

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	876	Press
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	17-18	
Dated	25-7-1948	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 28th July 1857.

No. 17. Read the following letter from Colonel J. C. BOULDERSON, Commissioner of Police; to E. MALTBY, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated 21st July 1857, No. 85.

SIR,

With reference to the accompanying letter * from the Civil Architect of the Presidency Division, and to the Extract * of the Circular from the Department of Public Works forwarded * to be returned. therewith, and the letter * from the Superintendent of the Penitentiary; I have the honor to request that you will do me the favor to submit for the consideration of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, the absolute necessity of rendering the Penitentiary as secure as possible, particularly during the present exigency, as it is the only place within the jurisdiction of the Police, in which large bodies of felons are confined, besides a large number of suspicious individuals, whom we have been obliged lately to take up; and unless the proposed wall to the north side of the Penitentiary, which has been under construction, and now put a stop to, is completed, I apprehend that in the event of a rise and an attempt to rescue the Prisoners, the building in its present state is not sufficiently secure to render such attempts abortive, I would therefore earnestly recommend the completion of the wall with as little delay as possible.

(Signed) J. C. BOULDERSON,
Commissioner of Police.

From Lieutenant Colonel W. H. ATKINSON, Civil Architect, P. D.; to the Commissioner of Police, dated 20th July 1857, No. 427.

SIR,

In forwarding the accompanying Extract of a Circular No. 66, dated 17th Instant, from the Chief Engineer, Department Public Works, by which you will see, I am directed immediately to put a stop to all outlay whatever on works at the Presidency under my charge. I beg therefore to intimate to you, that after completing the filling up of the foundation of the outer compound wall at the Penitentiary, the works there must be suspended. Debarred as I am from doing so, any representation regarding the prosecuting of any portion of the work must be made by yourself.

(Signed) W. H. ATKINSON, Lieut. Colonel,
Civil Architect, P. D.

Extract of a Circular from the Chief Engineer, Department Public Works, to the Civil Architect, P. D., No. 66, dated 17th July 1857.

"Preparatory to more detailed instructions which will be issued at the earliest possible period, I do myself the honor, under orders, to intimate to all Members of the Department Public Works, the necessity of putting an immediate and absolute stop to all outlay whatever on works of internal improvement throughout the Presidency."

2. "This interdict is not to be partial in its operation, but universal, the interpretation being relaxed only so far, as to admit of works being prosecuted to such a stage, as may ensure their comparative security."

4. "But with the spirit of the order, there nevertheless is to be no paltering, and reference recommending exemption for exceptional reasons will be received with marked displeasure. In all cases however critical, there must always be a certain discretion confided to local officers; but they, whose expenditure is the most rapidly reduced to a cypher, will at the present conjuncture, best exhibit their discretion."

5. "Even repairs are to be in no wise liberally *prospective*; that which is indispensable to arrest decay, or to prevent danger, must be performed, and performed well; but this limit of bare safety is not to be overstepped."

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) W. H. ATKINSON, Lieut Colonel,
Civil Architect, P. D.

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 28th July 1857.

To Colonel J. C. BOULDERSON, Commissioner of Police.

SIR,

I beg respectfully to inform you, that the Jail in its present condition is quite unsafe for prisoners committed to it, and the new wall that is now in the course of erection, on the north side of the Jail, is about to be put a stop to. I beg Sir, you will take measures and get the wall completed as soon as possible, and if I may be allowed to think, I think this work ought to be done above all other works, considering the present state of affairs.

Madras Penitentiary, }
21st July 1857. }

(Signed) E. OWEN,
Superintendent of the Penitentiary.

No. 18.

ORDER THEREON, No. 876; dated 25th July 1857.

Ordered to be communicated to the Public Works Department where instructions will be issued for resuming at once the construction of the wall on the north side of the Penitentiary as a work of absolute necessity.

(Signed) E. MALTBY,
Acting Chief Secretary.

In order.

MC

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Ordered to be communicated to
the Public Works Dept. where instructions
will be issued for resuming
at once the construction of the wall
on the West side of the Penitentiary
as a work of absolute necessity.

Fort St. George
25 July 1857.

J. M. Ashley
Actg. Chief Secretary.

Copy to P. W. Dept. Entered 29 July 57.
" Comr of Public Digd. 30th R. A.

Ag. Secy. to Gov 3