M.R. O. 1—32,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 729 Press ~~Mis.~~

69-70

Dated 26 — 5 — 1970

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department, from 18th to 27th May 1859.

No. 69. Read the following Proceedings of Government in the Public Works Department, dated 3rd May 1859, No. 1023.

Referring for consideration a letter from the Chief Engineer with correspondence, forwarding an estimate, amounting in the aggregate to Rupees 17,602 for the repair of the new Jail at Honore in Canara, and for making certain additions to it. } (Vide Proceedings Public Works Department, from 30th April to 3rd May 1859, Nos. 48 and 49.)

No. 70. ORDER THEREON, 26th May 1859, No. 729.

Reconstruction of boundary wall of stone in mortar...		5,700
Additional buildings.		
Jailor's House	950	
Dresser's do	700	
Two Cooking sheds	1,824	
Two Sentry boxes	34	
Dead House	224	3,732
	Rs...	9,432

In the correspondence referred in the above Resolution of Government for consideration in this Department, an estimate amounting to Rupees 17,602 for fully repairing and completing the new Jail at Honore, is proposed in substitution of that for Rupees 9,432, sanctioned Extract Minutes Consultation, 2nd March 1858, No. 276.

2. The work therein authorized was kept in abeyance on the reports of Lieutenant Goddard, the District Engineer, who recommended a careful inspection of the building, after the monsoon, in view to a radical correction of its many faults at a larger expense. A survey of the Jail was accordingly made later in the year by Lieutenant Hunter, the Acting District Engineer, and an estimate prepared for the complete repair of the Jail, which including the sum already sanctioned, amounted to Rupees 18,402. The largeness of this estimate led to a discussion, whether it would not be preferable to abandon the lately erected structure and to build an entirely new Jail in a better site on an improved plan.

3. The Inspector General of Jails, coincided in the views of the Officiating Chief Engineer on the inexpediency of attempting to improve the Honore Jail, and referred to the observations on the state of this Jail which he had recorded in his annual report to Government to the effect that it would be "no exaggeration to say that before the Jail is completed, much of it will in all probability be in a state of decay.

Page 41 of the printed Report of 1857-58.

4. The question as to the advisability of repairing the Jail, was settled by Captain Orr, the Superintending Engineer of the Circle, who personally inspected the building in the course of his tour. He reported that, ill situated and ill built as it undoubtedly was, the greater part of it was extremely substantial, and that if placed in good order, according to Lieutenant Hunter's estimate, it would be found to require as little repair hereafter as most buildings in so trying a climate as that of Canara.

5. The matter was then again referred to Mr. Rohde who now states that he is well disposed to adopt Captain Orr's proposition, and that a late conversation with that Officer had convinced him that to build a new Jail on a better principle would at Honore be attended with very much heavier expense than he would be justified in recommending.

6. Under these circumstances, the Government approve the repairs to the Jail being made to the extent provided for in the estimate Rupees 17,602, the work being entered in the next Budget.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Ind. F. Cartledge.

Rs: 9,432

No.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Judicial.

No. 1023.

Resolution of the Government of Madras dated 3rd May 1859.

Read the following letter from Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer ; to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government, dated 6th April 1859, No. 9385.

SIR,

1 Copies of correspondence, viz.
Letter from District Engineer of Canara No. 25 of 4th May 1858.
Do. from Acting District Engineer No. 151 of 1st November 1858.
1 Estimate.
1 Report.
Letter from Inspector of Prisons 23rd December 1858.
Do. from Superintending Engineer Northern Circle No. 22 of 16th February 1859.
Do. from Inspector of Prisons No. 102 of 23rd March 1859.

In Extract Minutes Consultation of the 27th March 1858, No. 557, an Estimate amounting in the aggregate to Rupees 9,432, for the repair of the new Jail at Honore in Canara, and for making certain additions to it, was sanctioned for entry in the Budget of 1859-60, the principal item being Rupees 5,700, for re-building those parts of the boundary wall, which having been constructed of stone in mud, without bond or header cources, had fallen or were then threatening to fall.

2. On the 4th of the following May, Captain Goddard, the District Engineer, in reporting on the Jail, having recommended that, as many other parts of the building were in an unsound state, it should be closely examined, and reported on after another season's exposure to the monsoon, Lieutenant Hunter, the present Acting District Engineer, was called upon to inspect the Jail carefully on the cessation of the rains, and to make known the result.

1st June 1858.

3. Lieutenant Hunter accordingly, in due course submitted a Report on the 1st November 1858, shewing that not only did the whole of the outer wall require renewal, instead of only portions of it, but that likewise those parts of the enclosure which were formed by cutting away the laterite rock in such a way as to leave a wall standing, were crumbling away and would have to be re-placed with masonry, and that in addition, owing to bad foundations on made earth, the northern Guard-rooms and Watch-tower would have to be re-built, and some other minor improvements made.

4. As by the Estimate which accompanied his report, Lieutenant Hunter raised the probable cost of the necessary repairs and additions to Rupees 18,402, inclusive of the Rupees 9,432 sanctioned for entry in the Budget, the late Officiating Chief Engineer, Lieutenant-Colonel Lawford, in consideration of the exceedingly inefficient construction of the Jail, and under the impression that building was cheap in Canara, came to the conclusion that it would be more advisable to abandon the lately erected structure altogether, and to build an entirely new Jail on a better site, and on the recently introduced Cellular system.

Vide accompanying letter from Mr. Rohde, 23rd December 1858.

5. The Inspector of Prisons fully concurred with Colonel Lawford's views, but having met the Superintending Engineer of the Northern Circle at Bellary, and discussed the subject with him, it was arranged that Captain Orr, during the tour he then was making, should visit Honore, and after inspecting the Jail give his opinion. This the Superintending Engineer has done, and as his Report, although bearing out in all particulars, the very unfavorable description of the building given by the local Officers and the Inspector of Prisons, went to show that nevertheless it would be a waste of time and public money to pull it down and erect another when, however ill constructed it might be, the Jail is still substantial, and capable of being placed in tolerable order at a moderate outlay, compared with the excessive cost of a new structure, where building is so expensive, I thought it necessary again to lay the question before Mr. Rohde, with a copy of the Superintending Engineer's letter.

16th February 1858 No. 22.

Mr. Rohde's letter, No. 102 dated 23rd March 1859.

6. In reply the Inspector of Prisons finally agrees with the Superintending Engineer in the expediency of laying out whatever sum may be necessary for placing the Jail, as it now stands, in full repair, rather than take upon himself the responsibility of recommending the heavy expenditure that an entirely new building would involve.

7. Under these circumstances, I beg to lay all the papers noted at the head of this letter before Government, and strongly to recommend that the revised Estimate of the present Acting District Engineer, for the repair of the Jail, reduced by the Superintending Engineer to Rupees 17,602, may be sanctioned in substitution of that for Rupees 9,432, entered as item 80 in List No. 2 of the Budget for 1859-60.

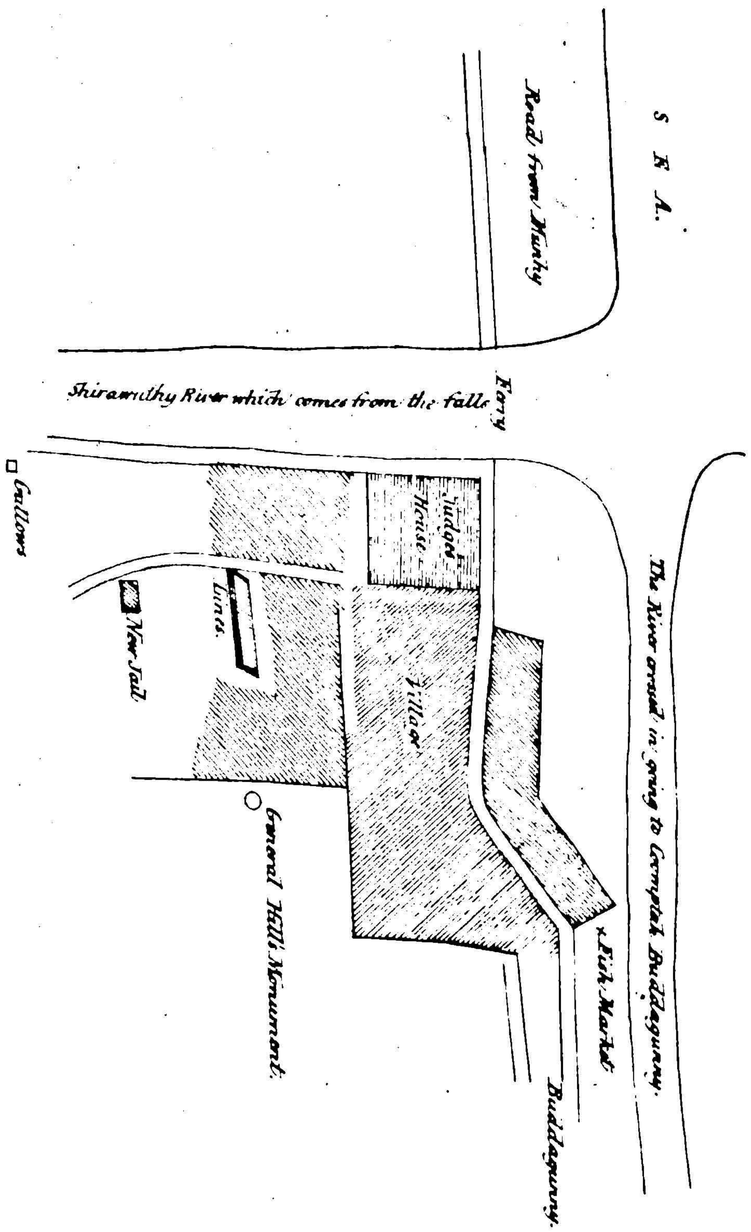
Rs: 9,432

Letter from Lieutenant J. GODDARD, District Engineer, Canara; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated Mangalore, 4th May 1858, No. 25.

Sir,

1. With a view to redeem my promises in the column of remarks of my Inspection List for the month of April 1858, and in my Annual Administration Report for the Official year just past, I do myself the honor to subscribe a few notes upon the New Jail at Honore.

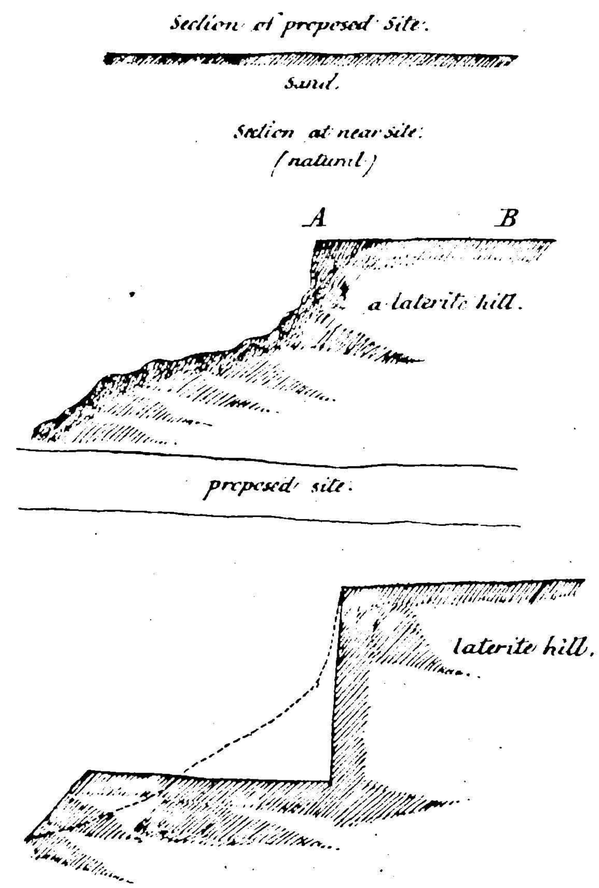
2. From enquiries made at various periods, but in more detail of late than at any former period, I find that the site of the Jail has been twice altered. The originally proposed site being good and sound, pure, undisturbed sand in a level plain, which in my opinion is about the very best natural site we could desire for the erection of any building. To any one in the Central Office who may happen to know Honore, the marginal Sketch will convey the position of the originally proposed and the altered sites.



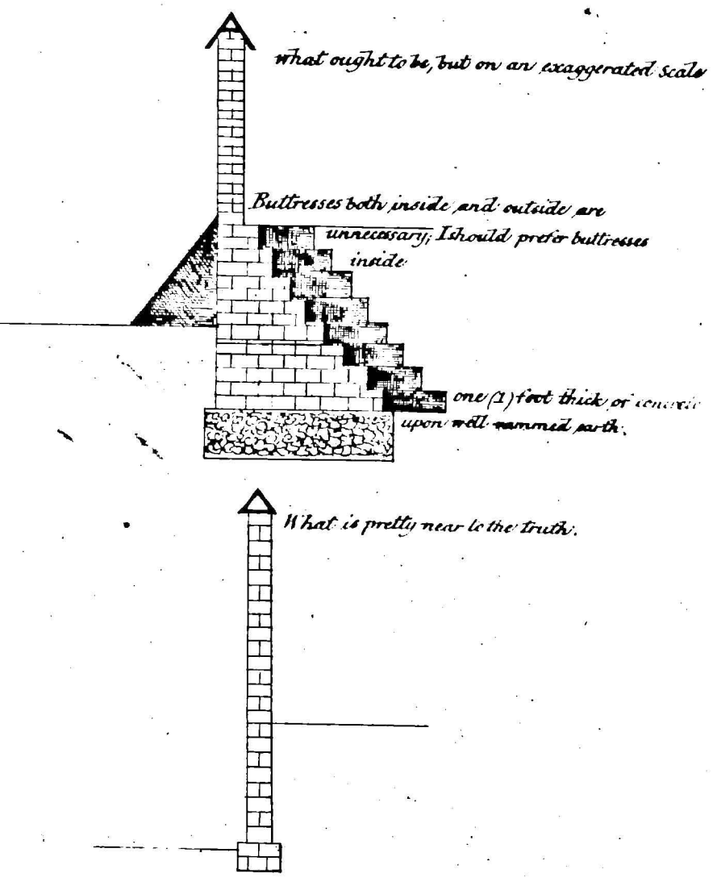
3. The site secondly proposed I do not exactly know, but it was somewhere on a horizontal plain of laterite overlooking, if I recollect aright, a piece of ground then belonging to Mr. Lascelles, but in whose possession the ground may now be I do not know.

4. My statements are not supported as far as I am aware by any documentary evidence: but are simply based upon word of mouth, communications made to me in person by British gentlemen and by Natives of India.

5. The third proposed site and that upon which the Building has been constructed, has been disturbed as will be seen in plan. I will here break away for a short time from the thread of my story, to offer some remarks which occur to me, viz., if Mr Lascelles was determined that the Jail should not be built where it was secondly proposed, but near this laterite hill (his public reasons be it noted, for changing the site have not come to my knowledge) why not build it on the perfectly level plateau on top of the hill A.B. The tops of nearly all the laterite hills near the coast in Canara are, mathematically speaking, perfectly horizontal planes. I cannot conceive the public grounds upon which the present site was chosen. If it be urged that the Jail was built on the *hill side* to avoid the severity of the monsoon, I oppose the argument by noting that you do not obtain shelter from a *western* monsoon by building on the *western face* of a hill, so that argument falls to the ground. It may be argued that the Prisoners have not to draw water from such a depth, &c., &c., but this is all very unsatisfactory argument. The side of a laterite hill, (laterite being very porrous and spongelike, is damp, not only during the rains, but also during a portion of the dry weather, whereas the top of a laterite hill is truly never damp, and I appeal to any one who knows Canara to support me.) Here we will again bear the contents of para. 5 in mind. Now in an Engineering point of view the top of the laterite hill, viz., a horizontal plane of laterite stone would have been an almost imperishable foundation, I should fancy: but for some reasons best known to Mr. Lascelles (the change from No. 1 site to No. 2 was, I believe, proposed by the then Zillah Surgeon upon sanitary grounds, and he proposed to build on the level plateau referred to in para. 5, overlooking Mr. Lascelles' ground, and then Mr. Lascelles proposed No. 3 site) he manœuvred so as to have the Jail erected on its present site on "disturbed" and "made" soil by (I opine) an Officer deficient in extensive practical experience as to the best method of dealing with foundations in prepared soil, &c., and behold the result, a tumble down affair from top to bottom is the New Jail at Honore.



6. I do not clearly see how I can arrive at the true state of the Jail foundations than by one or other of the two alternatives, viz. On the one hand by waiting till the Plan tumbles down, spontaneously taking the lives of half a dozen "Debtors" from time to time, or on the other hand by inspecting some of the foundations by laying them open to view at the risk of bringing the walls tumbling about our ears, some 20 or 30 Rupees would enable an Officer to inspect and report upon foundations I doubt not.



7. The roofing are much too heavy and the walls not sufficiently thick, abutments have not been resorted to, where they are much wanted, a reference to the marginal sketch of what is and what ought to be, may render my explanation more intellegible.

8. The earth was not rammed nor was any concrete laid down *it is said;* (all my statements are unsupported by documentary evidence) a footing of one foot deep having been excavated, walls were run up on the (disturbed earth in mud laterite inmud !!!) to a height insome cases of 20 or 30 feet. The wall being I am informed two feet thick at bottom, in the special instance here quoted. This was madness if it be true. Major Macdonnel, I believe, executed, this part of the work, and it appears to me from what I have seen that the statements made to me are about the truth.

9. My remarks principally concern the entire boundary wall and the Guard-houses, but the whole place is painfully open to criticism and severe remarks, I am sorry to say, I hardly know what to recommend in order to save money. I have given much thought to this Jail and often looked at it of late during my stay at Honore, and would now recommend that Government permit the sanction accorded in Extract Minutes Consultation No. 557, dated 27th March 1858, to remain in abeyance as the settlements and cracks and divergencies from the perpendicular that have taken place since the preparation of the Estimate therein sanctioned are not a few, and I expect we shall have a curious series of mishaps to record during the prevalence of the monsoon now actually beginning in Canara with daily thunder storms and violent squalls.

10. The sanction had better be permitted to remain in abeyance and the attention of the District Engineer should be personally directed to a thorough study of cause and effect after the monsoon has abated, and he should then submit revised Plans and Estimates on a much more expensive scale than I had dared hitherto to contemplate. There is nothing else for it.

11. We must let bad enough alone for the present and begin radically to correct the faults of this building after the monsoon. The whole of the enclosing wall to begin with, must be removed and foundations re-excavated, rammed and laid with concrete, say at least a foot thick and proper substantial walls of laterite in chunam (with buttresses where the walls are of the nature of revetments) substituted for the present brown paper affairs of laterite in mud. The Guard-houses will have to come down perhaps, also revetments between the upper and lower areas. Much of the roofing is too heavy.

12. This matter should occupy the undivided attention of the District Engineer for a day or two, when he should be accompanied by Mr. Laskey or by Mr. Dudgeon, with a view to take orders for the preparation of Plans and Estimates based on thoroughly sound principles.

13. Patching up the present old "tumbled down" place will never do. It will be an endless worry and a matter of endless report and reference. It had much better be done outright properly at once, and a good sum of money unscrupulously laid out upon it to render it a sterling good work.

Letter from Lieutenant J. N. HUNTER, Acting District Engineer, Canara; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated Camp Sedasheghur, 1st November 1858, No. 151.

SIR,

In accordance with instructions received I have now, after visiting the Jail at Honore, the honor to submit a report thereon.

2. The faults in the construction of the Jail have been so often noticed and been so amply detailed by the Inspector of Prisons, that but little remains to be said. I will, however, make some explanations, that may tend to illustrate the Estimate, that I have sent for insertion in next year's Budget for its complete repair.

3. The boundary and division walls were, as originally constructed, bad and unsound in every way, having been built of laterite in mud on an insufficient foundation and of a section, such as not to afford much hope of stability to a wall of that height, being perfectly perpendicular, without buttress or counterfort of any description, the probability of its steadiness being lessened, moreover, from the fact of its being built on an artificially levelled terreplein, so that the wall has really to act as a revetment in places where the new level is above the ground line.

4. In one part at the south, by way I conclude of saving expense, a strip of the natural formation left standing, while the Jail level is at the bottom of a deep cutting, has been made to do duty as a boundary wall, perhaps, under the idea of its being solid laterite, this is not the case, however, as large and frequent veins of earth and other soft matter show cracks for their entire length which must be the precursors of the fall of the whole strip.

5. I propose, then, re-building the wall with laterite in chunam, carried down to a solid foundation where the breadth will be from 4 to 5 feet, 3½ feet at ground line and sloping up to 1'-3" at top, all the slope to be on the outside, the inside of the wall to be perpendicular, internal buttresses are not advisable, as they afford means of escape to the Prisoners.

6. The two Guard houses at the front entrance must be removed and re-built, as there are creaks, which extending the whole length of the wall and through the arches over the windows, afford only too palpable evidence of their insecurity. I attribute this partly to the sinking of the foundations from the building having been made on a level higher than the ground line, and partly to the outward thrust on the walls, occasioned by the rain falling on the new earth and causing it to swell and tend to burst the walls constructed on it, before proper time had been allowed to settle, another reason may be the unnecessary weight of the roof.

7. One of the Watch Towers in the same way requires re-construction, reasons the same as before.

8. I cannot help here remarking on the preposterous weight, which has been placed on the roof. In the sleeping sheds I counted six layers of tiles, the consequence of this is that the under tiles are crushed, water gets between and the roofs leak and will do so, until the present lot of tiles be removed and two layers substituted. There is fortunately no danger to the woodwork, for the timber is of enormous scantling here as in all the other Jail Buildings.

9. The Inspector of Prisons in his report has mentioned that any two contiguous bars may be pressed together by two pieces of rope and a tourniquet, and a space made, through which a prisoner might escape, this is perfectly true, indeed, if he had said that a strong man might compress them with his hand, he would have been within the mark, to remedy this, it was proposed that a horizontal bar should be put across, of course intending that the perpendiculars should be let into it and notched, this however, was not the view taken by the man that put them up, and two horizontal bars have been carefully put, one on each side of the vertical ones, which of course, can be worked as before on the intervening space, all that now can be done to remedy this, is to drive a rivet right through both the horizontals on either side of each vertical, and secure them with a nut; this I have provided for in my Estimate.

10. The well, that has been dug, has been cut quite perpendicularly without rivetment, under the impression that the material cut through, was pure laterite, and would stand, experience has proved, however, the falsity of this view, as at the lower side of the well there is already an awkward looking lateral excavation resembling the gallery of a mine, which, if not checked, will I fear, too surely do its work and in course of time undermine the foundations of the surrounding wall.

11. The parts then, of the old Jail, that require re-construction or renewal are:

1. The entire boundary wall to be re-built.
2. The two northern Guard rooms to be re-built.
3. The northern Watch Tower to be renewed.
4. The sleeping sheds to be re-roofed.
5. The well to be rivetted.
6. The Iron bars to be fortified with rivets.
7. Steps to be renewed.

12. The steps leading to the upper ground will require renewal, these are for the purpose of communication between the level occupied by the male prisoners and that reserved for female prisoners, hospital prisoners under examination, &c. The renewal of the wall would necessitate their removal even if they were not unsound and dangerous in themselves, as is the case, the arch being cracked through.

13. The last five of these items, you will perceive, are in addition to the work last proposed, and will explain the increase in the amount of the Estimate, the increased section of the boundary wall and the necessity now apparent for its entire re-construction, have also considerable weight in swelling the amount, and while regretting that so large an additional Estimate should have become necessary, I cannot but feel that I should not be carrying out your orders to make provision for putting the building into a state of thorough repair, were I to omit any of the points above noticed.

14. It is to be deplored that the existing site was chosen for the edifice, for as before observed, the present ground line is artificial, half cut and half embanked, and to the unequal deflections taken from the latter half while settling are many of the accidents attributable.

15. The houses for the Jailor and Dresser have already met the approval of Government and sanction for their entry in next year's Budget has been obtained, vide Extract Minutes Consultation No. 557, dated 27th March 1858, so that they call for no further remark here.

16. I forward my Plan and Estimate through the Sessions Judge at Honore, in order to avail myself of any suggestions that that gentlemen may have to offer.

Letter from J. ROHDE, Esq., Inspector General of Prisons; to Lieutenant-Colonel E. LAWFORD, Officiating Chief Engineer, dated Bellary, 23rd December 1858.

SIR,

Your letter of the 9th December, which I have now the honor to acknowledge, coincides with my views in regard to the inexpedience of attempting to patch the Honore new Jail.

In recording my observations at my last visit, I stated that the building was so defective that by the time the then proposed repairs were executed, the rest of the building would be in ruin, that report is now in the Government Office (I believe in the Printer's hands.)

The cost of the Jail at Salem will I should think be, as you remark, much greater than one of the same construction at Honore. Independently of other causes, I think the experience there gained would point out several items on which expenditure may be materially reduced, I will now write and direct the Officer in charge to prepare as much stone as he can, of good quality, before the monsoon, which will harden what is good and destroy the faulty parts.

I hope to be in Madras early in January, and should the Government decide on abandoning the building, I shall be prepared to go over plan for a new building with you.

I will show your letter and its enclosure with my reply to Captain Orr, who is I believe, shortly about to visit Honore.

Letter from Captain C. A. ORR, Superintending Engineer, Northern Circle; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated 16th February 1859, No. 22.

SIR,

Having met the Inspector of Prisons at Bellary, and learnt from him that he was disposed to concur in the view taken by the Officiating Chief Engineer in conjunction with myself, of the advisability of abandoning the New Jail at Honore in Canara, and building it afresh, on the improved plan, on a new site, I determined upon proceeding to Honore on my return from Sedashegur and after examining the building, to report my opinion.

2. I accordingly visited Honore in the course of my late tour, and accompanied by the Acting District Engineer having inspected the Jail, I have the honor to state for your information, that although quite agreeing with the very unfavorable opinions expressed by the local Professional Officers, and the Inspector of Prisons, of the extraordinary bad quality of the workmanship in every part of its construction, but more especially in the timber and iron work of the doors and windows, and in a less degree of the roof, and admitting the injudiciousness of the site selected, I yet think it will be a great, and unnecessary loss and waste of public money, to relinquish the present building, and undertake the erection of another, unless stronger reasons, connected with improved prison management and discipline, are brought forward in support of such a proceeding, than those founded on the inefficient character of the work performed according to a confessedly vicious design, and under a totally unskilled non-professional superintendence.

3. You are aware that in consequence of Captain Goddard having, a short time before his departure from Canara, reported very unfavorably of this Jail, and recommended that as its condition was likely to be greatly deteriorated during the then approaching monsoon, the execution of the Estimate of Rupees 9,432, sanctioned in Extract Minutes Consultation, No. 557 of the 27th March 1858, for its repair, might be held in abeyance till the work should be again inspected after the rains, the present Acting District Engineer was required to report as soon after their cessation as possible, the result of the further exposure, and to submit such additional Estimates as he might find necessary for placing the building in efficient condition.

4. Lieutenant Hunter accordingly, under date the 1st November 1858, forwarded a Report and Estimate shewing, that owing to the foundations of some of the Buildings being laid on made earth, the two Guard rooms at the northern entrance of the Jail and of the northern Watch Tour had so settled as to cause the walls to crack to a dangerous degree, and that as those portions of the outer and division walls which had been formed by merely cutting away the laterite rock, were in danger of falling through the crumbling away of the veins of gravel and sand which intersect them, it was necessary to rebuild the whole of the walls anew, instead of only those portions which having been built of insufficient thickness with mud in place of chunam, and on bad foundations, had through their own weight fallen or were threatening to fall, when the former Estimate was prepared.

5. With some other additional work such as the necessary rivetting of bars across the windows as required by the Inspector of Prisons, to prevent the vertical iron rods, by which they are protected, being compressed together so as to admit of space sufficient for the passage of a man being formed, the re-roofing the sleeping sheds, and some other small items, Lieutenant Hunter's Estimate came to Rupees 8,970 in excess of that sanctioned, or to Rupees 18,402, which appearing a large sum to lay out on a building so universally condemned as the Honore Jail, Lieutenant-Colonel Lawford erroneously assuming it would seem that workmanship and building materials, especially timber were cheap in Canara, was disposed to think it preferable to erect another Jail on a better site and referred the question to Mr. Rohde, who as I have above stated concurred. I likewise believed that it would be bad economy to continue patching up so radically bad a structure as the Jail has been represented to be, but having personally inspected it, I am bound to say that I have changed my opinion, for ill situated and ill built as it undoubtedly is the greater part is extremely substantial, and I believe if placed by Lieutenant Hunter's Estimate in good order, it will be found to require as little repair hereafter as most buildings in so trying a climate as Canara, and moreover another equally commodious of the new design

Rs: 9,432 No.

cannot be erected where workmen are so scarce and so indifferent, and where chunam and timber, at all events, are so expensive under an outlay as heavy, if not heavier, than at Salem, or any other of our most expensive stations.

6. Being satisfied from personal inspection of the Jail that, in consequence of the defects of construction which I have pointed out, the whole of the enclosing and division walls must be rebuilt, I consider the item in Lieutenant Hunter's Estimate for the purpose, viz., Rupees 10,872-10-0, should be sanctioned in substitution of the Rupees 5,700 included in the Estimate entered as No. 80 in list No. 2 of the Budget of 1859-60, which was intended for re-building merely those parts of the wall, which being at the time of its preparation either down or shaky, required immediate attention.

7. The Wards or sleeping sheds, the Hospital, and the other buildings are roughly but substantially built, and roofed with timber of great stoutness, covered with several courses of tiles in the heavy manner found necessary to withstand the continuous rains of the Western Coast. The workmanship, however, of the doors and windows is of the worst description, I do believe ever seen in any public building. The frames are so little built into the walls, that the strain of the badly made, and worse fitted doors and windows has already loosened them; and in the roofs the principle of the construction of the simple "couples" of which they are formed, has been so little understood, or attended to, that the collar beams have been made apparently with a view of preventing collapse rather than expansion, and its attendant outward thrust on the walls, the ends being notched into the rafters and secured only by one nail close to the edge of the latter. The joists of the verandah likewise are notched so deeply into the edge of the bressummers, as to reduce the thickness of their points of bearing to a mere fraction of the timber itself. The whole of the iron work is still worse turned out.

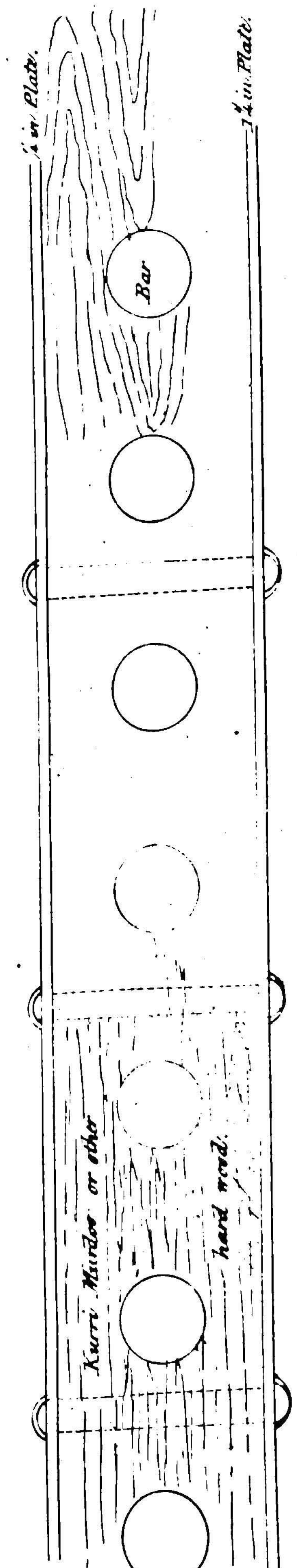
8. This leads me to record the observation I have made, that the attention of the young Officers to whom so many important charges are now entrusted, never having been given to practical Carpentry or Smith's work, they do not notice their imperfection, seeming to take it for granted that the Artificers they find in their Districts are sufficiently acquainted with their calling as not to require particular supervision, much less instruction. I believe it would be very advantageous if it were possible for all young Officers to have an opportunity of serving a few weeks in some of the Districts where workshops are established, and of going through a short course of practical Mechanics; and since openings for immediate employment in the P. W. D. are now not likely to be always ready, I think this might be arranged.

9. The two Guard rooms at the entrance of the Jail and one of the Watch Towers having, like the adjoining parts of the enclosure wall, been built on made soil have cracked so much as to be deemed dangerous. I do not think they are quite in that condition, and believe that they might be patched up. But as the cost of re-building them is, according to Lieutenant Hunter's Estimate, only Rupees 735-5 and Rupees 450-12 and it will be more satisfactory to do so than to repair them with a certainty of cracks again appearing, I would recommend these items also being allowed to stand, as well as those for re-building steps at a cost of Rs. 129-8, restoring the revetments of the terrace on which the Hospital and upper part of the Jail are situated, Rupees 204-12 and the securing with 2,500 rivets the upright bars of the windows to the cross bars, at a cost of Rupees 625.

10. Lieutenant Hunter, misled I believe by the external appearance of the tiled roofs which have always an additional course or two at their edges, imagines that those over the sleeping sheds are injuriously heavy, and recommends their removal and re-placement by an ordinary covering of flat and pantiles at a cost of Rupees 800. This is in my opinion unnecessary, and that item may be omitted, reducing his Estimate, inclusive of the additional works sanctioned in the Estimate contained in the Budget to Rupees 17,602, and this sum I think may be far more advantageously laid out in placing the Jail in complete order, than the much larger amount that will be required for a new building which, with the unskilled workmen and expensive materials of Canara can only be erected with difficulty, and much loss of time.

11. If you concur with me, I would suggest that Lieutenant Hunter's Estimate be again submitted for the opinion of the Inspector of Prisons with a copy of this letter.

Letter from J. ROHDE, Esq., Inspector General of Jails; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated 23rd March 1859, No. 102.



SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge your letter of the 17th February and its enclosure, relative to the state of the Honore Jail.

2. I am well disposed to adopt Captain Orr's proposition, indeed my late conversation with him convinces me that to build a new Jail on a better principle would, at Honore, be attended with very much heavier expense than I should be justified in recommending.

3. In regard to the mode of securing the bars, and coupled roof, I may remark that, a drawing was forwarded similar to that now enclosed for the latter. I should be glad to see the coupled roof discarded in all public buildings, the securing of the collars to the rafters being an operation requiring great care, independent of the principle being theoretically faulty.

4. In the Chicacole Hospital, I found the rafter notched half through, to admit of the collars being framed flush with the face of the rafter, this is exactly the same as cutting away half a beam at the point from which the weight is suspended.

5. Under any circumstances a collar beam acts at a disadvantage, the extent of rafter below it, is so much leverage, the downward pressure is resisted by solid supports, but the lateral pressure which is in fact, with a roof at an angle of 37, the greater pressure is only resisted by the stiffness of the rafter below the tie and the tie or collar.

6. The collar beam or couple is too often secured by nails driven through holes too large for them and very imperfectly clenched. I shall be obliged by your pressing forward the work of repair of this building as proposed by Captain Orr.

7. I think the bars may be secured on the plan I proposed for less than 625 Rupees.

Rs: 9/432 No

Referred to the Judicial Department for consideration with reference to Extract Minutes Consultation in that Department dated 2nd March 1858, No. 276.

(A true Extract.)

Ag. Dy. Secretary to Government.

To the Judicial Department,

with Copy of Report

Exd. Wm. Thomas.

Rs: 9/432

No.

C Pro. March 1858 Nos 63 & 64

Pro. of Govt 27 May

Judicial 1859. Departt.

No. 729

Proceedings of Government in the P.W. Department.

No. 1023.

Dated 3rd } May 1859.
Read 6th }

Encls: 2. and 4 Spare Copies.

No. 778

Referring for consideration, a letter from the Chief Engineer with Correspondence regarding an Estimate amounting in the aggregate to Rupees 17,602 for the repair of the new Jail at Ennore in Canara, and for making certain additions to it.

69

C 18 May
R 25

Judicial Department.

Proceedings of the Madras Government.

Read the following Proceedings of Govt in the Public Works Department.—

(Here enter 3rd May 1859, No. 1023)

Order thereon 26th May 1859 No. 729.

In the correspondence referred in the above Resolution of Government for consideration in this department, an Estimate amounting to Rupees 17,602 for fully repairing and completing the new Jail at Ennore, is proposed in substitution of that for Rupees 9,432, sanctioned Ex. Mins. Cons. 2d March 1858 No.

Reconstruction of boundary Wall of stone in Mortar — 4700.

Additional buildings.

Jailor's House	950.	
Dresser's do	700.	
Two Cooking sheds	1824	
Two Sentry boxes	34	
Dead House	224	3732
	Rs:	9,432

No. 276.

2.— The work therein authorized was kept in abeyance on the reports of Lieut. Goddard, the District Engineer, who recommended a careful inspection of the Building, after the monsoon, in view to a radical correction of it many faults ~~and a more expensive scale~~ at a less expence.

A survey of the Jail was accordingly made later in the year, by Lieut. Hunter, the Acting District Engineer, and an Estimate prepared for the complete repair of the Jail, which including the sum already sanctioned, amounted to Rupees 18,402. The largeness of this estimate led to a discussion, whether it would not be preferable to abandon the lately erected structure and to build an entirely new Jail in a better site on an improved plan.—

2.— The Inspector General of Jails coincided in the views of the officiating Chief Engineer on the inexpediency of attempting to improve the Moore Jail, and referred to the observations on the state of this Jail which he had recorded in his Annual Report to Government to the effect that it would be "no exaggeration to say that before the Jail is completed, much of it will in all probability be

Page 41 of the printed Report of 1857/58.

be in a state of decay.

4. The question as to the advisability of repairing the Jail, was settled by Captain Orr, the superintending Engineer of the Circle, who personally inspected the buildings in the course of his tour. He reported that, ill situates and ill built as it undoubtedly was, the greater part of it was extremely substantial — and that if placed in good order, according to Lieut.t Hunter's Estimate, it would be found to require as little repair hereafter as most buildings in so trying a climate as that of Canara.—

The

5.— The matter was then again referred to Mr. Rhode who now states that he is well disposed to adopt Captn. Orr's proposition and that a late conversation with that officer had convinced him that to build a new Jail on a better principle would at Honore be attended with very much heavier expence than he would be justified in recommending.—

6.— Under these circumstances the Government approve the repairs to the Jail being made to the extent provided for in the estimate

Rupees

Rupees 17,602 – the work being entered in the next budget. –

JJP

To the P.W. Departt. – with Report & Estimate

" Inspector General of Jails with Resolution No. 1623 in the Pub. Works Dept.

Despd. 31st

G. W. Kosmaieck

[illegible]

Pro of Govt 27 May
Judicial 1859 Depart

No. 729.

Pro: of Government

D/21: May/59.
Fr No. 1408.

69470.

c 18 May
R2a —