

- (1) Number of Pages.....2
(2) Date of repair.....7.10.1965
(3) Initials of the Referencer.....HB

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	185	~~Press~~
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	31. 8. 1872	196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

185
Proceedings of the Madras
23rd

No. 78. Read the following letter from the General of the Fisheries of Fort St. George, dated Simla, 3rd July 1872:—

I lately applied to Captain Mitchell, Superintendent of the Government Central Museum, for leave to examine the fish specimens there which are not in the British Indian Museum, included in the "Manual of the Fishes of India".

2. H. Mitchell, Esq.,
• Requested to be returned.

enclose in my letter. 3. I am directed to write and apply for permission to fully examine the fish specimens for which objection raised does not appear to be a valid one. Madras Government Museum should not be allowed to examine the fish specimens.

4. Also, I beg to draw attention to the fact that the fish specimens in the Government Museum (see Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department, 30th April 1869) which has been forwarded to you for transmission is very desirable.

From Captain J. MITCHELL, Superintendent of the Government Central Museum, Madras, to the Inspector-General of Fisheries, Simla, dated Madras, 3rd July 1872, No. 72.

I have the honour, in reply to your letter, dated 22nd June 1872, to enclose a copy of my letter forwarded to you on the same subject in 1867, and to state that I have not had any reason to change my opinion on the matter.

From Captain J. MITCHELL, Superintendent of the Government Central Museum, Madras, to Surgeon F. DAY, Medical Store-keeper, Madras, dated 28th February 1867, No. 32.

I have no objection to your having the cases open, but I have very great objection to your measuring the fish as they become exceedingly brittle, and fins will in all probability be broken.

2. As there can be no scientific object to serve in measuring stuffed specimens of well-known fish, I do not feel justified in running the risk of having the specimens injured.

No. 79. To the Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Agriculture, Revenue, and Commerce, dated Ootacamund, 23rd August 1872, No. 984.

I am directed to communicate, in original, a letter addressed to this Government by Dr. Day, appointed under Notification of the Government of India, dated 9th August 1871, Inspector-General of Fisheries in British India.

2. I am to point out that it appears irregular that Dr. Day should communicate in this manner directly with the Government of Madras.

3. As regards the subject of Dr. Day's letter, I am to point out that Dr. Day is in error in implying that the Madras Museum is not available for study. The late Superintendent only objected to the fish specimens being taken out of their cases and handled, a process which, owing to the brittle nature of the specimens, was likely to prove injurious to them, and this objection appears to be reasonable.

4. The present Superintendent, Dr. Bidie, has been requested to ascertain what progress has been made in preparing a catalogue of the fishes in the Museum.

(Signed) R. S. ELLIS,
Chief Secretary.

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ment, Public Department,
72.

Surgeon-Major F. DAY, Inspector-General of Fisheries, the Chief Secretary to Government, Madras, 3rd July 1872:—

I am directed to inform you that the Superintendent of the Government Central Museum has informed me that, if any existed, my own collections, they might be included in the "Manual of the Fishes of India" which I am engaged on.

However, which refuses this permission, I have from the Government of Madras, and the fact that the collection in the Central Museum, as the present reason why the collection in the Central Museum is available for study as those in other museums.

I return called for of the list of fishes in the Government of Madras, Revenue Department, yet been received here, and its early transmission is very desirable.

No. 2888
Recd. 1872. Dept.

AGRICULTURE, REVENUE, AND
COMMERCE DEPARTMENT.

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From
The Chief Secretary to Government,
Fort St. George,

To
The Secretary to the Govt. of India,
Agriculture, Revenue, and
Commerce Department.

Dated 23rd August 1872.

Recd. 31st
No. 984.

Enclosure.

AUGUST.
Nos. 78-79.

Forwarding Dr. Day's application to the Madras
Government on the subject of examining the speci-
mens of fishes in the Central Museum, Madras,
with the remark that it appears irregular that Dr.
Day should communicate directly with the Gov-
ernment of Madras.

No. 185

RECEIVED

Louisa J.