

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1499

Press
~~Mis.~~

7-8

Dated

18-11-1947

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 24th November 1857.

No. 7. Read the following letter from J. ROHDE, Esq., Inspector of Prisons; to E. MALTBY, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George, dated Ootacamund, 29th October 1857, No. 450.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, when at Coimbatore, of the Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, No. 1345, (15th October 1857,) together with an Extract from the Minutes of Consultation Public Works Department, No. 1817, (24th September 1857,) communicating Colonel Faber's letter of the 19th September relative to the revised plans and estimates for the Central Prison proposed to be erected at the Red Hills.

2. By Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, 1345, I am directed to state what provision is made for increasing the accommodation to 1148 cells, the number of prisoners I suggested in my report as likely to require accommodation. 2ndly, whether it is proposed to erect the whole building at once or to what extent it is intended to provide accommodation in the first instance, I am also directed to offer any remarks I may have to make on the plan and estimate.

3. The plan having been prepared generally in accordance with my views, I have no remarks of any consequence to offer in regard to it. Some little details I should wish altered in the execution of the work. I suggested some of them in the first instance, but having no data to go on, I was unable to ascertain how far a due regard to economy would justify me in insisting on them, I will here briefly allude to some alterations that will I think eventually be adopted, without any increase to the cost.

4. The substitution of T iron, or cast round iron below and T iron above for verandah pillars as offering less obstruction to the view. The substitution of light iron stair cases so placed that the view of the cells is not obstructed, for the heavy stair cases proposed. The omission of the parapets on the roof, an alteration in the proposed form of railing, 3 parallel iron rods secured to the posts, being substituted for wooden railing. The use of a strong and durable metallic paint in lieu of white paint.

5. The Government will observe that the accommodation in the two buildings flanking the entrance has been greatly reduced by the abandonment of the upper story, so that there is no longer room for the Apothecary and chief Warder to *dwell* in them. I am convinced that taking into consideration the numerous hangers on of all classes, in this country, and the difficulty of controlling them, it is far better to remove the dwelling houses of these Officers to a convenient distance, a much less expensive style of building will accommodate them; and their families, if they have any, will be far better away from the Prison; the same objection does not apply to the Warders' houses at the angles, they are shut out from all communication with the prisoners and are almost necessary, the chief Warders' place may be occupied alternately by him and another Officer.

6. In regard to accommodation, it occurred to me that a third story might be needed and the building has been calculated to bear it, this would extend the accommodation to 810 cells exclusive of the 42 cells and two large general wards at the entrance, in all 852 cells and two wards: 200 or 300 additional second class cells, in two or 3 floors, may be added in two radial blocks, as in the plans of the new Prisons proposed for Vizagapatam and Bellary; the female Prison I intended eventually to erect distinct from this building, using the cells to the right of the entrance for the present, for the purpose.

7. The better plan appears to me to apply for immediate sanction, omitting the 3 inner ranges (segments) of cells; the remainder will be fully one year's work, and it is probable that on executing the work the relative advantages of the radial or segmental blocks, in construction, will be better appreciated and economical alterations suggested, the cost at the present assumed data is a little less than 359 Rupees a cell, omitting then the 3 inner segments, of 84 cells each, the amount required for this year's sanction will be about Rupees 90—400 less than the estimate.

8. I think however several of the prices will, on the work being executed, be greatly reduced, the sleeping banks, for instance, being merely planks fastened down to blocks in the wall and measuring under 20 feet of teak plank, ought not to cost 10 Rupees; iron doors I calculated at under 35 Rupees instead of 78 Rupees each, indeed by dispensing with the diagonal bars, which are hardly needed, they would I think cost less than 25, the saving in this one item, even if the

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 24th November 1857.

cost amounts to 28 Rupees each, would be no less than 27,000 Rupees. Iron bar $\frac{3}{4}$ inch diameter is charged 3 Rupees per 10 feet, the actual weight of $\frac{3}{4}$ round iron is a trifle under $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb. per running foot, or 15 lbs. the 10 feet length, which, at the present high price of 28 Rupees the candy, would be under 14 Annas the 10 feet length. It will however be more convenient for reference if I interleave the original and note my remarks opposite each item.

9. The Government will observe that the charges which I think may be reduced are, for items, in the execution of which the Department Public Works has hitherto had but little experience, namely, the construction of wrought iron gates. With the machinery now I believe at the disposal of that Department, I have very little doubt that the work will cost very little. I append a Memo: of my estimate both with and without diagonal bars.

(Signed) J. ROHDE,
Inspector of Prisons.

Memo. of prices with reference to Mr. Rohde's letter of the 29th Ultimo, No. 450, returning the Chief Engineer's estimate for the Red-hill Central Prison.

1st. Water pipes earthen, at 7 Annas per foot.

The price of galvanized rain water and fall pipe, per foot, is in Liverpool or London.

	$1\frac{1}{2}$	2	$2\frac{1}{2}$	3	$3\frac{1}{2}$	4
	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$	5d.	6d.	7d.	8d.
Of cast iron per yard... ..	11d.	1s.	1s./2d.	1s./4d.	1s./8d.	2s./3d.
Do. galvanized. ,,		1s./7d.	2s.	2s./3d.	3s.	3s./6d.
Heads galvanized... .. ,,		1s./8d.	2s./2d.	2s./4d.	2s./8d.	3s.

2nd. Strong wrought iron field gates 9×4 of T and angle iron cost £ 2 or Rs. 20. Probably the same money or less would purchase doors 7 feet $\times$ 4, suited to the Jail.

Ootacamund, }
2nd November 1857. }

(Signed) J. ROHDE,
Inspector of Prisons.

No. 8. ORDER THEREON, No. 1499; dated 18th November 1857.

The Government approve the suggestion of the Inspector of Prisons, that the construction of the Central Jail at the Red Hills be proceeded with gradually, but before passing final orders in regard to the plan and estimates, they resolve to request the opinion of the Chief Engineer through the Public Works Department, on the charges in details proposed by Mr. Rohde, and the overcharge in the estimates referred to by him.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Judicial Department

N^o 1822.

From

The Inspector of Prisons.

(Dated 29th October 1857.)

For Orders.

*Mr Rohde's suggestion for
proceeding gradually with the*

building appears a very good one.

*He points out some changes in
details - & notices overcharges
in his estimates - the Chief Secy.*

opinion might be asked on all these points
before deciding definitely.

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

[Handwritten signature]

List

Judicial Department.

N^{o.} 1499

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation

Dated 18 November 1857.

Read the following Letter from
the Inspector of Prisons

(Here enter 29th Oct/57 No 450)

The Government approve
the suggestion of the Inspector of
Prisons ~~to proceed~~ ^{that} gradually
with the construction of the
be proceeded ^{the} gradually
Central Jail at Red Hills, but
before passing final orders in
regard to the plan and ~~estimated~~
they resolve to request ^{that the P.W. Dept.} the opinion
through the P.W. Dept
of the Chief Engineer on the changes
in details proposed by Mr Rohde
and the over charge in the
estimates

Estimates referred by train.

J.P.

Copy to Public Works Dept. with 7 Orig. Endorsements } Disposed 23^d
" Inspector of Prisons. _____

200 126

Instead which 1/12/57

Judicial Letter to Cong^{re}
7th Dec 1857 to 13th of 1858.

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C. No. 3-4

20/10/57

24th Dec. 24th Nov
Judicial 1857 Department

No. 1499

Extract Mins. Cons.

Dated 18th November 1857

1858

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