

Educational (1895) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 143

Dated 16th Feb. 1895

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

New
LAW LECTURE ROOMS AT THE PRESIDENCY COLLEGE.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	497		10-7-94				

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
C.	224		95				
C	968		95				
C.	495		96				

Ed. Cor. 2,000-29-3-24.
17.

CURRENT NO. 1450
1894.

Educational Department.

From

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,

Madras,

To

THE HONORABLE THE CHIEF SECRETARY

TO GOVERNMENT,

Fort St. George.



No. 12437

Dated 20th

Despatched 20

Received 21

Dec 22

December 1894.

No.

ENCLOSURES.

Subject.

Submitting a letter from the Principal,
Presidency College, with
enclosures regarding the furniture
& fittings to the Chemical
Laboratory, and the
construction of two large
lecture rooms for teaching
English.

497: 10 7-94

378: 31-5-94

160: 1-3-93

844: 4-11-91

741: 23-9-91

569: 24-7-91

99: 20-2-89

593: 15-10-88 &c.



Presidency College, Madras.

12th December 1894.

No 278

From

The Principal

To

The Director of Public Instruction,
Madras.

Sir,

In reply to your Proceedings, No. 6844, dated 24th July 1894 and Official Memorandum, No. 10885, dated 14th November 1894, I have the honor to state that I forwarded para 1 of G.O., No. 497, dated 10th July 1894, Educational, to the Professor of Chemistry, the Presidency College, on the 2nd August 1894, asking for an explanation of the increased estimate for fittings to the Chemical Laboratory. In reply to a reminder on the 24th September 1894, Dr. Wilson sent the enclosed letter from which it would appear that the original estimate of Rs 5000 was nothing more than a rough guess and not a detailed estimate and not even approximately correct. As Dr. Wilson does not give the details of furniture and fittings already supplied, I wrote

wrote to the Consulting Architect to Government on the 17th October 1894, and received from him the enclosed statements on the 22nd November. These statements give the details of the expenditure already incurred for furniture and fittings amounting to Rs 6513-11-7 and also the details of the expenditure now proposed amounting to Rs 5998.

2. With reference to para 2 of the G. O. quoted above, the two additional lecture rooms required are not intended to accommodate 300 additional students, but to accommodate the classes already in the College. The enclosed sketch plans show the extent and application of the existing accommodation and it will be seen that the ordinary lecture rooms are all of the same size. Each lecture room is ordinarily furnished with a lecture platform and with eight rows of seats, each row being capable of seating, at a pinch, 10 students, so that a lecture room accommodates 80 students. By putting chairs on the platforms and behind the lecturer, and in the door ways, nearly 100 can with difficulty be squeezed into a room. But the two B. A. classes in English contain respectively 130 and 126 students. So that even allowing for absentees there is always a dozen

or more obliged to sit in ^{the} corridor outside the door ways, where the Professor is unable to see them and where they are able to hear very little of the lecture. These large classes have occasionally been taken in the lower Examination hall, but this is entirely unsuited for a lecture room, and when work is going on up above it is quite impossible to lecture in the hall below. Moreover the Professor of English frequently lectures to one of these large classes while the Junior Professor lectures to the other, so that even if the hall could be used for one class another lecture room would be wanted for the other class.

3. The only alternative to providing large lecture rooms appears to be to limit the size of the B. A. classes to about 80 each. But, apart from the loss of fees that would arise from such limitation, it must be remembered that these large classes are split up for their optional subjects into seven, so that there would be on the average only about 12 in each optional subject class. This is less than the number that can be efficiently taught, at least so far as Mathematics, Philosophy and History are concerned. In fact our large classes in English are probably due to the fact that we give instruction in so many optional subjects: if we reject 30 per cent or so of the applicants for admission they will be driven to seek admission to other institutions where so wide a choice of optional subject is not given, and our organisation for teaching the sciences will not be so fully utilised as it might be.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Yours most obedient servant,

G. H. Stuart
Principal.

R. No. 15, 172/94.

FROM

THE PRINCIPAL,

PRESIDENCY COLLEGE, MADRAS;

TO

The Director of Public
Instruction

No. 278.

Dated 12th December 1894

Received



SUBJECT.

Submitting detailed statements of expenditure already incurred and now proposed to be incurred for furniture and fittings to the Chemical Laboratory and also explaining the necessity for two large additional lecture rooms for teaching English.

No. 113

Presidency College, Madras.

26 Sep^r 1894

FROM

THE PROFESSOR OF CHEMISTRY,

PRESIDENCY COLLEGE, MADRAS,

TO

The Principal
Presidency College.

SIR,

In reply to your letter No 277, dated the 24 Sep. 1894, I have the honor to state that I do not know - & have not been able to ascertain, how it happened that Rs 5000 was originally sanctioned for furniture & fittings in connection with the extension of the Chemical department of the Presidency College. G.O. dated 23 Sep. 1891, No 741, ~~was forwarded to~~ Education, sanctioning the original plans & estimates, was passed during my absence on furlough, & has not been communicated to me, & although the plans were drawn up under my instruction, I am not aware that the estimates were ever seen by me, before being approved by Govt. The planning & designing of the fittings for the new rooms had, necessarily, to be postponed until my return to Madras & until the building itself was erected, & any estimate of the cost of this part of the work arrived at before the details had been worked out could only be approximate. If, as appears to be the case from G.O. dated 10 July 1894, No 497, the sum of Rs 5000 only was originally applied for under the head of furniture & fittings, it was, ~~however, I have~~ ^{been nothing more than} merely a rough guess at the expenditure likely to be incurred for this purpose, & not a detailed estimate of the cost. I have no doubt whether

* Returned herewith

1894
57/1
2
1458

FROM

THE PROFESSOR OF CHEMISTRY,

PRESIDENCY COLLEGE, MADRAS,

TO

No.

Dated

Received

No.

SUBJECT.

On this point, as it was only 4.
On my return from leave
at the end of 1892 that I began
to plan the fittings with a view
to utilize the additional
space which had been pro-
vided to the best advantage,
& it was not till July or August
following that I ascertained
that the funds allotted for
the work were exhausted
& that no provision had
been made for the supply
of gas.

Thus is the extent of the in-
formation which, in the
absence of any records on
the subject, I am able to
furnish from memory,
though, possibly, the Council
is Architect to Government
who must know all the
details of the subject, may
be able to supplement it.

I have the honour to
be, Sir,

Your most obedient
servant,

N. R. Wilson

CURRENT No. 12437

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,

Madras, 20 Dec. 1894

No.

12437

From

THE HONORABLE MR. D. DUNCAN, M.A., D.Sc.,

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,

Madras,

To

THE HONORABLE THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

FORT ST. GEORGE.

SIR,

With reference to G.O. No. 497, Educa-
tional, dated, 10 July last, I have the
honour to submit herewith a letter from
the Principal, Presidency College, No. 278
of the 12th instant, with two detailed
statements of expenditure already incurred
and proposed to be incurred for
furniture and fittings to the Chemical
Laboratory. Dr. Wilson, in his letter
enclosed, explains that the original
estimate of Rs 5,000 was nothing more
than a rough guess of the expenditure
likely

likely to be spent for the purpose, and not a detailed estimate of the whole cost.

2. Mr. Stuart has sufficiently pointed out the necessity for two additional Lecture rooms, and I entirely agree with him. Considering the large number of admissions, the college should on no account suffer for want of proper accommodation.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
J. D. [Signature]
Director of Public Instruction

I have been over the Presidency College this morning and have come to the conclusion that two new lecture rooms are needed for the existing number of students, & that the existing architecture should be bold to prepare plans & estimates. The

C. No. 1450/94

FOR ORDERS.

Lecture rooms are required for the English classes of the B.A. Dept. at present number 130 & 126. There are several lecture rooms now but they cannot seat more than 50 students each, & I am satisfied that the required accommodation cannot be provided by alterations in the Building. I therefore wish to decide what size the new lecture rooms should be. The number accommodated in them will have to be divided 2/3 when they go to minor optional subjects, and there will be a great waste of the money paid to good professors & in getting up their lecture materials if a proper number of students does not go to each. We are now having a loss of Rs 100 a year in fees if any student is refused admission. On the whole I think the lecture rooms should be built to accommodate 200 each, & that the number

As to whether the Consulting Architect should be authorized to prepare plan and estimate for two lecture-rooms for the Presidency College. The Principal explains that this accommodation is not required for the use of additional students. The reason why two lecture rooms each to hold 150 students are wanted is that the existing lecture rooms being only calculated to contain 80 students are too small to accommodate the English B.A. classes which at present number 130 & 126.

2. The Director has not furnished Govt with "information as to the extent & application of the existing accommodation & there are no means of scrutinizing the present proposal without such information."
3. The reason assigned against limiting the B.A. classes to 80 is, that the corresponding optional subject classes will on the average number about 12 & the organization of the College for teaching optional subjects will not be as fully utilized as it might be. This is a

reasonable proposition but I cannot understand Mr. Stuart's contention that 12 is less than the number that can be efficiently ^{taught} at least so far as Mathematics, Philosophy & History are concerned. There seems no reason why a class of one should not be efficiently taught, though it would certainly be a great waste of labor to employ a highly paid professor to give instruction to only one student.

4. As regards the additional provision for furniture in the Chemical Laboratory, lists of the fittings already supplied at a cost of Rs 65-14 & of the articles now required which are to cost Rs 5998 have been submitted. But they do not afford any means of checking the present demand. Dr. Wilson affirms their necessity, & he should be the best judge.

As regards the reason for exceeding the original provision of Rs 5000, it is stated that this was probably a lump-sum entered on a rough guess. The details were all left to be planned by Dr. Wilson on his return from farlough. He has drawn up the present plan "with a view to utilize the additional space to the best advantage." The gas installation is ^{urgently} required for efficient teaching but probably some of the additional furniture though useful can be dispensed with till funds are available. In any case however the execution of the estimate must be postponed until then.

14 Jan.
G. S. 18/1

FOR ORDERS.

Two new Lecture-rooms for the Presidency College.
of students who can be admitted in future did he hunched so as not to exceed 200 for ^{either of the} classes, I wonder. Should there be no further expenditure will be incurred of these 400 students are catered for.
H.M. & the Hon. Mr. Bliss, C.I.C.
As regards the new estimate for fittings of the Chemical Laboratory, I am satisfied that the sum provided in the original estimate was the result of a mistake, & that, however the mistake occurred, the new fittings are absolutely required.

So far as I can judge, from a comparison of the prices paid by myself for such articles as book cases & office table & chair, the prices charged for the furniture are scandalously high.
As to the new rooms, I should like to see a plan of the building - I beg to draw my hon. Cheques' attention to the fact that the Professor of Chemistry maintains an office correspondence with the Principal! Did anyone ever hear

* of a tutor in a college at home carrying on official correspondence with the head of the college? I imagine not. If this sort of quasi-independence by the Professor is to be allowed in Govt. Colleges at home, no wonder we hear of want of discipline among the lads. A reform in this respect would appear to be urgently needed.

18/1
1/2/95

Papers to be read in Proceedings:—

Again G.O., dated

18 , No.

Again G.O., dated

18 , No.

Current No.

of 18 , dated

from

Current No. 145 v

of 18 94, dated

20 Decr from the D.P.I.

Order of 16 Feb. 95, No. 143

The D.P.I. will be requested to furnish Govt with a rough plan showing the proposed size & location of the new lecture rooms together with a rough approximate estimate of their cost. He should further report the expenditure on new building & fittings at the Presidency College during the last five years.

2. The Consulting Architect will be authorized in the P.W.D. to render the Director any assistance he may require.

Copied from order of the D.P.I. 18/2/95 12.2.95. M. 13/2/95

This has been drafted as a reference - & ~~and~~ ~~not~~ perhaps ~~to~~ may perhaps go out at once. Possibly it would be better to refer to papers first to the Hon. W. Bliss drawing his attention to the Hon. W. Bliss' remark about the ^{Professors} relation between the Principal & ~~the~~ of the College, & suggesting that it should be better to ask for detailed estimates at once; the D.P.I. there will then be less delay in settling the matter finally.

(without this of course)

The who required for 18th should be called for now. M.

Two new lecture rooms for the Presidency College

1. K.P.

Two Hon. Mr. Bliss' remarks. Is any plan of the Presidency College available?

Resubmitted to the Hon. W. Bliss C.E. with a plan of the Presidency College

8/2/95

I should like to see a rough plan showing the proposed size & location of the new lecture rooms & to have a rough estimate of their cost before I express a final opinion. I don't at present quite see how they can be located.

9/2/95

Also please state expenditure on new buildings & fittings at the Presidency College during the last 5 years.

Lecture Room,
Pres. of College

C.S.

James Jones

When given for copying _____
When copied _____
When examined _____
When signed _____ } 189 .

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
189 ,

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied.
F = Copy abstract only.
Q = Copy heading only.