

- (1) பக்கங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை _____
(2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள் _____
(3) ஆதாரக் குறிப்பவர் கருக்கொப்பம் _____

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

பிள்ளை துறை

அரசாணை எண். 3
மு. கோப்புத் தாள் எண்.

அச்சகம்
பலவகை

நாள் : 4-1-1893

1893

மடிக்கலோ கண்டபடி கையாளலோ கூடாது.

Originals
H
Govt. of {1893} Madras.
PUBLIC.
—

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 4th January 1893, No. 3.

JANUARY.

Imperial Observatory in India.

Recording letter from the Government of India regarding the approaching visit to Madras of Mr. J. Eliot, Meteorological Reporter to that Government, in connection with the proposed establishment of an —.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

From E. D. MACLAGAN, Esq., C.S., Officiating Under Secretary to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department (Meteorology), to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Calcutta, the 21st December 1892, No. 3578-1.

With reference to the correspondence ending with your letter No. 649, dated the 16th September last, I am directed to forward copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Secretary of State, No. 111, dated 10th November 1892, and of its enclosures, and to request that during the visit to Madras of the Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India he may be fully consulted on the different points referred to therein. Mr. Eliot has been instructed to report on the correspondence and to submit a copy of his report to the Government of Madras. I am desired to ask that the Government of India may be favoured with the views of His Excellency the Governor in Council on any recommendations that may be made by Mr. Eliot.

2. I am to add that Mr. Michie Smith's services as Officiating Astronomer, Madras, may be retained till such time as permanent arrangements are made for the new observatory.

ENCLOSURES.

Despatch from the Right Honorable Lord KIMBERLEY, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, to His Excellency the Most Honorable the Governor-General of India in Council, dated India Office, London, 10th November 1892, No. 111 (Revenue).

[*South India Observatory.*] •

On receipt of your Excellency's letter No. 37, dated the 7th June 1892, concerning the proposed observatory in the highlands of the South of India, I caused a reference to be made to the Indian Observatories Committee and to the Solar Physics Committee, and I now forward copy of the correspondence noted in the margin.

Letter to General Donnelly and to the Astronomer Royal, dated 8th July 1892.
Reply from General Donnelly, dated 22nd July 1892.
Resolutions of Indian Observatories Committee, dated 26th October 1892.

2. I shall await the definite proposals of your Government upon the matter. The Solar Physics Committee, it will be seen, suggest

that, if funds are not available for equipping a new complete observatory with two branches, the furtherance of solar physics in India would be the greater benefit to science, while astronomical requirements could for the time be met by the Madras Observatory. For solar physics observations costly buildings would not, it is added, be required. Your Government will, no doubt, consider carefully this view of the matter, before you decide to recommend the establishment and equipment of a complete new observatory.

No. 1.

R. & S. 966.

India Office,
8th July 1892.

Sir,

I am directed by the Secretary of State for India in Council to forward copies of the papers marginally noted regarding proposals made for the establishment of an Imperial Observatory for India, on a site to be chosen in the highlands of Southern India. The outlines of the scheme are sketched in a memorandum by

Government of India letter No. 95, dated 2nd December 1891, with all enclosures.
Government of India letter No. 37, dated 7th June 1892, with all enclosures.

Mr. John Eliot, Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India,

Before accepting Mr. Eliot's or any other scheme, the Government of India desire to receive criticisms and suggestions on the general outlines of Mr. Eliot's scheme. Viscount Cross accordingly directs me to ask that he may be favoured with the criticisms and advice of the Observatories Committee upon the proposals that have been made, and especially upon the point whether an astronomer competent to perform the work required could be obtained for a term of years on a salary of Rs. 700 a month, rising by yearly increments of Rs. 50 to a maximum of Rs. 1,200 a month.

I have, &c.,

HORACE WALPOLE.

The Astronomer Royal.

No. 2.

R. & S. 966.

Sir,

India Office,
8th July 1892.

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Before accepting Mr. Eliot's or any other scheme, the Government of India desire to receive criticisms and suggestions on the general outlines of Mr. Eliot's scheme. Viscount Cross accordingly directs me to ask that he may be favoured with the criticisms and advice of the Solar Physics Committee upon the proposals that have been made, and especially upon the point whether Mr. Michie Smith, who is now officiating as Government Astronomer, Madras, would be a suitable Superintendent of the Solar Physics Section of the Indian Observatory to be established in the south of the Peninsula.

I am, &c.,

HORACE WALPOLE.

General Donnelly, C.B.

No. 3.

Science and Art Department,
South Kensington,
22nd July 1892.

Sir,

The meeting of the Committee was, owing to the absence from London of several of its members and other causes, only attended by Professor J. Norman Lockyer, Professor G. H. Darwin, Captain Abney, and myself.

We carefully considered the papers forwarded in Mr. Walpole's letter of the 8th July (R. & S. 966), and we had the advantage of having before us the views of the Astronomer Royal, General Strachey, and Mr. Blanford, whom it had been possible to consult by post before the meeting.

The opinion of the gentlemen who met here on the 20th July was generally in favour of the views expressed in Mr. Eliot's scheme of the 13th October 1891, it being understood that if one observatory was constituted for both mathematical and physical astronomy, with two astronomers with equal salaries, one in charge of each branch, some general regulations would be laid down as to one of them being the superior officer in all matters of discipline, and that each should take charge of the other's branch of the observatory during the absence of the latter from illness, leave, or any other cause.

The arrangements proposed for testing the capabilities of the various stations for the future observatory seem to us to be well adapted for the purpose.

Should funds not permit the establishment of a complete observatory with the two branches referred to, we are of opinion that the greater benefit to science would be secured if the conditions of India were utilized for the furtherance and extension of solar and allied studies, rather than in the prosecution or duplication of work which is fairly provided for elsewhere in both hemispheres. The astronomical requirements for time purposes are already provided in the present equipment of the Madras Observatory.

It may also be stated that the experience already gained at South Kensington in the conduct of the work in solar physics shows conclusively that no large initial expenditure on buildings is essential. On points of this nature detailed information can be given if required.

In transmitting these remarks, we beg leave to express a hope that the continuity of the photographic registration of sun spots in India may not be broken, as it is only by the Indian co-operation that the present nearly complete record has been secured, with great advantage to science.

With regard to Mr. Michie Smith's qualification for the post of Director of the Physical Observatory, we feel ourselves in considerable difficulty in expressing any very definite opinion, having so little personal knowledge of his work and acquirements. But we are not aware of there being any one better qualified for the post at present in India, and his limited experience of this branch of investigation might be met by his being allowed to come to England to work at it for a short time.

In making these remarks, we think it only right to state that the letters already referred to from the Astronomer Royal, General Strachey, and Mr. Blanford, written independently and without personal discussion, contain somewhat divergent views with regard to the precise relative position of the two Directors. But it is obviously too early to discuss a detail of this nature, and we have therefore thought it unnecessary to wait till after the recess, when a fuller meeting of the Committee might be held.

The enclosures to Mr. Walpole's letter are returned herewith, as requested.

I have, &c.,

W. D. DONNELLY.

The Under Secretary of State for India.

No. 4.

RESOLUTIONS of the Indian Observatories Committee, passed at their meeting on
26th October 1892.

1. The Committee highly approve of the proposal to establish an Imperial Observatory for India, on a site to be chosen in the highlands of Southern India.
2. The Committee are of opinion that an Astronomer and a Superintendent of the proposed Solar Physics Section, competent to perform the work required, could probably be obtained for the proposed salary of Rs. 700 a month, rising by yearly increments of Rs. 50 to a maximum of Rs. 1,200 a month.
3. The Committee consider it advisable that, at any rate in the commencement, the Astronomer should be regarded officially as the head of the whole observatory.
4. The Committee, from personal knowledge of Mr. Smith's ability and attainments, are of opinion that he would be a very suitable Superintendent of the proposed Solar Physics Section of the Imperial Indian Observatory.

(Signed) KELVIN,
Chairman.

26th October 1892.

From E. D. MACLAGAN, Esq., C.S., Officiating Under Secretary to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department (Meteorology), to the Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India, dated Calcutta, the 21st December 1892, No. 3576-1.

I am directed to forward copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Secretary of State, No. 111, dated 10th November 1892, and of its enclosures, and to request that during your visit to Madras you will be good enough to discuss with the Madras Government the questions therein referred to and submit your recommendations regarding them to the Government of India with your proposed report on the best site for the new Imperial Observatory. It will be advisable that, among other matters, you should state—

- (1) whether you can recommend the establishment of a Solar Physics Observatory or continuance of the Astronomical Observatory alone;
- (2) whether in the former case you would recommend that Mr. Michie Smith should have superintendence of the solar physics observations;
- (3) what part of the work hitherto conducted at the Madras Astronomical Observatory should be continued, if only a Solar Physics Observatory be maintained in its entirety,

and that you should submit a rough estimate of the cost of your proposals.

2. I am to request that a copy of your report may be forwarded, at the same time, to the Madras Government.

No. 3577-1.

Copy forwarded to the Government of Madras for information.

(By Order).

(Signed) E. D. MACLAGAN,
Offg. Under Secretary.

ORDER—dated 4th January 1893, No. 3, Public.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

CURR. NO. 10

No. 3578

FROM

E. D. MACLAGAN, Esq., c.s.,

Offg. Under-Secretary to the Government of India,

To

The Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

Calcutta, the 21st December 1892

Revenue and Agricultural
Department.

(Meteorology) SIR,

With reference to the correspondence ending with your letter No. 649 dated the 16th September last, I am directed to forward copy of a Despatch from Her Majesty's Secretary of State; No. 111, dated 10th November 1892, and of its enclosures, and to request that during the visit to Madras of the Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India he may be fully consulted on the different points referred to therein. Mr. Eliot has been instructed to report on the correspondence and to submit a copy of his report to the Government of Madras. I am desired to ask that the Government of India may be favoured with the views of His Excellency the Governor in Council on any recommendations that may be made by Mr. Eliot.

2. I am to add that Mr. Michie-Smith's services as Officiating Astronomer, Madras, may be retained till

such

such time as permanent arrangements are made for
the New Observatory.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

your most obedient servant,

S. Madagan

Offg. Under-Secretary.

CURRENT No.

[9]

Public DEPARTMENT.

16/7/92 No 649 Pub.

E. Chas.

From

Govt of India

Rev & Agri Depts

No. 3578
11

Dated

21st } Dec 92

Received

25th }

Dec 92

Enclosures *one*

SUBJECT.

Proposals made for the
Establishment of an Imperial
Observatory for India.

India Office,
London, 10th November 1892.

Revenue,
No. 111.

To His Excellency The Most Honourable The Governor
General of India in Council.

MY LORD MARQUIS, -

South India Observatory.

On receipt of your Excellency's Letter, No. 37, dated the 7th June 1892, concerning the proposed observatory in the highlands of the South of India, I caused a reference to be made to the Indian Observatories Committee and to the Solar Physics Committee, and I now forward copy of the correspondence noted in the margin.*

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I have the honour to be,

My Lord Marquis,

Your Lordship's most obedient humble Servant

(Signed) KIMBERLEY.

ENCLOSURES.

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India Office,
8th July 1892.

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than in the prosecution or duplication of work which is fairly provided for elsewhere in both hemispheres. The astronomical requirements for time purposes are already provided in the present equipment of the Madras Observatory.

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W. D. DONNELLY.

The Under Secretary of State
for India.

No. 4.

Resolutions of the Indian Observatories Committee, passed at their Meeting on 26th October 1892.

1. The Committee highly approve of the proposal to establish an Imperial Observatory for India, on a site to be chosen in the highlands of Southern India.

2. The Committee are of opinion that an Astronomer and a Superintendent of the proposed Solar Physics Section, competent to perform the work required, could probably be obtained for the proposed salary of Rs. 700 a month, rising by yearly increments of Rs. 50 to a maximum of Rs. 1,200 a month.

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4. The Committee, from personal knowledge of Mr. Smith's ability and attainments, are of opinion that he would be a very suitable Superintendent of the proposed Solar Physics Section of the Imperial Indian Observatory.

(Signed) KELVIN,
Chairman.

26th October 1892.

16/10/92 J. L. H. 21

No. 15.
RECEIVED
JUN 15 1892

Revenue.

15th November 1892.

Two copies
Letter to the Govt. of India
No. 111 and enclosures.

Proposed observatory on the high
land of South India.

No. 3576

FROM

E. D. MACLAGAN, ESQ., C.S.,
Offg. Under-Secretary to the Government of India,

TO

The Meteorological Reporter to
the Government of India.

Calcutta, the 21st December 1892.

Revenue and Agricultural
Department.
(Meteorology)

SIR,

I am directed to forward copy of a Despatch from Her Majesty's Secretary of State No. 111 dated 10th November 1892, and of its enclosures, and to request that during your visit to Madras you will be good enough to discuss with the Madras Government ~~the~~ the questions therein referred to and submit your recommendations regarding them to the Government of India with your proposed report on the best site for the new Imperial Observatory. It ~~is~~ will be advisable that among other matters you should state:-

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- (2) Whether in the former case you would recommend that Mr. Michie-Smith should have superintendence of the Solar Physics Observatory.

11/10/1911

(3) What part of the work hitherto conducted at the Madras
Astronomical Observatory should be continued, if only a
Solar Physics Observatory be maintained in its entirety.
and that you should submit a rough estimate of ^{the work} your proposals.

2. I am to request that a copy of your Report may be forwarded
at the same time to the Madras Government.

I have &c.,

(Signed) E.D. MacLagan,

Offg: Under-Secretary.

CURRENT NO. 3636

No. 3577
1

Copy forwarded to the Government of Madras for information.

By order,

W. MacLagan

Offg: Under-Secretary.

CURRENT

[2]

Public DEPARTMENT.

HM.

3695 & 3696/92.

For orders.

Mr. Elliot will no
doubt call on the
Members of Govt.
These Cts. may be recorded

HM.

for CS.

31/12

4th Jan. /93, no 3

Recorded

HM.

2/Jan

No. 3577.

Dated 25-12-92

Received 25-12-92

Inclosures

SUBJECT.

Forwarding copy of letter to
Meteorological Dept. to
Govt of India on the proposal
to establish an Imperial
India