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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 265	Press Mis.
21-22.	
Dated 10-6-	1940.

21-22

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,

10th June 1870.

No. 21. Read the following letter from Colonel C. A. ORR, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Fort Saint George, 19th May 1870:—

Having carefully inspected the Mint buildings and conferred with Dr. Bellew and Captain Church on the subject of the disposal of those buildings between the Departments under their respective charges, I have the honour to state, with reference to the Proceedings of Government in the Financial Department, No. 179, of the 27th ultimo, that I am clearly of opinion that the transfer of the central two-storied range called the Treasury building to the Clothing Department is an absolutely necessary condition of the removal of that Department into the Mint premises.

2. The Assay and Currency Departments are comfortably and amply accommodated in their respective portions of the buildings; but the Paper Stamping Department, which has assumed important dimensions, and is likely still further to be increased, is cramped for space in the rooms it now occupies, and Dr. Bellew is naturally unwilling to give up possession of the commodious central range of building referred to, having it in contemplation to connect it with the rooms in which the paper-stamping operations are now carried on, and to convert its airy upper story into drying rooms for freshly-impressed papers. This would be a convenient and most excellent arrangement for the Paper Stamping Department; but it would deprive the Clothing Department of the only good suit of rooms that can, by any disposition of space, be made available for its accommodation, and would, moreover, in my opinion, not tend to the utilization of the Mint buildings to the best advantage.

3. Enlarged accommodation for the Paper Stamping Department is greatly required, but it may be obtained in two ways—first, by moving the whole Department to the opposite side of the Mint into the large well-lighted apartment formerly the Coinage Stamping Room, which, besides being amply commodious for even a larger number of paper-stamping presses than are now in use, is capable of affording room for hanging out a great quantity of paper to dry, and has attached to it two rooms which, with a very little trouble, might be adapted to the purposes of drying by a very simple conversion into stoves of the furnaces which exist in each of them. Dr. Bellew, however, objects to this arrangement on the ground that, as most of his time is of necessity given to the supervision of the Currency Department, he will not be able to give sufficient attention to the stamping of papers if that operation be removed to the other side of the Mint. There is, of course, a good deal of force in this objection considering the responsibility attached to the supervision of the production of property of such value as stamped paper, and I think the preferable arrangement will be the alternative one of retaining the Paper Stamping Department in the part of the premises where it is now located, but to move all the stamping presses to the lower rooms formerly used for the custody of Mint stores, and still partly occupied by a quantity of slip copper. There is plenty of space in these lower rooms for all the presses likely to be brought into use, while the upper rooms are well suited for the process of drying the stamps.

4. This arrangement, besides being acceptable to Dr. Bellew, will get over the difficulty of finding suitable accommodation for the Paper Stamping Department, but it will necessitate the removal of the copper and the erection of a building for the treasury. The copper, till opportunities for its sale occur, may be removed into the Coinage Stamping Room, and new cellars to contain the bullion reserve of the Currency Department may be built in the same room.

5. I believe, however, it will be better to build an entirely new detached room for a treasury in the centre of the front square, as shown on the plan. The building would consist simply of a rectangular room provided with iron-barred windows and plate-iron doors in which the specie, instead of being deposited in cellars strongly and expensively built below the level of the floor, would be piled on trestles. The expense of erecting such a treasury I have ascertained to be within Rupees 2000, and this is probably less than it would cost to build cellars on the plan or of the material of those in the present treasury.

6. If these proposals meet with approval, the central two-storied building will be available for the Clothing Department, and the line of demarcation between the part of the premises to be handed over to that Department, and that to be retained under the Assay Master's Departments, will be as suggested by Captain Church in paragraph 3 of his letter, printed with Proceedings of Government quoted at the beginning of this letter. Thus the part of the premises which is situated east of the old Mint entrance on the one side, and of the former Silver Laminating and Cutting Room on the other, will, with the exception of the central two-storied building, remain in the possession of the Departments now occupying them, while all the buildings to the west, including the central buildings, will be appropriated to the Clothing Department.

7. Much, it is needless to say, is required to be done for the extensive repair of some of the buildings, and for the adaptation of them all to the new uses to which they are to be applied, and, as many of the low, roughly-built sheds on the west and outside of the main block will be of no value to the Clothing Department, and are not worth being maintained, I would recommend their being at once dismantled, and the materials sold.

No. 22. ORDER THEREON, 10th June 1870, No. 265.

The Government approve of the allotment proposed by Colonel Orr of the Mint buildings to the Assay and Clothing Board Offices.

2. The necessary orders for the preparation of estimates for the alterations and repairs to existing buildings, and for a Treasury, will be issued in the Public Works Department.

3. The Collector of the Madras District will, in communication with the Assay Master and Superintendent of Army Clothing, report to Government on the advisability of offering for sale a portion of the ground behind the quarters allotted to the Clothing Department.

(True Extract.)

R. S. ELLIS,
Chief Secretary.

To the Public Works Department
,, Military Department.
,, Assay Master, with two plans.
, Collector of the Madras District.

Exd. J. Wright.

Govt. of India.

FINANCIAL.

To

The PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
&c. &c. &c.

Dated Simla, 10th
Read, ...

G. O., 10th June 1870, No. 256.

JUNE
Nos. 21-22.

Approving of the allotment proposed by Colonel Orr, of the Mint Buildings to the Assay and Clothing Board Offices.

From

Colonel C. A. Orr R. E.

Secretary to Govt P. W. D.

To

The Honorable R. S. Ellis C. B.

Chief Secretary to Government

Fort St George

Sir

Having carefully inspected the Mint Buildings and conferred with Dr Bellew and Capt.n Church on the subject of the disposal of those buildings between the Depart-ments under their respective charges, I have the honor to state, with reference to the Progs of Govt in the Financial Dept.t No 179 of the 27th Ultimo, that I am clearly of opinion that the trans-fer of the central two storied range called the Treasury building to the Clothing Dept.t is an absolutely necessary condition of the removal

of that Department into the Mint premises.

The Assay and Currency Departments are comfortably and amply accommodated in their respective portions of the buildings, but the Paper Stamping Dep^{t}, which has assumed important dimensions and is likely still further to be increased, is cramped for space in the rooms it now occupies, and Dr. Bellew is naturally unwilling to give up possession of the commodious central range of building referred to, having it in contemplation to connect it with the rooms in which the paper stamping operations are now carried on and to convert its airy upper story into drying rooms for freshly impressed papers. This would be a convenient and most excellent arrangement for the Paper Stamping Dep^{t}, but it would deprive the Clothing Dep^{t} of the only good suit of rooms that can, by any disposition of space, be made available for its accommodation and would, moreover, in my opinion not tend to the utilization of the Mint buildings to the best advantage.

Enlarged accommodation for the Paper Stamping Dep^{t} is greatly required, but it may be obtained in two ways—1st by moving the whole Dep^{t} to the opposite side of the Mint into the large well lighted apartment formerly the Coinage Stamping Room, which, besides being amply commodious for even a larger number of paper stamping presses than are now in use, is capable of affording room for hanging

out a great quantity of paper to dry and has attached to it two rooms which, with a very little trouble, might be adapted to the purposes of drying, by a very simple conversion into stoves of the furnaces which exist in each of them. Dr Bellew, however, objects to this arrangement on the ground that, as much of his time is of necessity given to the supervision of the Currency Dept, he will not be able to give sufficient attention to the stamping of papers if that operation be removed to the other side of the Mint. There is of course a good deal of force in this objection considering the responsibility attached to the supervision of the production of property of such value as stamped paper, and I think the preferable arrangement

arrangement will be the alternative one of retaining the Paper Stamping Dept in the part of the premises where it is now located, but to move all the stamping presses to the lower rooms formerly used for the custody of Mint stores and still partly occupied by a quantity of slip copper. There is plenty of space in these lower rooms for all the presses likely to be brought into use, while the upper rooms are well suited for the process of drying the stamps.

This arrangement, besides being acceptable to Dr Bellew, will get over the difficulty of finding suitable accommodation for the Paper Stamping Dept, but it will necessitate the removal of the copper and the erection of a building for the Treasury. The copper, till opportunities for its sale occur, may be

to the Clothing Dept.

Much, it is needless to say, is required to be done for the extensive repair of some of the buildings, and for the adaptation of them all to the new uses to which they are to be applied, and, as many of the low, roughly built sheds on the west and outside of the main block will be of no value to the Clothing Dept. and are not worth being maintained, I would recommend their being at once dismantled and the materials sold.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servt.

Chas. St. Geo. Coll. R.E.
Secretary to Govt. P.W.D.

Fort St. George
19th May 1870

Financial Department

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from the Secy. to Govt. P. W. Depart. (No. 2. 19th May 1870.)

Order thereon 10th June 1870. No. 265

Inclosed add Ret
a report & plan
made in Govt. of the
advisability of opening
for sale a portion of the
ground behind the premises
allotted to the Roads
Board — Also the
ground rent & the
proceeds earned & the
expenses of
the same for the

Ref. L. Ref.

To the Public Works Depart.
— Military Depart.
— Army Quarter.
" Collector of the Madras Distt.

The Government approve of the allotment proposed by Colonel Orr of the land Buildings & the Army & Clothing Board Offices.

2 The necessary orders for the preparation of estimates for the alterations and repairs to existing buildings, and for a Treasury, will be issued in the Public Works Department.

dept 11/6

The

Read & Recd 20th May 1870
Letter Recd 16th "
Letter Sent 25th "
Copy Recd 27th "

From
The Secretary to Govt. P. W. D.
To
The Chief Secretary to Govt. Fort St. George.

Dated 19 May 1870
Received 23d "
No. 265

Sir

In reply to your letter No. 2 of the 16th instant, I am directed by the Board of Revenue to forward herewith a plan and report by Colonel Orr, Chief Engineer & Secretary to the Board of Revenue, regarding the advisability of selling a portion of the ground behind the Revenue Board Offices, and to request that the Government will be pleased to pass orders on the subject.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant
[illegible]
Secretary to Board of Revenue

21

3 The Collector of the Madras District will ~~after [illegible]~~ in communication with the Acting Master & Superintendent of Army Clothing, report to Government on the advisability of offering for sale a portion of the ground behind the quarters allotted to the Clothing Department.

Govt. of {1870} Madras.

Pub.

To

The Public Works Dept.

Dated June 10.
Recd. } 1870, No. 265.

Nos. 21. 22.

Approving of the altotment proposed by Lt. Carr of the Print-Buildings & the Assay and Clothing Board offices