

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	884	Press
		Mis.
81-82		
Dated	9.7.1861	10

4/5

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
9th July 1861.*

No. 81. Read the following letter from Lieutenant Colonel W. I. BIRDWOOD, Deputy Chief Engineer in charge of the Central Office, Public Works; to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Chepauk, 25th June 1861, No. 1,942.

• No. 1,132.

Enclosures 5.

2 Letters from District Engineer Coimbatore, Nos. — and 48, dated 8th December 1860, and 17th May 1861.

1 Letter from Inspector General of Jails, No. 190, dated 3rd May 1861.

1 Plan.

1 Abstract Estimate.

With reference to the Proceedings of Government of the 30th May 1860,* I have the honor to forward the revised Estimate, for the Ootakamund Jail, called for therein.

2. This Estimate amounting to Rupees 50,040 was not revised from the late District Engineer Coimbatore until 13th December last, and after undergoing examination in this Office,

wherein errors in calculation, omission, &c., causing a difference of Rupees 4,590 were discovered, it was re-transmitted to the District Engineer for furnishing, in communication with the Inspector General of Jails, the usual explanation and comparative statement of expenditure for the information of Government.

3. These however the District Engineer reports are not procurable, as Mr. Rohde has orally and demi officially stated that he will not answer the questions contained in the Memorandum sent from this Office, and, as will be seen by the accompanying letter, considers himself "answerable to the Government alone, and this only to the extent of securing for it the best possible workmanship at the least cost he can fairly obtain for it."

4. Under these circumstances, I can only submit the Estimate as framed by the late District Engineer Mr. Fraser, together with the remarks contained in that gentleman's letter which accompanied it.

† *Vis., Rupees...* ... 30,000

‡ " *Rupees...* ... 50,040

5. He states further that the difference between the amount of the original† and revised‡ Estimates is owing to the great increase in the prices of labor and materials which have taken place at Ootakamund since the year 1857 when the original Estimate was framed.

6. The prices entered in the revised Estimate are those then obtaining there, but he considers that if much time elapse before the completion of the building, those prices will be scarcely sufficient as the rates of labor are daily rising.

7. In addition to the general rise in prices the cost Mr. Fraser states to have been increased by the following incidental circumstances:

Ist.—The excavation of the site has proved extremely difficult and expensive as a large quantity of the hardest granite had to be removed.

II.—That good brick clay was not to be found within three miles of the site, thus involving extra expense in carriage.

III.—The absence of water which had to be carted for about $\frac{1}{2}$ of a mile.

IV.—The increased prices of sand being three times greater than at Wellington.

V.—The cost of chunam also being 50 per cent. greater.

VI.—The introduction of Hoop Iron Bond throughout the outer walls of the blocks of cells and of flues for warming, guarded by iron gratings, neither of which were provided for in the original Estimate.

VII.—The superior manner in which the fittings to the Doors and Windows have been made, over that originally contemplated.

VIII.—Lastly Mr. Fraser pronounces the workmanship and materials to be all of a superior description.

8. The original Estimate Rupees 30,000 and the revised one Rupees 50,040, the difference Rupees 20,040 requires the sanction of Government, the provision of the fund has already been ordered by Government.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
9th July 1861.*

Transferred to the Judicial Department.

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Depy. Secretary to Government.

26th June 1861.

No. 82. ORDER THEREON, 9th July 1861, No. 884.

It is observed from the letter of the 27th October last from the Inspector General of Jails, that he had received from the District Engineer of Coimbatore a revised Estimate for the European Prison at Ootacamund, amounting to Rupees 46,300. This however was still defective and a more accurate Estimate was called for.

2. The Estimate now submitted, forwarded by Mr. Fraser on the 8th December last, is after corrections Rupees 50,040.

3. It seems to Government to be unnecessary to pass Orders on this Estimate. The Jail is understood from the Inspector General to be nearly finished; when it has been completed, he will submit an account showing what has been the total expenditure under all heads.

4. The account will be confined to the Jail as originally ordered to be built for 36 European Convicts, and will not include any work which may have become necessary in consequence of the enlargement of the Jail and its adaptation to 100 Prisoners.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Judicial Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

*Read the following letter
from the Deputy Chief
Engineer in charge of the
Central office C.E.*

*Per letter 25th June 1861
No. 1942.*

Order thereon 9 July 1861 No. 884

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JF

In the Public Works Department
" Inspector General of Jails } Dec 10 '9

Judicial 1861. Department.

No. 884

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS
GOVERNMENT.

Dated 4th July 1861

*File No. 1212.
— 1980/05.*

*Having Remarks on
the Bill and Estimate amount-
ing to Rs 100,000 for Conduits,
and a Burial place built at Cochin,
under the District of Ponnalure.*