

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	724	Press
		Mis.
22. 23		
Dated	25 - 6 -	18 1857

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 30th June 1857.

No. 22. Read the following Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Public Works Department, dated the 1st June 1857, No. 1032.

Read the following letters from the Chief Engineer.

Forwards duly examined the estimate for the numerous addition, and improvements to the Penitentiary received from the Civil Architect together with Lieutenant Colonel Atkinson's letter forwarding the same and affording explanation as to the causes of its tedious final submission. (Here enter 25th April 1857, No. 12102.)

Forwarding for favorable consideration copy of a letter from the Civil Architect regarding the work executed at the Penitentiary. (Here enter 25th April 1857, No. 12103.)

With the first of these letters, the Chief Engineer forwards two plans and estimates from the Civil Architect, for additions and improvements to the Penitentiary, amounting together to Rupees 41,100; and with the second, Colonel Faber submits, with reference to Extract Minutes Consultation of the 2nd April, No. 606, a letter from the same officer, enumerating the works authorized by Government, pending the preparation and submission of the estimate; and those estimated for at the personal solicitation of the Commissioner of Police, and in part executed.

2. The correspondence that had taken place on the subject of the Penitentiary is reviewed at length in Extract Minutes Consultation of the 2nd April, above referred to, and it is needless to go over the same ground again. In explanation of the omission to forward an estimate for the work, the Civil Architect stated, on a former occasion, that it had been an object with him to delay submitting that document, till the work was so far agreed upon and advanced, that it should be a final one, and that there should be no further alteration from the letter of it. Colonel Atkinson now states that having shewn the financial results of the work in the Budget list forwarded by him to the Chief Engineer on the 9th December last, he had no idea "that there would be any such immediate occasion for the actual or detailed estimates being sent in."

* Extract Minutes Consultation, 2nd April 1857, No. 606.

† Extract Minutes Consultation, 8th September 1856, No. 1600.

The Government have already* declared the first mentioned explanation to be wholly unsatisfactory, the one now offered must be regarded in the same light. An estimate for the work was specially required,† and it was clearly the duty of the Chief Engineer to have obtained it from the Civil Architect. Any difficulty that might have presented itself in complying with the requisition, should have been brought to the notice of Government, and their further orders obtained.

3. Besides a sum of Rupees 23,099 estimated for the works authorized by Government, another set of works it is observed, to the amount of Rupees 18,001 have been executed in part, merely at the "personal solicitation of the Commissioner of Police." The Civil Architect must be aware that no new works, however necessary, can be undertaken without the express sanction of Government, and it is unaccountable how, with this knowledge, Colonel Atkinson could have acted as he has done in commencing any of the works above referred to.

4. The Governor in Council regrets that the estimates now before him were not transmitted in time to admit of the work being entered in the Budget of 1857-58 for the sanction of the Government of India. The works however appear to be all necessary to ensure the safe custody of the prisoners, and the Chief Engineer, after personal inspection of the building, reports that the improvements already executed are unexceptionable, both in respect to workmanship and materials. The Government therefore permit the works being proceeded with to the extent of the estimates now submitted, viz., Rupees (41,100) forty-one thousand and one hundred, and they direct that precedence be given to the compound wall estimated at Rupees 8,491, as it is reported that two prisoners have made their escape, and that without it, there would be no security in the Prison.

5. Resolved that these Proceedings be reported to the Government of India, and that the plans and estimates received from the Chief Engineer be forwarded to that Government for formal sanction.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) H. FORBES, *Actg. Secy. to Government.*

No. 23.

ORDER THEREON, No. 724; dated 25th June 1857.

To be recorded.

(Signed) E. MALTBY,
Acting Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

*I. H. M. to Com. n. March 1856 No. 5718
on 21st April 1857 No. 5716. 57436
P. W. D. C. 7th April 1857 No. 22423.*

*In by Drums: 30 June
Judicial. 1857. Sept 11*

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*Extract Minutes of the
in the Public Works Dept
No. 1032.*

*21st
21st June 1857.*

*At No. 945.
N.*

*Communicating for
information, the orders of
Govt passed on a letter from
the Chief Engineer forward-
ing estimates for the nume-
rous additions and im-
provements to the Peni-
tentary. & sanctioning
Rs. 41,100 on account of
the work No. 721,
to be recorded
25 June/57. M.*

*C. 22 June 22 7 23
R 216 -
22 423*