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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

RR DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	109	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	19. 2.	18/3 196

Not to be folded or roughly handled

10th February 1873.

Read the following papers :—

No. 66. From the Collector of Coimbatore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Coimbatore, 22nd October 1872, No. 45.

Government, in G. O., No. 701, of 29th May 1872, made over certain water-spread land of the Coimbatore Tank for a reclamation scheme and for municipal improvements. Deepening the bed to make up for the lessening of the water-spread was one of those objects. It seems that there is some valuable stone in the basin which might be removed without injury to the capacity of the tank, and if this were disposed of by the Municipality it would probably fetch a sum for further improvement. The tank-spread, or basin, is within municipal limits.

2. On the other hand, the available quarry might be made over to the Department of Public Works for general Government purposes, as per Circular Order, Board of Revenue, IX. of 1872.

3. The Range Officer has lately brought to my notice that private individuals have already been quarrying this stone, which has now been stopped.

4. Were the quarry allowed to be leased by the Municipal Commissioners, stone would doubtless be sold at the usual rate or market price, and the Municipality would have a certain benefit.

5. On the other hand, if the quarry were made over to the Department of Public Works' Contractor, he would supply the Department of Public Works with stone at a certain rate, but no revenue would be derived therefrom, only possibly a diminution of the rate for stone.

6. In the neighbourhood of a large town stone has some value, and that value would be ascertained by a public competition for the lease of the quarry.

7. In the spirit of the former order quoted at the beginning of this letter, Government may perhaps be disposed to allow of the quarry being leased for the municipal advantage. It will not make much difference to the Public Works Department, and whatever was gained to the Municipality would contribute to restore the inequalities of the tank basin, caused by former digging (by public officials and private persons) of large unsightly holes for road gravel and building, cutting and removing the originally level turf, &c., all of which damages have to be repaired for sanitary reasons and purposes of amenity.

Referred to the Department of Public Works for report whether the quarry in question is required in that Department.

OOTACAMUND,
25th October 1872.

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

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
10th February 1873.*

No. 67. From the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, Fort St. George, dated Coimbatore, 15th November 1872, No. 192.

With reference to the accompanying papers, as noted in the margin, I have the honour to enclose copies of the Coimbatore Range Officer's letters regarding the quarry in question, by which you will observe that he is averse to its being interfered with, as it is required by this Department.

2. I beg to note that I have already addressed the Collector on the subject of the last paragraph of Mr. Roberts' letter, No. 193, dated 12th November 1872.

From K. D. ROBERTS, Esq., Executive Engineer, Coimbatore, to the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, dated Coimbatore, 29th July 1872, No. 102.

I have the honour to forward to you a copy of a letter which I have addressed to the Collector on the subject of quarrying stones from the bed of the Volamcolum Tank in Coimbatore, as the matter is of some importance and requires your representation.

2. The stone being removed is of excellent quality, being in good flat beds.
3. The quarry from which the stone was taken for the Central Jail has since been sold to a Contractor, who may, if he chooses, and as his quarry becomes exhausted, raise his rates.
4. If the Collector's Cutcherry be built, or any other large building, this stone will be far better than bricks.

From K. D. ROBERTS, Esq., Executive Engineer, Coimbatore, to the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, dated Coimbatore, 12th November 1872, No. 193.

In returning, herewith, a letter from the Collector, No. 45, to the Chief Secretary, bearing your endorsement, together with the two Government Orders, I have the honour to remind you that I have already expressed my views with regard to the quarry in question in my letter, No. 108, of 29th July 1872, to the Collector, a copy of which I sent to you with my letter, No. 102, of 29th July 1872; especially, with reference to paragraph 3 of this letter to you, I wish further to remark that the adjacent quarry, which is the only other one that I know of which produces this fine description of stone, has been much worked, and that, if the contractor knows that the Department of Public Works have no other quarry to resort to, he will be sure to raise his rates.

2. I am, therefore, strongly of opinion that the quarry in the bed of the tank should be reserved for the use of this Department, both for building purposes and for revetment to tanks, &c., especially as the Volamecolum Tank itself requires repairs, which have been estimated for.

3. I beg also to point out that further quarrying in the bed of the tank will tend to increase the inequalities rather than to restore them, but will add to its capacity for water.

4. I have the honour to call your attention to paragraph 2 of G. O., No. 701, of 29th May, and to state that I certainly never gave my consent to the manner in which the reclamation is now being carried out, which is not in any one particular in accordance with my design.

Transferred to the Financial Department, with reference to endorsement of 25th October, with report that the quarry in the bed of the Coimbatore Tank appears to be very much required by the Public Works Department.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
19th November 1872.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government, P. W. D.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
10th February 1873.*

No. 68. ORDER THEREON, 10th February 1873, No. 198.

The Governor in Council is not satisfied as to the necessity for entirely withholding the quarry from the Municipality in deference to the possible requirements of the Department of Public Works.

2. Mr. Roberts should approximately estimate how much of the area should be reserved for departmental purposes, and the remainder will be left at the disposal of the Municipality.

(True Extract.)

[Signature]
Chief Secretary.

To the Collector of Coimbatore.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

[Signature]

Revenue Office
No. 477.

Govt. of 1873 *SW* adras

FINANCIAL.

To
THE COLLECTOR OF COIMBATORE.
Ac., Ac.,

Dated February, 10th.

Recd. a 19th

G. O., 10th February 1873, No. 198.

FEBRUARY.
Nos. 66-68.

Inquiring how much of the area of the qu
in the bed of the Coimbatore Tank should
reserved for the requirements of the Public Wo
Department.

Communicated to
the Board of Rev.

19th Feb 1873.