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M.R.O. 1-29,000-16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.

399

Press
Mis.

Dated

27-3-1936

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following papers :—

No. 204. From the Assistant Collector, Kistna District, to the Assistant Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George ; dated Masulipatam, 23rd March 1868, No. 20.

By the Steamer from Burmah, which calls here in two or three days on its way to Madras, I purpose to send in a small stone jar a specimen of the Dolphin of the Kistna river (a foetus about a foot long), as requested in Circular, dated June last.

2. I will give the jar to the charge of the Captain, and request that you will be good enough to send a Peon to the Steamer to fetch the specimen.

No. 22.

No. 205. OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM.

The Assistant Collector of the Kistna District, in the absence of Mr. Thornhill on circuit, has the honor to inform the Chief Secretary to Government that a small specimen of Dolphin found in the Kistna river will be forwarded to Madras to his address by the Steamer now coming from Burmah, and to enclose a copy of a letter to Mr. Thornhill on the subject. It is requested that a Peon may be sent to fetch the specimen from the Steamer. A large skeleton of this animal will be sent by the Steamer of the next month. A drawing of it is enclosed.

(Signed) H. NEWMAN,

MASULIPATAM, 23rd March 1868.

Assistant Collector.

From the Assistant Collector, Kistna District, to the Collector of the Kistna District ; dated Masulipatam, — March 1868, No. 18.

On the 13th August last, I forwarded some information, which I had obtained from fishermen about the mouth of the Kistna, with respect to the general form and habits of the Dolphin or Porpoise which inhabits the river. The information I collected at Avenuguddah, and was the answer as regarded the Kistna to certain queries, sent by the Government Museum at Calcutta, on the subject of Dolphins to the Government of Madras.

2. In that letter, I mentioned that I had done my best to induce the fishermen to obtain a specimen for scientific purposes, and had promised them a reward.

3. On the morning of the 16th instant certain villagers at Murripolem, near the mouth of the river, succeeded in getting to shore a female Dolphin which was caught in their nets. The animal appears to be rather helpless when out of water, so they bound it securely to a charpoy, and carried it to me at Bunder.

4. I saw it 24 hours after capture and found it alive. On being flung into water, it at first was exhausted, dropping to the bottom after taking breath, but after 20 minutes it completely recovered and performed its natural evolutions, coming to the surface for breath at intervals of 15 to 30 seconds each.

5. I sent a Telegram to Mr. Sim, who takes interest in the subject, and afterwards to the Chief Secretary, as there was the possibility that the live specimen might be wanted. Meanwhile, I supplied the animal with sea-water and with fishes and prawns. It appeared to live comfortably in confinement, and to eat only those fish and prawns which were alive.

6. Not receiving any telegram from Mr. Sim, I had the animal killed on Wednesday evening. At first I used strychnine, which I put in the mouth. I do not think it went down the throat. So, I caused its throat to be cut, and am preparing the skeleton for transmission to Madras complete.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,

27th March 1868.

7. It was found that the animal was in young. So I have placed the young one in spirits, and am about to pack it up safely to be forwarded by next steamer to the Chief Secretary at Madras. As there is not time for me to receive your directions before the steamer comes, and as the specimen may be damaged by any delay, I think I had better send it by this opportunity, and enclose a copy of this letter to you. It appears to me that this small specimen, which is about a foot long, will furnish most of the information that is required at Calcutta about the Kistna Dolphin. The big animal was about six feet long, and its customs and habits and internal parts all showed it to bear a remarkable resemblance to the human species.

8. I gave twenty Rupees to the fishermen who secured her and ten Rupees to those who brought her in a distance of 32 miles. There will be a few other small items on account of which I will make, and transmit to the Museum at Calcutta.

No. 206. ORDER THEREON, 27th March 1868, No. 399.
Communicated to the Superintendent of the Government Central Museum.
(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

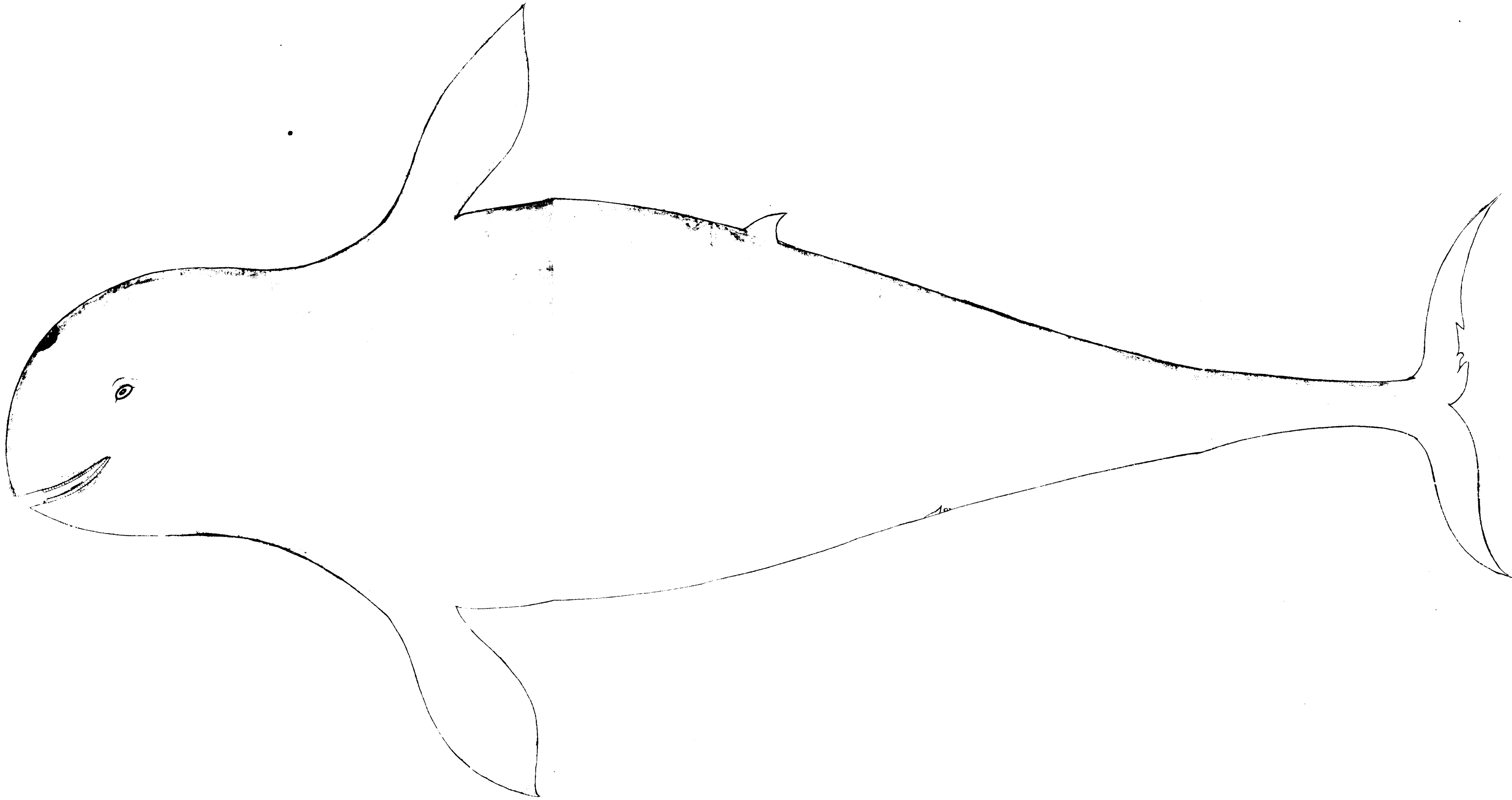
To the Superintendent, Government Central Museum.
„ Collector of the Kistna District.

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To

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drawn by D. Nayanna Naidoo.

Correction - Eyes in fact are remarkably small.
mouth should be firmly closed - teeth very small.
nostril for breathing should be much higher in fact
on extreme top of head. The arms for swimming are
inserted in shoulder, like those of a man, and not as
here represented. R. Newman artist collector.

N^o 178

Memorandum

The Master Attendant has the
honor to forward a fax received from
Masulipatam per Steamer 'Mabhatta'.

By Order

Master Attendant's Office
Madras 25 March 1868

W. H. Smith

Appld. Master Attendant

The Chief Secretary to
Government

From Mr. Vennartt

26 March 1868 No. 393.

Communicated to the
Master Attendant, who
will be good enough to
arrange for landing
the Stone as referred
to in this letter, and for
its transmission to the
Government Office.

C. Walker.
Under Secretary

To the Master
Attendant
Madras.

Public Proc. 27 March 1868
L. L. 203

Official Memo

The Assistant Collector of the Krishna District, in the absence of Mr Thornhill on circuit has the honor to inform the Chief Secretary to Government that a small specimen of dolphin found in the Krishna river will be forwarded to Madras to his address by the steamer now coming from Burmah & to enclose a copy of a letter to Mr Thornhill on the subject. It is requested that a peon may be sent to fetch the specimen from the steamer. A large skeleton of this animal will be sent by the steamer of the next month. ~~Regarding it it is enclosed.~~

2 Krishna District

Assistant Collector's

Office Masulipatam

23 March 1868

W Newman

Assistant Collector

Q. S. ~~Beckwith~~ by ~~Beckwith~~ c. 18

W. H. ~~Beckwith~~

Public Libs Dept
Genl Pros of branch
H. Newman Esq
Appt. J. L. L. Newman
No. 22

Appt. J. L. L. Newman
No. 22
79 No. 14. 22 of 1868
78 No. 594

W. H. ~~Beckwith~~
No. 5. 78

Furniture contain in
formation in regard to
Dolphin, Capt. L. L.
New from Newman, p. 22
No. 27. Minors 1868 p. 399-
communicated to the Dept of the
Government Central Museum.

204.020.6

To the Dept of C. M. (and 1/2)
City of New York