dated 16th March, paragraph 3, a proposal was made for securing this desideratum, and it was suggested that the Meteorological and Magnetical records of the Madras Observatory should form part of the annual volume of Meteorological Proceedings. In such case, the first volume of the series should contain the Madras results for the five years 1861 to 1865 ; the excellent three year series taken at Secunderabad, under the care of Dr. W. Arnold Smith ; and a complete and convenient collection of all the tables to be used in the reductions of the up-country Observations. The preparation

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of the latter most important matter is already far advanced, and Reduction Tables, specially adapted to India in general, as deduced from the twenty years' series of hourly records maintained here from 1841 to 1860, are nearly ready for publication. Should the Government of India see fit to sanction the scheme under consideration, the printing of the first volume may be immediately proceeded with, while the instruments and the Natives Observers are being procured, and the latter trained ready for future operations.

3rd. As I am about to commence printing the Astronomical Observations made at Madras in 1861, 1862, and 1863, I shall be glad of an early decision in regard to the proposed Scheme of Meteorological Records, and their publication as above suggested. It is my own opinion that the Meteorological results of the Observatory would be far better issued separately, as proposed, than as an appendix to the purely Astronomical Observations carried on during the same years.

No. 146. To the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, dated Fort Saint George, 27th February 1867, No. 213.

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 30th ultimo, I am directed to state that the Madras Government do not entertain any serious objection to the inclusion of Kamptee and Rangoon in the list of stations at which Meteorological Observations are to be taken.

2. Copy of a further letter from the Government Astronomer, on the subject of the Observations in question, is enclosed.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary.

Madras Observatory. 19th January. 1867.

From

The Government Astronomer

To

The Hon. A. J. Arbuthnot.

Chief Secretary to Government

Fort St George.

Sir,

As no reply has yet been received from the Government of India in reference to the Proceedings of the Madras Government, 19th August, 1866, in which a Scheme of Meteorological Observations, throughout the Madras Presidency, was proposed by the Madras Sanitary Commission, as a means of comparing the increment and decrement of disease with climate, — the said Scheme to be under the immediate direction of the Government Astronomer, I have the honor to submit the few following considerations to Government in reference thereto.

1st. — The contemplated amalgamation of the two Government Observatories, as suggested in the Despatch of the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, dated London, 20th October, 1866, and announced in the Proceedings of Madras Government, 10th December, 1866, need in no way interfere with or delay the accomplishment of the Meteorological Scheme proposed by the Sanitary Commission. — For whether the future single Indian Observatory is to be maintained at Madras or at Bombay, it is expressly stated in Lord Cranborne's Despatch, that, Meteorology and Magnetism are to be the chief pursuits of the new Establishment. — A considerable time must necessarily elapse before any decision can be arrived at in regard to the proposed amalgamation of the two Observatories; and meanwhile it is most highly desirable that a Scheme, so urgently needed for furnishing systematic records, whether for sanitary or for scientific purposes, and which so entirely accords with the future wishes and intentions of the Home Government, should be at once started and got into efficient working order with the least possible delay.

2nd. — Prompt publication of the results obtained would be indispensable, for it is obvious that otherwise the Observations themselves would be perfectly useless. — In the Proceedings of Madras Government, 16th April, 1866, in my letter dated 10th March, Para. 3, a proposal was made for securing this desideratum; and it was suggested that the Meteorological and Magnetical Records of the Madras Observatory should form part of the annual volume of Meteorological Proceedings.

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In such case the first volume, the Madras Results for the five years
1861 to 1865; — the excellent three year series taken at Secunderabad,
under the care of D^r. W Arnold Smith; and a complete and convenient
collection of all the tables to be used in the reductions of the up-country
Observations. — The preparation of the latter most important matter is
already far advanced, and Reduction Tables, specially adapted to India in
general, as deduced from the twenty year series of hourly records maintained
here from 1840 to 1860, are nearly ready for publication. — Should the
Government of India see fit to sanction the Scheme under consideration,
the printing of the first volume may be immediately proceeded with,
while the instruments and the native observers are being procured and
the latter trained ready for future operations. —

3rd. — As I am about to commence printing the Astronomical
Observations made at Madras in 1861, 1862 and 1863, I shall be glad
of an early decision in regard to the proposed Scheme of Meteorological
Records and their publication as above suggested. — It is my own opinion
that the Meteorological Results of the Observatory would be far better
issued separately, as proposed, than as an appendix to the purely
Astronomical Observations carried on during the same years. —

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant

M R Poggson

Government Astronomer. —

W. 981.

From

W. R. Ward Esq^{re}.

Offy Under Secy to the Govt. of India

To

The Secy to the Government of Fort St. George

Dated Fort William, the 30. January 1867

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter W. 852 dated the 27th August, and in reply to state that the proposals made therein for the introduction of a system of meteorological observations into the Madras Presidency have been referred to the Financial Department for consideration.

Meanwhile, the Governor General in Council will be glad if the Madras Government will reconsider the opinion from the scheme of the Stations of Rangoon and Rangoon, and submit their views on the subject.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most obed^t. Servant

W. R. Ward

Offy Under Secy to the Govt. of India

No 27 Aug 67 to 153 C 155.
14 April 57 C 59.
11 Dec 58 28 & 29.

Recd 1867 Sept
from No. 27 1867
the Government of Madras

5.
the Hon. J. G. D. D. D.
Chief Secretary to Government
Fort St. George.

Madras Presidency. 19th January 1867.
W. R. Ward

Dec 70.

In reference to the scheme for
extended meteorological observations within
the Madras Presidency, proposed by the
Sanitary Commission; — the publication
of the results; — and requesting an
early decision, to enable the Government
to commence printing the
Madras Meteorological Records with as
little delay as possible.

Public Department.

No. 213.

To

The Secretary to the Government
of India,
Home Department.

Sir,

In acknowledging
the receipt of your letter of
the 30th ultimo, I am
directed to state that
the Madras Government
do not entertain any serious
objection to the inclusion
of Khamptee and Rangoon
in the list of stations
at which meteorological
observations are to be
taken.

2. Copy of a further
letter from the Government
Astronomer on the subject
of the observations in
question is enclosed.

Fort St. George
27 February 1867

J. P.
W. D.

144.

No 145.
I am to state that the proposal
of the Govt respecting the system
of meteorological ob-
servations to be introduced at
these places, has been referred to
the Home Dept. & request to re-
consider the original plan of the
Scheme of the stations of Khamptee
and Rangoon -

6/2/67

2/30/Jan 1867
W. S. D. C. P.

SL. No. 213

Public 1867 Dept
Under Secy Govt of India
Home Dept
No 987.

Pro 11 Dec 1866 Pro 28-29
1-27 Aug 1866 153 C 155
1-74 April 1866 57 C 59
See Summary Pro 56-76 & 149 of 1866

8-12-55

Wm. 1864 Sepant.

N^o 213

to the George White Co.
a India

Feb 27th February 1864.
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