M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. (22) Press ~~Mis.~~

22-3-22

Dated 13-7- 18 ~~86~~ 4

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 13th July 1864.

No. 221. Read the following letter from Captain F. J. MOBERLY, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E., Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Kodacanel, 17th June 1864, No. 448:—

Sir,

1. Referring to G. O. No. 1,650, 6th instant, I have the honor to report that my statement as to the exhaustion of the coral in the neighbourhood of Tuticorin was based on information received from Major Paxton, whom I have now requested to supply me with further explanation, which I will forward as soon as I receive it.

2. As regards the opposition, I beg to observe that I have twice spent three days at Tuticorin, and on each occasion have met nearly, if not quite, all the older members of the European mercantile community, and discussed the various wants of the harbour and town. Various projects were mooted of improvement to the drainage, beach road, &c., with much difference of opinion, but the objection to the nursery was so general that it appeared to me universal.

3. The subject was always introduced by those gentlemen, and my opinion asked as to the plan, regarding which expressions more or less strong were used. Captain Phipps has been present at times, and I have turned to him, as the promoter of the project, to support ti; my own opinion being that injury to the harbour was very probable; this however I have never expressed, except in discussing the matter with Major Paxton, and I think Captain Phipps.

4. Mr. Silver contradicts me on the ground of a discussion that took place at a dinner party at his house, where possibly convincing arguments were adduced by Major Paxton, Captain Barber and Captain Phipps. All I know of the matter is that when I met Mr. Silver the next day, and he heard that I was going to Tuticorin, he told me that there had been a great discussion at his house, and that I "should have all Tuticorin at me." I looked on it as an after-dinner conversation, and did not even ask Major Paxton what had passed. I should mention that other grievances were mentioned, *e. g.* the beach road.

5. It is hard on me that, having studiously excluded me from the discussion, he should now complain (paragraph 3, No. 164,) that I had not communicated with him as to an objection, which his own expression led me to believe he was perfectly aware of.

6. I am surprised by the assertion in the conclusion of Captain Phipp's letter to the Collector, as to the formation of the sand bank off the southern edge. I had been under the impression that both Captan Phipps and Major Paxton considered that it was very unlikely that any sand would be lodged there, my fear has all along been that it would form and that it would eventually divide the harbour into two.

7. The basin being thus divided, the current which now sweeps through the harbour would cease, and the area being diminished by the oyster nursery, the influence of the tide would diminish, and the harbour be rapidly shoaled up.

8. In conversation with Major Paxton we considered the necessity (in my opinion, immediate) of closing the channel to the east of the proposed oyster bed, so as to force the current through the present channel; but as I understood Major Paxton and Captain Phipps to be of opinion that the sand tail would not form, and that the proposed oyster bed was only a part of what would hereafter be required, I waived my objection till the progress of the work should help us to experience, which I believe none of us possess.

Referred to the Revenue Department, with reference to the Orders in that Department, No. 920, dated 30th May 1864.

CHEPAUK,
24th June 1864.

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government, P. W. D.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
13th July 1864.

No. 222.

Miscellaneous.

ORDER THEREON, 13th July 1864, No. 1,227.

The Government would wish to have before them a plan of the roadstead and proposed nursery. This will be called for in the Public Works Department.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary to Government.

To the Public Works Department.
„ the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Rec. 30. May / 64

Referred to the Rev. Department with reference to the Orders in that Department. No 920 dated 30. May 1864.

Chas. A. Dyer
Col R. E.
Secy to Govt Mx Dpt.

Returned No 221 & 222.
24 June/64
No 82
For Orders as to what a Plan of the Road Stead should be called for & Estimate for the Same
Perhaps it may be as well
Capt Hall June 25 87

Received 1 Dec. 1863
Read 2 Dec. 1863
Read 2d time

Referring with reference to G.O. dtd 1860 upon Instructions that his Excellency the Governor in Council has been pleased to direct that the neighborhood of Le Boeuf be reserved as a watering Road.
Received from Major Pipon, 22nd Dec. 1863.
Wetham order.
Wetham Boiled

No. 1227.

The Government would
wish to have before them a plan of the road
stead and proposed nursery. This will
be called for in the Public Works Depart
ment.

24 Dec. 1874 Dept. Supt.
14 Bd of Works