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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1184	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	27-7-1878	197.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Archives I-5,806-24-2-78.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

27th July 1878, No. 1,184.

Read the following paper:—

No. 367. Endorsement of the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Ootacamund, 16th July 1878, No. 1,266.

Read the following letter from J. H. TAYLOR, Esq., Lieutenant, R.N.R., Master Attendant, Administrative Department, to the Hon. D. F. CARMICHAEL, Chief Secretary to Government, Marine Department, dated Madras, 12th July 1878, No. 5,372.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the orders of Government, Revenue Department, No. 850, dated the 6th June 1878, and deeply regret to find that some proceedings of mine in connection with supply of stone from Covelong have incurred the displeasure of Government. As I have no access to the correspondence, and do not know what particulars were laid before Government, I beg respectfully to forward, for the information of His Grace the Governor in Council, the full particulars so far as my actions were concerned. When, in attention to orders of Government, I went down to Covelong to inspect the port I was struck with the quantity of quarried stone exactly suitable for the rubble base of the Harbor lying idle in and around the vestiges of an old fort. I communicated this discovery to Mr. Thorowgood, and it was not long before a contractor, one Saravana Mootoo Pillay, rather a well-known man, came forward and offered to procure and ship the stone at a very moderate rate. I introduced him to Mr. Thorowgood, who was, I believe, as anxious as myself to utilise the barges which had been two years idle and deteriorating, and whose crews were demoralising from the lazy life they were leading. Mr. Thorowgood visited Covelong with me, and said that as the work was experimental, he would not apply to Government, and the contractor accordingly agreed to do that. He soon reported all ready, and one barge was despatched and returned full. The other was still at Cocanada, but was telegraphed for at once. At this juncture Mr. Thorowgood became very unwell, and took leave to the Hills. I may here observe that the barges being under my charge, I was under the impression that for so distant a work as Covelong my care ought not to be relaxed, as my experience enabled me to watch over their navigation and save many hours of steam and labor from knowledge of the prevailing daily and nightly winds, also barely a month remained before the vessels must return to Cocanada for the May burst of monsoon. As I expected Covelong would be shortly placed in my care as a port, I carefully considered the possibility of this stone being wanted for local purposes, but could think of none. The bed of the river is full of similar rocks. The barge not returning from her second trip in good time, I sent for the contractor, and then found that he had been stopped in his operations for want of the Collector's orders. Now as Mr. Beardmore was as anxious as myself to employ the vessels and find out their merits and defects, and time being lost, I wrote to the Collector explaining the urgency from our point of view, and begging him to assist the contractor if possible, which he kindly did. It never occurred to me that the Collector would overlook any necessary points, nor did I know his relations with Public Works. Soon after that, the work advanced, and I never heard anything more of the contractor, who, it now seems to me, must have made some use of my

name not justified by any authority from myself. The term in Mr. Price's letter "Captain Taylor's men" would seem to prove this. I certainly threw energy and perseverance into the work, believing I was in the pursuit of duty and in active charge of the barges. These vessels were found to carry much more than the 100 tons, they were credited with nearer 200, but their door fittings were defective and considerable alterations had to be effected before the loads could be deposited. They are now fit for work, and much good resulted from their use, for at that period the land supply of stone running short and block setting was in full work. With this explanation I trust the Government will consider that I had good *prima facie* grounds for believing I was doing my duty, and had no desire or intention of improperly intruding my services.

TRANSFERRED to the Revenue Department with reference to the order cited.

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Chief Secretary.

No. 368.

ORDER THEREON, 27th July 1878, No. 1,184.

Miscellaneous.

The only point in which the Master Attendant's proceedings were open to blame was in not ascertaining that the Collector's sanction had been obtained before any of the stone from the ruined fort at Covelong was removed, but the Government have no doubt Captain Taylor acted with the best intentions.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Secretary to Government.

To the Master Attendant.
" the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

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Administrative Department.

No. 5372

MADRAS,

Marine Office,

12th July 1878.

From

J. H. TAYLOR, Esq., LIEUT., R.N.R.,

Master Attendant,

Administrative Department,

Madras,

To

The Honourable D. F. Carmichael.

Chief Secretary to Government,

Marine Department,

Port Saint George.

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the orders of Government, Revenue Department, No. 850, dated the 6th June 1878, and deeply regret to find that some proceedings of mine in connection with supply of stone from Cavelong have incurred the displeasure of Government. As I have no access to the correspondence and do not know what particulars were laid before Government, I beg respectfully to forward, for the information of His Grace the Governor in Council, the full particulars so far as my actions were concerned. When in attention to orders of Government I went down to Cavelong to inspect the port, I was struck with the quantity of quarried stone exactly suitable for the rubble base of the Harbour lying idle in and around the vestiges of an old fort. I communicated this discovery to Mr. Thorowgood, and it was not long before a contractor, one Sarawana Mootoo Pillay, rather a well known man, came forward and offered to procure and ship the stone at a very moderate rate. I introduced him to Mr. Thorowgood, who was, I believe, as anxious as myself to utilize the barges, which had been two years idle and deteriorating, and whose crews were demoralizing from the lazy life they were leading. Mr. Thorowgood visited Cavelong with

Govt. of (1878) Madras

REVENUE.

THE MASTER ATTENDANT,

Secy. Secy. Secy.

Date: July 27th.

Recd.

Encl.

JULY.

No. 537368.

Stone from Cavelong.—Passing remarks on letter from the Master Attendant submitting explanation regarding the removal of —



with me, and said that as the work was experimental, he would not apply to Government, and the Contractor accordingly agreed to do that. He soon reported all ready, and one barge was dispatched and returned full. The other was still at Locanada, but was telegraphed for at once. At this juncture Mr. Thornegood became very unwell, and took leave to the hills. I may here observe that the barges being under my charge, I was under the impression that for so distant a work as Caveling my care might not be relaxed, as my experience enabled me to watch over their navigation and save many hours of steam and labour from knowledge of the prevailing daily and nightly winds, also barely a month remained before the vessels must return to Locanada for the May burst of Monsoon. As I expected Caveling would be shortly placed in my care as a port, I carefully considered the possibility of this stone being wanted for local purposes, but could think of none. The bed of the river is full of similar rocks. The Barge not returning from her second trip in good time, I sent for the Contractor, and then found that he had been stopped in his operations for want of the Collector's orders. Now as Mr. Beardmore was as anxious as myself to employ the vessels and find out their merits and defects, and time being lost, I wrote to the Collector explaining the urgency from our point of view, and begging him to assist the Contractor if possible, which he kindly did. It never occurred to me that the Collector would overlook any necessary points, nor did I know his relations with Public Works. Soon after that, the work advanced and I never heard anything more

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of the Contractor, who, it now seems to me, must have in some use of my name not justified by any authority from myself. The term in Mr. Price's letter "Captain Taylor's men" would seem to prove this. I certainly threw energy and perseverance into the work, believing I was in the pursuit of duty and in a true charge of the Barges. These vessels were found to carry much more than the 100 tons, they were credited with nearer 200, but their door fittings were defective, and considerable alterations had to be effected before the loads could be deposited. They are now fit for work, and much good resulted from their use, for at that period the land supply of stone running short and block setting was in full work. With this explanation I trust the Government will consider that I had good prima facie grounds for believing I was doing my duty, and had no desire or intention of improperly intruding my services.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obedient servant

W. Taylor

Master Attendant,

Administrative Department

Transferred to the Revenue Department
with reference to the order cited.

At a command
16. July 1878.

Chief Secretary

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No. 3085

Dated 12 July

1875

FOR ORDERS

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The Chief Secretary to Govt

Detachment

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Submitting an explanation

His proceedings in reference
to the several states have

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7. *Worms - 1892*

obtained before any
of the stores from the
business for that
purpose was secured
but that the Gov. have
to do with Capt. Taylor
with the distribution]

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No 2084 -
FOR ORDERS.

C20-7-78

Rev. Sept.

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No 1184

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 27 July 1878

Read the following letter
from the Master Attendant dated
12th July 1878 No 5372 regarding the
removal of stone from Covelong.

The only point in which
the Master Attendant's proceedings
were open to blame was in not
ascertaining that the Collector's
sanction had been obtained be-
fore any of the stone from the
ruined fort at Covelong was re-
moved, but the Government
have no doubt Captain Taylor
acted

MBL
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LD

acted with the best intentions

W

To the Master Attendant and Ship
H. the Boarding Revenue S.

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Edw. H. H.

60.
Revised journal of
H. J. Connelley.

See