

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Police DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 778

Press
~~Mis.~~

69-70

Dated

6-7-19 1857

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 7th July 1857.

No. 69. Read the following letter from E. B. GLASS, Esq., Session Judge of Chicacole ; to E. MALTBY, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government in the Judicial Department, Fort Saint George; dated 20th June 1857, No. 138.

SIR,

I have the honor with reference to the Minutes of Consultation of date the 26th May 1857, to request you will lay the enclosed letter and plans, supplied by the Civil Engineer at this station, before the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, that he may be in possession of the facts, before a sum of 5,000 Rupees is expended on buildings which can never be of any advantage, or even use, for the intended purpose. The Hospital proposed to be enclosed, has been built, on a piece of ground which in the wet season is always a swamp. Mr. Palmer's letter is so clear of itself, that it is hardly necessary that I should say more on the subject, but as that Officer, has not seen, a heavy fall of rain, or monsoon, since he has been in the district, and not having had his attention drawn to *this* Hospital, till very lately! the observations in his letter are, more, as to what is likely to be, than what has been! This Hospital on the very first slight fall of rain, after it was built, was so damp, or rather so wet, that upwards of an inch of water was found over the floors! The tank which had been in use for the prisoners to wash in, and marked in small plan [X] was *then*, at the request of the Zillah Surgeon drained, and as far as possible removed, and a new one made by the prisoners!! which is shown likewise in that plan. These alterations in a small measure kept the hospital drier, for a time, but when the monsoon came down, the nullah* — * so marked which drains the surplus water from the paddy fields, came down, and formed (as it does every year) a sheet of water from the road passing the Jail, across to the Hospital, and extending from the north west corner of the Jail, to the mark (o) *in pencil* in the small plan, and overflowing the Hospital, covering the floor to the extent of upwards of a foot of water! The unsoundness of the foundation has *now*, shown itself beyond all denial, the floor has sunk, and is cracked in every direction, the main wall cracked from top to bottom, and as the Civil Engineer informs me, no support, or buttress, could repair the injury, or prevent the other walls giving way, in the same manner! It is my opinion that unless for the material, the building will in a very short time, be worthless! It may be asked why not drain the tank, or sheet of water, between the road and Hospital? but the ground altogether there, and thereabout being much below the level of the river instead of getting rid of the water, the backflow would swamp not only the ground, and Hospital, but the Jail *itself*, the site of which, also is low, if an opening were made in the high banks.

The Zillah Surgeon, Mr. Palmer and myself have inspected the improvements proposed, in Mr. Palmer's letter, and are satisfied that they can be executed at much less expense and much more to the public advantage and convenience than any other.

(Signed) EDW. B. GLASS,
Session Judge.

From Lieutenant W. C. PALMER, Executive Engineer Ganjam District; to E. B. GLASS, Esq., Civil and Session Judge, Chicacole, dated 17th June 1857, No. 309.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward you two surveys of the Chicacole Jail, the one shewing its position with reference to the surrounding country, and the other on the larger scale exhibiting the improvements recommended by the Inspector of Prisons, and those proposed in their stead.

2. I have prepared estimates for the proposed works and the abstract of their cost is as follows :

Works proposed by the Inspector of Prisons.		
Wall to enclose the present Hospital,.....	3,740	0 0
Alteration in line of road,.....	570	0 0
Bungalow for accommodation of Jailor and Dresser,.....	1,200	0 0
	5,510	0 0
Deduct for prisoners' labor,.....	460	0 0
	5,050	0 0

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 7th July 1857.

Works proposed instead of the above.

1 New Hospital of the same size and plan as the present one,	2,647	0	0
Wall and gate to enclose Hospital,.....	638	0	0
Do. do. to enclose prisoners' work-yard, giving an area of 13,432 square feet,.....	638	0	0
	<u>3,923</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Deduct for prisoners' labor,.....	463	0	0
	<u>3,460</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

3. This statement shews that the cost of the plan recommended by the Inspector of Prisons exceeds that of the one now proposed, by Rupees 1,590, and I have to notice the following objections to the former plan. The ground proposed to be enclosed between the Jail and the Hospital, is nearly all a swamp in the monsoon. The water from the neighbouring fields lodges there, and it cannot be effectually drained as the ground is on a level with the highest water mark in the river which runs within 450 yards of it. The Hospital itself is built on low swampy ground. The top of the basement being only 4'-6" above the high water mark in the river, and when the water in the tank near it rises more than 6 feet, the building is uninhabitable from the dampness of the walls. From the large cracks in the building, especially in the cross walls, I am of opinion that the foundations are defective; and I also think that it would not be advisable to incur a great expense to enclose a swamp, and a building with such cracked walls, when the same amount of money would more than suffice for the building a new Hospital in a higher and better position.

4. The better plan would be to give up the present Hospital to be occupied by the Jailor and Dresser, and build a new Hospital on the higher ground and adjoining the Jail with the prisoners' work-yard on the opposite side, as shewn in the survey. This would be cheaper and the buildings would have the advantage of better position and good foundation which they cannot get in the swamp proposed to be enclosed by the Inspector of Prisons.

(Signed) W. C. PALMER, Lieut.

Executive Engineer, Ganjam District.

No. 70.

ORDER THEREON, No. 778; dated 6th July 1857.

Resolved that this letter and its enclosure be forwarded to the Inspector of Prisons for his consideration and report.

(Signed) E. MALTBY,

Acting Chief Secretary.

1877

Resolved that this letter
and its enclosure be forwarded
to the Inspector of Prisons for
his consideration and report.

Ant: S. George, Esq.
5th July, 1857.

To the Inspector of Prisons with ^{2 Plans} } Sept 10th
" " session paper of Macintosh }

The Police Surgeon, Mr. Allen
 reports that the children of the orphanage
 yesterday, the 8th, were the victims of
 an outbreak of measles and most of the
 children were taken to the hospital
 and are now recovering.
 The Surgeon also reports that
 the children of the orphanage
 are now recovering from the
 measles.

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