M.R.O. 1—39,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 11 Press ~~Mis.~~

16-18 Dated 4 - 1 - 19 1865

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
4th January 1865.

Read the following papers :—

No. 16. From J. MASKELL, Esq., Magistrate, Vepery Police Court, to the Honorable A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George ; dated Madras, 1st December 1864, No. 68.

I have the honor to report that the buildings forming the Vepery Police Court are in need of thorough repairs.

2. An application to the Barrack Master would, no doubt, receive attention as far as the repairs are concerned; but as, in my opinion, certain alterations and improvements are also urgently required, I deem it necessary to address Government, whose orders, the Barrack Master informs me, should be obtained on the subject.

3. The Vepery Police Court was originally a private dwelling, and was converted into a Court House in the most economical fashion. The centre hall forms the Court-room. The dock and witness box are nearly in the centre, the Magisterial Bench and the table for the Interpreter, Minute Writers, and professional gentlemen are on one side, and the other side is set apart for the public. When I mention that the hall is but 32 feet long, and that it's two ends are narrowed by it's octagonal shape, some idea may be formed of the crowded and confined state of the place on hot and busy days. There is also no accommodation for the Inspector and other European and Native Police Officers attached to the Court, nor for the more respectable classes of suitors in attendance.

4. The centre hall might be extended by removing its western wall, and taking in the adjoining verandah. This would necessitate the construction of a new verandah along the western portion of the building.

5. By this improvement, prisoners and parties could be introduced into the Court from the west end of the building, instead of through the second Hall, and this large room, which is now only used as a passage, would be available for the establishment, and one of the rooms now occupied by the clerks would then be vacated for the use of the European officers of the Court. The Native Police might be accommodated by walling off one of the corners of the public shed in the compound.

6. I have long felt that these improvements were necessary, but have waited until the buildings required to be put in thorough order, when I thought the whole work might be executed at once.

7. I solicit that the Barrack Master may be instructed to inspect the premises and prepare the necessary estimate, and I shall be happy to point out to him personally the details of the improvements above suggested.

Referred to the Barrack Master for report, in communication with the Magistrate of the Vepery Police Court.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
6th December 1864.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
***4th January* 1865.**

No. 17. From Colonel W. K. WORSTER, Barrack Master, Presidency, to the Honorable A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated 10th December 1864, No. 1192.

In returning the accompanying letter, with its endorsement, relative to the enlargement of the Vepery Police Court, I have the honor to state that I quite concur with Mr. Maskell as to the necessity of increased accommodation being provided both for the suitors and the Police establishment.

2. The plan contemplated, however, would necessitate the closing of the Court for some time, and the hiring of another house for the continuance of business.

3. To obviate this inconvenience I suggested that, probably, it would be better to carry the addition of a Court room northward, instead of westward, having a separate entrance, leaving the office free from interruption, in which Mr. Maskell concurred. Should Government approve of the arrangement, I will point out to the Executive Engineer the nature of the additions required.

4. I may add that the Commissioner of Police, whom I consulted, considers that the accommodation of the present Court House is inadequate to meet the requirements of the establishment.

No. 18. ORDER THEREON, 4th January 1865, No. 11.

The Governor in Council sanctions the preparation of a plan and estimate for adding a Court-room to the buildings occupied by the Vepery Police Court, in the manner proposed by Colonel Worster.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To the Barrack Master.
" Public Works Department.
" Magistrate of the Vepery Police Court.
" Commissioner of Police (for information).

Exd. J. H. Burns.

Judicial Department.

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PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letters—
From the Magistrate of Egmore 1 Dec. '64 No. 68.
Police Vepery—
" the Barrack Master—10 " —1192.
Order—4 Ja[illegible] 1865 No. 11.

The Governor in Council sanctions the preparation of a Plan & estimate for adding a Court room to the buildings occupied by the Vepery Police Court, in the manner proposed by Colonel Worster.

To the Barrack Master.
" Pub: Wks: Dept.
" Magistrate of the Vepery Police Court } desp[illegible] 5/1/65
" Commissioner of Police for

186~~4~~. *Department.*

No. //

PROCEEDINGS *of* GOVERNMENT.

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Date / /15

Sanctioning the preparation of a Plan and Estimate for adding a Court room to the building occupied by the Vepery Police Court.