

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,

8th June 1861.

No. 62. Read the following letter from Lieutenant Colonel W. J. BIRDWOOD, Deputy Chief Engineer in charge of Central Office of Public Works; to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, Fort Saint George, dated Chepauk, 4th June 1861, No. 1,225.

Judicial.

No. 712, dated 1st June 1861.

1 Letter from Mr. Fraser, dated 26th April 1861.

1 Do. from District Engineer, dated 22nd May, No. 68.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Proceedings of Madras Government, marginally noted, calling upon the Chief Engineer to report forthwith whether the Plans and Estimate for the Prison on the Neilgherries

for Europeans, under sentence of Penal Servitude, have been received in the Central Office, and if not to state the reason of the delay.

2. I regret to reply, they have not as yet, although the matter has not been neglected in this office.

3. Mr. Fraser, the late District Engineer of Coimbatore, commenced to prepare the Plans, Estimate and Specification, in communication with the Inspector General of Jails; but before their completion, he was removed from Coimbatore, and wishing to finish what he had commenced, he carried the papers away with him to Tanjore.

4. Unaware of this not altogether regular proceeding on the part of Mr. Fraser, this office called upon Captain Goddard, to submit the project without delay. Captain Goddard then applied to Mr. Fraser for the papers he had taken away with him. Mr. Fraser intimated by Telegram to Captain Goddard that he had already forwarded the Estimate, and that the Specification would follow on the succeeding Monday, 22nd April.

5. On the 26th April, Mr. Fraser reported to this office that the Specification had been despatched to Captain Goddard on Tuesday the 23rd April, but up to the 22nd of May last, Captain Goddard reports that the paper in question had not been received.

* Dated 25th May 1861.

6. A Telegram* was therefore sent to Captain Goddard to prepare a fresh Specification, and submit the project with the least possible delay. I trust, therefore, to have it in my power to lay it before Government very shortly.

7. With reference to paragraph 4 of the Order above quoted, in which Government desire to be informed whether the Prison at present under construction at Ootacamund might not be enlarged, so as to obviate the necessity for the construction of a new and separate Jail at Jackatalla, I have called upon the District Engineer for the information required, and written to Colonel Horsley, who is on the spot, to decide the question with Captain Goddard. I would remark, however, that the Prison now under construction at Ootacamund provides only thirty six cells, and I doubt much if the site will afford room for any more.

No. 63.

ORDER THEREON, 8th June 1861, No. 743.

To be recorded.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Pro: 16th April 1861
Pro: 1st June 1861 Oct: 7/12.

Recd of the same.

Pro: 16th April 1861
Pro: 1st June 1861
From
Lt Col. H. S. Burdett
By: Ch. Sup in charge
Central Office
J. D. Sem Esquire
Secy to Genl 1861.

Dist
No. 743.

Received
8 June 61.

Dated 4th June 1861
Recd 5th June 1861

Since No. 1225
Returned 17th No. 907

Notwithstanding receipt
of order No. 71 dated 1st
June 1861, and states that
the Plans and Estimate for
the Penitentiary on the
Hillberry Hill have not
been received in this office
However that the District
Engineer of Cantonments
has been called upon to
forward the project forth
with which it is trusted
will very shortly be submitted
to Government.

62453.