

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

9
India DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.

427

Press
Mis.

134-135

Dated

18 3.

19 86

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,

18th March 1865.

No. 134. Read the following Proceedings of Government in the Military Department.

Communicating correspondence, and the }
report of the Special Committee, on } (Dated 8th March 1865, No. 934).
the feasibility of converting the Grand }
Jail into a Commissariat Store-house. }

No. 135. ORDER THEREON, 18th March 1865, No. 429.

In the Proceedings of Government under date the 13th September last, paragraph 14, the Commissioner of Police and Superintending Engineer were directed to submit a plan and estimate for a small Civil Debtors' Jail, indicating a site. The attention of the Superintending Engineer will now be re-called to the subject, in order that the plan and estimate may be submitted with as little delay as possible.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To the Public Works Department.

„ Commissioner of Police.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers:—

From the Commissary General, Madras, 24th November 1864, No. 803; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort Saint George.

I have the honor to inform you that, in accordance with Order of Government, No. 4060, dated 15th November 1864, I have thoroughly inspected the whole of the Criminal side of the Grand Jail, and have examined each room separately, with a view to determine its suitability for Commissariat Stores.

2. The whole of the Cells are very small, and their limited area is still further diminished by the walls and arches which support the vaulted roof; they are also very low, few of them exceeding 9 feet in height, nor can any of the door-ways be entered without stooping.

3. The floors of the Cells are frequently of two or three different elevations, and in many cases are below the level of the Court-yards outside.

4. The access to most of the Cells leads through very narrow and winding passages, and in order to open free entrances to the larger Cells, a considerable portion of the available Stowage room would have to be pulled down.

5. The whole place has a damp and unwholesome look, and many of the Court-yards shew unmistakeable evidence of continued dampness, which would be ruinous to Stores.

6. In addition to this, the Buildings themselves having bomb-proofed roofs, are of the worst possible description for Stores, they generate a dense steamy heat which speedily destroys every article exposed to it.

7. The Cells have hitherto been made habitable by removing all the doors and windows and substituting iron gratings, but if Stores are to be kept in them, the doors must be re-placed, and all ventilation would be entirely excluded.

8. I have therefore no hesitation in expressing my decided opinion that, even if the Buildings in question were situated in the most eligible situation, they would be utterly unsuited for Commissariat Stores.

9. In the event of my own opinion upon this point being considered insufficient, I would suggest that, the Committee now investigating the subject of the best means of arranging Commissariat Stores should be directed to report on the capabilities of the Jail. This Committee is composed of three experienced Store-keepers who are well aware of the requirements necessary in a Building for containing Stores, and I feel confident that they will endorse the opinion I have now expressed.

10. On the other hand, I am equally of opinion that the best possible Store-house situated in the position of the Grand Jail would be highly objectionable. I have already pointed out in my letter, No. 153, dated 10th August 1864, that we require not a mere Stowage room for miscellaneous articles, but a Dépôt from which Provisions and Equipments can be shipped for Troops embarking on service, and for Regiments in Burmah.

11. For this purpose, the Stores should have a sea-frontage. This point is met by the President of the Sanitary Commission by the statement that the Grand Jail is no further from the Pier than is the Granary, but allowing this to be correct, I beg to point out that no Stores from the Granary are ever shipped at the Pier, they are simply carried across the road and put into the boats drawn up on the beach outside.

12. Moreover, its proximity to the Railway Station is not so advantageous as may be supposed, as few stores are sent from the Granary to the Railway.

13. I have already pointed out the inconvenience which would be occasioned to Commanders of Ships landing Provisions with Troops. Instead of sending them in a boat direct to the Granary under their own eye, they would be compelled, if the Granary was placed inland to send some responsible party with the Stores who would have to walk a long way in the sun to the Commissariat Office.

14. I fully coincide with the President of the Sanitary Commission in the opinion that the Granary is an unsightly building, and I recently suggested to the Committee which has been examining our system of storing supplies that the extra space which will be required when the Bankshall is given up might be most advantageously provided for by the erection of an upper story along the front face of the Granary, this would yield the necessary accommodation for Tea and other valuable Stores and would enable the Building to contrast favorably with the Buildings on the beach.

Referred, with Proceedings of Government, No. 4060, dated 15th November 1864, for special report on the capabilities of the Grand Jail as a Commissariat Store by the Committee appointed for the inspection of the Commissariat Stores. No. 2481, dated 20

Department:

the hon.

20th July 1864, appointing u
now to submit our Proceedings.

2. The verification of the
and repeated and minute inspection of Godowns, and Com-
Report of the Committee may be condensed, Government is assured, that no pains
have been spared by them to arrive at a right conclusion, whether as regards the
Committee's review of the late Mr. Norfor's Reports; their remarks on the existing
state of the Commissariat Stores and Buildings, or their recommendations for the
future storage and protection of Government property.

3. Commencing with Mr. Norfor's Reports, the Committee would observe
that it was not, under any circumstances, to be

It was little likely, wh

long pr. experien an active and c Store

keeper General, wo

as far as possible, all that appeared to be working mischievously in his Department.

4. Circumstances as will hereafter be pointed out for bad, and must continue
to forbid, any Store-keeper doing more than attempt a partial amelioration, unless
Government will itself supply the remedy, by authorising a change in the Buildings
as they now exist.

Mr. Norfor's Reports 8th
November 1862, para-
graph 8.

5. Mr. Norfor states that he notices some articles
of provisions, which being damaged, should be sold.

6. In answer to this, the Committee would observe that no damaged provisions
were found by them; and they have ascertained, when there are any such they are
invariably destroyed, which they consider to be the only proper course. Mr.
Norfor's remark is however suggestive that this is one not generally adopted in the
Trade; and they consider it therefore desirable, on Sanitary grounds, to notice it.

Paragraphs 12, 13 & 14.

7. In answer to paragraphs 12, 13 and 14, the
Committee observe that there being now no stock of
Grain kept up, it is unnecessary to enter on that subject. The Granary godowns,
in which Mr. Norfor found so much to object to, appear now to be used for purposes
totally different to what they then were appropriated, with the exception that Salt
provisions are still kept in the better godown of the Quadrangle, and these, were
found in every respect in excellent order. The Committee however, with the view
of economising space, strongly advise Horses being erected in these godowns, a
recommendation in accordance with that of Mr. Norfor, and which his own long
experience doubtless induced him confidently to advocate.

8. The whole of the Godowns in the Granary Quadrangle require alterations,
as will be hereafter pointed out in this Report, when the general question of accom-
modation is entered into.

9. The Building spoken of as "a long lean to godown, in which Porter was
very badly stowed," is not very accurately described, as the impression is left that
the Porter was actually lying unraised from the earth. The godown is in fact paved
with Granite; and this must have passed unobserved by Mr. Norfor, in consequence
of its being at the time covered, an inch or two deep with loose sand.

10. The Committee do not recommend any expense being gone to, in order
ing this godown suitable for Porter, provisions or other stores requiring extra care
in their protection. From its size, and the proximity of the Granary (so called) in
which it stands, to the Beach, it is exceedingly well adapted for the stowage of Water
Casks; of these it will hold 250, being the larger portion of the number which
should be kept up filled, and which after careful consideration, the Committee would
limit to 450. The Committee would at the same time observe that, although they
believe this number will be ample, yet as Water Casks are never so carefully pre-
served as when filled, they see no objection to its being exceeded, if space is, at any
time, available.

Vide letter from Controller,
9th June 1864, J.—and
letter from R. W. Norfor,
Esq., 16th January 1863,
to the Controller.

11. As Government may wish to be informed of
the grounds on which the Committee differ in opinion
on this matter with the Controller of Military Accounts,
they beg to offer the following observations:—

1st.—They have ascertained, by careful inquiry, that from 25 to 30 Coopers
is the greatest number that can be relied upon, in an emergency, as being obtainable
in the market, to make up Water Casks. Each new Cask, it has been determined
by actual observation, would take one man four days to make; or, if Shaken Casks are
put together, one man could complete one in a day. The number of Casks now re-
commended by the Committee to be maintained, is greatly in diminution of what
has been hitherto kept up, but still sufficient to enable the Commissariat Depart-
ment at once to commence with the stowage of any Vessels that may be taken up as
Transports.

2nd.—It must be borne in mind, that in laying in supplies on boardship
for Troops, Water must be the first article stowed; and the delay caused by having

no supply at hand, with which to commence operations, might be attended with inconvenience—if not danger to the Public service. The Committee observe that the Ordnance Department can, on an

Departm to than

Shake
the ap
that it
mode

Esq., 15th January 1863,
to the Controller of Military Finance.
Paragraphs 5 and 6.

was removed, in May 1863, from the Godown objected to by Mr. Norfor as unfit for its due preservation; and the stock in hand, when inspected by the Committee, appeared in excellent order, and well stowed. At the time the Committee examined this Godown it contained Hospital Clothing, which appeared dry, and in good order. The Committee concur with Mr. Norfor, in thinking it very desirable that this Godown should be better ventilated; but they do not recommend the roof, nor doors should be on the
would be the
Mr. Norfor's letter to

Store

to the Committee

the sub apply to the
stock being The Com

rather unduly over-estimated, and supports his assertion by facts so unanswerable that the Committee are compelled to admit that the supplies maintained of this nature are not in excess of requirements.

No. 2822, Minutes of Consultation, 24th July 1848.

14. Whilst on the subject of probable excessive allotments, the Committee, with a view to economise space, but bearing in mind the Order of Government which directed a three months' supply of Salt provisions invariably to be maintained, also applied to the necessary General for his opinion as to whether, "under the altered circumstances

not now be advisable to recommend a

as the C

subject is
due inquiry amongst the Trade

hanced rates, yet a large saving might accrue, in various ways, from a reduction in the stock of this article.

Paragraph 6 of Order of Government, No. 2481, dated 20th July 1864, and subsequent Order, No 2791, dated 13th August 1864.

15. The Committee now proceed to lay before Government the result of their verification of the Arrack, and the conclusions they have arrived at as to the quantities of that supply, and also of Porter, that should hereafter be maintained; and to offer their

recommendations, as to the entire re-arrangement of the Buildings at present used for the accommodation of these supplies.

16. The Committee completed the verification of Arrack (Colombo and Batavia) in Store on the 9th September last, and found it to be as follows:—

	Gals.	Drs.
Colombo Arrack	109,023	9
Batavia "	25,076	13

Between the 1st and 9th of September, the only transaction which took place, as per an Official memorandum handed to the Committee by the Store-keeper General, was an issue of Gallons 1,625, Drams 22 of Batavia Arrack; adding that therefore, to the previously named quantity, there was Arrack in Store, 1st September 1864.

	Gals.	Drs.
Colombo Arrack	109,023	9
Batavia "	26,701	35

On referring to the Return furnished to the Examiner of Commissariat Accounts, by the Store-keeper General, for August 1864, the Committee find that, on the 31st of that month, there was supposed to be in Store;

Colombo Arrack	107,165 Gals.	28½ Drs.
Batavia do.	24,465 "	38 "

The result consequently is that, on the last named date, there was a surplus of Arrack as follows, viz:—

Of Colombo Arrack	1,857 Gals.	20½ Drs.
Of Batavia do.	2,235 "	37 "
Total surplus	4,093 "	17½ "

The above shews results as they stood on the 1st September 1864; the Committee have not therefore deemed it necessary to attempt to unravel the errors alluded to by the late Mr. Norfor in the 4th paragraph of his letter of the 9th February 1863. As truly remarked by the Controller in the 13th paragraph of his Report of June 1864, there could be no agreement between the discordant data given—stock having been taken at one time, and the results compared with the Returns of three months' later date.

The practice described in paragraph 5 of the late Mr. Norfor's letter of 9th February 1863, is correct, showing how Arrack is received into Store, and diluted before issue.

The Committee also concur in his remarks, in paragraphs 6 and 7, showing that a continual wastage is going on by evaporation, and by loss of strength from evaporation; but for this there is of course no remedy.

What per Centage of wastage, from both causes, is really incurred can only be properly determined by experiments carefully made; and these the Committee consider should be conducted departmentally, both at the Presidency and at Outstations, for a series of, say, three years.

The Committee do not think any practical good would result from experiments being separately made with reference to the two causes of wastage, viz., loss by evaporation, and loss by the weakening of the spirit, consequent on evaporation.

17. The Committee cannot but consider the result of the verification of the Arrack to be highly satisfactory, and very creditable to Conductor Doir, who, for

the last four years, has had charge of this particular branch, and, notwithstanding the difficulties he has labored under, has bestowed upon it the greatest pains. The Committee would observe that, in testing the Arrack

Rs. 100 of the

be placed on a ca

for investigation by observing that both the Officiating Examiner of Commissariat Accounts and Commissariat Store-keeper are perfectly satisfied with the correctness of the above verification; and that, with a fair goal to start from, no errors or discrepancies, not easily to be accounted for, should henceforth creep into this important branch of Commissariat stock.

20. The Committee have carefully gone into the stock of Ale and Porter, for which supply is divided into four consign-

ent of a amount which may be remaini
led for

their supplies direct; and in of con-
signments and sta therefore

it may be as well to men-
tion that, only last year, the Commissary General was
requested by the Authorities at Kamptee to make
arrangements for the consignment for that Station being
sent to Madras, in consequence of the difficulty of procuring carriage direct from
Bombay. This is however a difficulty that must altogether cease with the introduc-
tion of carriage by Rail, and need not therefore be taken into account, in the arrange-
ments now to be proposed.

entering on the subject of the proposed arrangements for the
particular articles of Commissariat supplies and stock the Committee
to lay before Government in view they have taken of the
means for their preservation and storage. Paragraph 4 of this Report
Huded inadequate and the
to state that, in their opinion, nothing

concentration of the stores.

23. The Buildings consist of three large quadrangles, or what may be so termed, viz., 1st, the Bankshall; 2nd, the Arrack and Porter Godown, with Hospital and Clothing Stores, Commissariat Office, and what has hitherto been the Cooperage, and Distillery; and 3rd, the (so called) Granary.

24. The first named of the above Buildings the Committee would recommend should be taken away from the Commissariat; there can be no doubt that the mul-

tiplication of places of storage, at a considerable distance from each other, under the control of the same establishment, tends largely, in a variety of ways, to increase expenses, and operates unfavorably in securing close and efficient supervision. The extensive Sheds of the Bankshall, which are now falling rapidly into dis-repair, have hitherto been used for the stowage of filled Water Casks, the cutting up and stowage of Timber for staves of Casks, and for general purposes of the Department.

The ground alone, which covers an area of about
A small Ground Plan is at- 25,584 square feet, must, not only from its extent, but
tached,

also from its situation so close to the sea, and of such great convenience for Mercantile purposes, be of large value, and would doubtless go far to compensate Government for any expense they might be disposed to incur in the alteration of old and erection of new Buildings, with a view to improve the Commissariat storage and superintendence.

25. The attention of the Committee was particularly called by Government to the subject of Arrack and Malt Liquor; and whilst on that of the Buildings it appears appropriate and requisite, again to recur to these supplies, more especially so with reference to the remark in paragraph 22, as to their inefficient storage and preservation. The confusion that reigned in the Godowns was doubtless very great, and much to be deprecated. The Malt Liquor Godown being quite full, a quantity of Porter Casks were lying in the same Godown with the Arrack Vats; and both here and in the regular Porter Godown, Casks belonging to the Malt Liquor Contractors were lying together with those of the Commissariat; whilst Vats of Arrack belonging to the Collector of Madras were also in the same Store-room, the servants of all parties necessarily having free access to the

26. The remedy for this state of things the Committee believe to be in an entire change in the system hitherto adopted, and a partial alteration and re-construction of the Store-rooms, as shewn in the accompanying Plan, which, under their directions, Captain Hawkes has obligingly furnished them with.

27. The Committee have ascertained that the number of Vats now maintained, is greatly in excess of the number required; many of them were built upwards of half a century ago, and have long been surplus to the wants of the Department; forty Vats are clearly all that are required, (viz. thirty-five filled and five spare,) an opinion in which the Commissary General coincides; and he also concurs with the Committee in their recommendation that the remainder, with the exception of seven required by the Abkarree Department, and under charge of the Collector of Madras, should be either broken up and sold, or distributed to those stations up-country, which can conveniently receive them.

The forty required by the Commissariat can be stowed in the inner room of the quadrangle of the Arrack Building (as shown in the Plan,) and a space walled off, with a separate entrance, for the seven belonging to the Collector, who will then be solely responsible for his own supply.

28. The empty Arrack Pipes (425) which the Commissariat Department assert to be absolutely requisite for the purpose of sending off, filled, from time to time to out-stations, can be kept in an alley which separates two of the rooms at present taken up with Arrack Vats, but now useless for all purposes. The Committee propose having this space covered in with a light roofing, the Lightning Conductors, which are of an obsolete plan, altered; and Horses erected, all this comes into the plan that, as will be hereafter noticed, has been laid before the Engineer Officer.

29. An important, and comparatively inexpensive, suggestion has been made to the Committee by Captain Hawkes for laying on water, by pipes, to the Arrack Godown from the Custom House, to which latter place it is now conveyed from the Seven Well advantage from this plan

ment that the two wings now occupied by surplus and Buildings standing in the same enclosure, and a fourth wing, with two Store-rooms to be connected with the present main Arrack Store, by arches, pierced through the wall, should henceforth form the Porter Dépôt. The whole of this Dépôt should have rows of Horses to hold two Tiers of Casks, and the floor should be packed with clean laterite gravel.

31. By the above arrangement, it has been accurately ascertained, that there will be ample stowage for 2,800 Hogsheads; and a Godown, named the Dhare, at the back of the Office, and which is at present used for the stowage of Ale and Porter Casks, prior to their examination by the Committee, can be made available for any loads that may be required.

ware, the

vation from damp.

33. The only other Godowns and Buildings, in this range, now to be noticed are those which have hitherto been devoted to Hospital and General Stores; the Distillery Buildings and Cooperage.

34. The Committee do not propose to disturb the arrangements of these. The Stores have, as before noticed, been found in good order, and the Store-rooms well adapted for their preservation; there is however great insufficiency of room; but, if Government be recommended by the Committee the details of the arrangement of the Commissariat Store-rooms in the Granary, will be made.

Buildings should now be taken down, there being no further use for them, and the whole of the material hitherto kept up for working, be sold, or turned to account by the Commissariat Department, as may be deemed expedient. The Buildings do not occupy any considerable space; but, such as it is, it will be thrown into the Cooperage yard, which the Committee consider, with this small addition, will be ample for its diminished operations, which, with proper care and supervision, may be conducted in safety.

36. The Committee have now to offer their observations upon what may be called the Granary range, though no longer to be appropriated to any such purpose as that of storing Grain.

Removal of the Bankshall, there will then remain but two ranges complete in themselves, and separated from each other by a wall along the North Beach; both ranges having free and clear

37

Buildings comprising

now to enter somewhat more into detail regarding them. They are extremely faulty for purposes of storage; and there is insufficient space for the examination of any large quantity of supplies which may, on an emergency, require to be shipped; and the Committee may here mention that, in the course of one of their morning's inspections, they found the largest Godown completely filled with Stores and required for 145 men only, then undergoing examination.

Committee regarding this Building are

be thrown away, the wall which divides off a portion of Store No. 1, (vide Plan) to be thrown away; arrangements to be made for its better ventilation, and for a store-rooms for the stowage of Salt provisions.

and the numerous small rooms which now divide it into fourteen small rooms, to be removed.

39. The Committee have called upon the Engineer Officer of the Division to afford them the assistance of his Department in estimating the expense of the proposed alterations, and Lieutenant Pennycuik, to whom the duty was entrusted, addresses the Committee as follows:—

"I estimate, approximately, that the alterations to the present Arrack Godown, including putting up Horses, and all the work shewn in the Plan, will cost

Commission, the Committee would observe, that they have, at some period of their service, been at the head of the Department, and from the practical experience they have obtained, they are, in their belief, that no Commissariat Store-keeper can will

able a nature as those that at the lowest estimate must be maintained at the Presidency, in their existing confused, and overcrowded state; and if the only remedy to be found appears costly, they fully believe that Government will be more than reimbursed for any outlay, by a large diminution of the departmental charges of various kinds, especially in those which result from the frequent replacement of damaged and unserviceable Stores.

From the Committee on Commissariat Stores, Madras, 26th January 1865; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort Saint George.

In accordance with the Orders of Government, the Committee on Commissariat Stores having carefully inspected the Criminal side of the Grand Jail, has now the honor to forward its Report thereon.

2. Making every allowance for the inconvenience to the Commissariat Department by removing its Stores to a new situation, the Committee is of opinion that the Cells would, with some alteration, be admirably adapted for Store-rooms, while by pulling down several unnecessary walls and useless Buildings, there would be ample space for the erection of any number of additional Sheds or Store-houses, that could possibly be required.

3. By improving the entrance on the North side so as to meet the road immediately in front, Stores could be conveyed straight to the beach, and a tramway would render this a matter of no difficulty.

4. With regard to paragraph 2 of the Commissary General's letter, the Committee would observe that, several partition walls between the Cells should be removed, this would add to their size and compactness, and though the walls are thick and arched, this seems of no consequence if the accommodation be sufficient.

5. With regard to paragraph 3, the Committee did not consider the flooring objectionable, or such as could not be easily remedied.

6. As the objection raised in paragraph 4, appeared of much importance, the Committee carefully considered it. No dampness whatever either in the Cells or court-yards or on the walls or flooring being observable, the Jailor was asked if he could explain why such existed when the Commissary General inspected the place. He stated that, on the morning of Colonel Hill's visit, the Prisoners had been removed, and not being particular as to the quantity of filth they left behind them, it had been necessary to wash out the whole place thoroughly, and it was in an undried state when the Commissary General saw it; this would no doubt justify such a conclusion. The Jailor added that the Cells were particularly dry, and Colonel Boileau has informed one of the Members of the Committee, that, in the various propositions for improvement suggested by the Medical Officers before the arrival of the Salem prisoners, the question of dampness was never raised.

7. With regard to paragraph 6, though Bomb-proof buildings without ventilation, are no doubt such as the Commissary General describes, yet, here the ventilation is so good, that a dense steamy heat cannot exist.

8. The Committee did not consider itself called on to ascertain what alterations would be necessary to make the Jail suitable for a Commissariat Depôt, these would chiefly consist in pulling down and removing, and in the erection of additional Buildings. There is a large piece of ground adjoining the North entrance and belonging to the Jail, which would be of great service, particularly for a Cooperage, should Government consider it advisable to erect new Buildings for the purpose; and there are two Reservoirs, one immediately outside and one inside the walls, both of seven Wells' water, which would be exceedingly convenient for Commissariat purpose.

9. The Committee is unanimously of opinion that the Criminal side of the Grand Jail can be made quite suitable for the reception of Stores, and with alterations and additions, be easily converted into an excellent Commissariat Depôt.

For the Commissariat Office and which, if in their last Report are carried

Referred, with their former letter dated 28th November 1864, to the Commissary General, for early report.

2. Colonel Hill is requested to submit his remarks on the papers in question, prior to his departure for Hyderabad.

28th January 1865.

From the Commissary General, Madras, 31st January 1865, No. 8500; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort Saint George.

For the plans approved by

Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort Saint George.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Report of the Committee on the suitability or otherwise of the Grand Jail as a Commissariat Store, forwarded with your endorsement of the 28th instant.

2. I cannot but treat with the greatest consideration the opinion of a Committee that has so laboriously investigated the whole subject of the Storing of Commissariat Stores, and has throughout the inquiry adopted any plans for the improvement of the Jail which may have occurred to lay before them.

I submit, however, the Report now under consideration, and the objections pointed out in my letter of the 1864. The principal objections were:—

- (1.) The unsuitability of bomb-proof buildings for Stores.
- (2.) The unsuitability of bomb-proof buildings for Stores.
- (3.) The inconvenient means of access to a large number of the rooms, and above all others
- (4.) The unsuitability of the situation of the Jail for shipping and landing Stores.

4. In answer to the objections I made as to the damp and unwholesome look of the place, the Committee remark, that the Jailor explained that the dampness on the occasion of my visit was in consequence of the rooms, &c., having been washed out. In this, however, the Jailor was in error, my visit was paid within a very short time of the departure of the Convicts, and with the exception of one Court-yard, no cleansing had taken place, and of this, I saw most unmistakable proofs.

5. Moreover, an occasional washing would not have given the Court-yard the thick deposit of green vegetation, which I saw, and which was doubtless removed before the present Committee inspected it.

6. I also pointed out the unsuitability of bomb proof Buildings as Store-rooms, and the Committee in the 7th paragraph of their Report endorse this opinion, but state that, as these Cells are well-ventilated, the dense steamy heat cannot exist, they

have, however, apparently overlooked the 7th paragraph of my Report,* in which I pointed out that, although the Cells had hitherto been rendered habitable by removing all doors and windows and substituting iron gratings, still if these are to be converted into Store-rooms, the doors and windows must be re-placed, and all ventilation would be entirely excluded.

7. I have had personal experience of the injury done to Stores by the moist steamy heat invariably generated in bomb proof Buildings, as a case in point, the Jaulnah Stores were of this nature and even after a great expense had been incurred in alterations, the temperature still remained almost unbearable, whilst similar bomb proof Buildings at Cannanore have recently been condemned as quite unsuited for Stores.

8. Neither must it be overlooked that the value of the Stores to be provided for is very great. The Salt-meat is very costly, the Tea is on an average worth two lacs of Rupees, and other Stores in proportion, and it would be manifestly unwise to remove such perishable articles from the present excellent situation to Buildings in no way suited for their preservation.

9. The Committee do not touch on the difficulty of access to most of the Cells, but observe "that by pulling down several unnecessary walls and useless buildings, there would be ample space for the erection of any number of additional Sheds or Store-houses that could possibly be required," but they do not appear to have estimated how much stowage room would remain after the useless portions had been removed, and how many new rooms would have to be erected.

10. If space for the erection of Buildings and a Cooperage is all that is required, this might be obtained in a locality not so entirely unsuited to Commissariat requirement, as is the present Jail.

11. The above objections are, however, of comparatively minor importance, when contrasted with the extreme unsuitability of the situation of the Jail for the special purposes for which the Depôt is required, viz., for the shipping and landing of Stores.

12. This, which is the most important question of all, is not even touched upon by the Committee.

13. A mere Store-house is not all that is required, the chief value of the present Granary is its use as a Depôt for shipping and landing Stores as pointed out in my letter, No. 153, dated 10th Aug.

I would be the Stores to

as at

small For

for a few the large amount of Stores inland situation like the imagined.

19. If the Committee's opinion (which appears to have been given solely with reference to the suitability of the Jail as a Store and not as a Depôt for landing and shipping Stores) is accepted and carried out, the Commissariat would be transferred from a situation in which it can efficiently carry on its duties, and which at a cost of 15,000 Rupees could be made thoroughly serviceable, to a spot removed half a mile from the beach to godowns in my opinion utterly unsuited for Stores, and for the repair and enlargement of which a sum of money, far greater than that mentioned above would have to be expended.

4, 8th

careful consideration of the

ed in the foregoing papers, and Jail

2. The Department of Public Works will issue the necessary instructions for the preparation, in communication with the Commissary General, of Plans and Estimates for the work in question, including provision for the entrance on the North side, as proposed in paragraph 3 of the Committee's Report, as well as for the Tramway leading to the Beach.

3. It being desirable that the Granary premises should be vacated as early as possible the provision of separate accommodation for the Prisoners on the Civil side in view to the early consideration in the Judicial Department. as early as practicable. Meanwhile, in submitting the Plans and Estimates called for, the probable date at which the Criminal portion of the Grand Jail can be taken over will be the Granary Buildings

report is reported ready for occupation.

of the Granary having been thus disposed of, the Government will consider the earlier Report of the Committee, dated 28th November 1864, above recorded.

5. In paragraph 24 of their Report, the Committee recommend that the Bankshalls should be vacated by the Commissariat Department, as soon as the new Depôt is ready, or earlier, if practicable. The Governor in Council approves of this recommendation which will be carried into effect accordingly.

Medical 1873-Sept.
Proceedings of Cork in the
Military Sept. 18934

18 March
S. C. 40 117
Dated 21st } March 1863.
Dec 13th }

29/11/2015

Ac. 656

forming correspondence
with the report of the Special
Committee on the Feas-
-ibility of converting
the Land Bail into
a Municipal Street
House —

134

Spate Cooper

a
a
tl
R
fr
ol

th
in
m
fr
nc

th
pe

To

Adjutant General,
Barrack Master,

Exd. W. Regel.

12
Judicial Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following
proceedings of Government in
Military Department,
4th March 1865. V. 729

Order issued 18 March 1865. V. 729

In the proceedings
of Government under date the
13th September last
the Commissioner of Police and
Superintending Engineer were
directed to submit a plan and
a
to the
site. The nature of the
Superintending Engineer was
now recalled to the
subject

subject in order that the plan
and estimate may be submitted
with as little delay as possible

by

To the Public Works Department
Commissioner of Police

1865. Department.

No.

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT.

List

27th Aug 69.
Letter of 26th Aug 69.
27th Aug 69.
Dated 27th Aug 69.

Directing the Commission
of Public and Department
ing Engineer to submit
a Plan & Estimate for
a small fuel station
fuel.