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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Cons. 29.10.57

G.O. No. 1978 Press / Mis.

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Dated 21—10 19(5.5)

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 6. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer, dated 4th September 1857, No. 3480.

Read again letter from the Superintending Engineer, Southern Circle, dated 31st July, and recorded in Diary of the 6th August 1857.

Read also letter from E. B. THOMAS, Esquire, Collector of Coimbatore; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated 24th August 1857, No. 426.

SIR,

1. With reference to Extract from your Proceedings and its accompaniment dated 6th Instant No. 2688, I have the honor to forward copy of a letter from the Sub Collector of this District, from which it will appear, that the new Cutcherry at Caroor, (referred to in Major Lawford's letter) being inadequate both for the records and the Sheristadar's Cutcherry, has not as yet been so used.

2. On reference to the records of this office, it appears that the new Cutcherry above alluded to, was built at the recommendation of Major (now Colonel) F. Cotton; vide his Diary for August 1850, dated in October of that year, and with the concurrence of the late Sub Collector Mr. Mo'le.

3. With regard to the site of the new choultry, it appears from the record, that it was first fixed by Captain Francis on the bank of the Amravutty river, at Caroor, but inconsequence, as he said, of the same being too close to the spot intended for the construction of a bridge over the above river, Kistniah late Marahmut Superintendent now Assistant Supervisor in this District, determined the present site on which the Chuttrum is now built, without any reference to this office, on his own authority, so far as I can learn.

Letter from M. J. WALHOUSE, Esq., Sub Collector of Coimbatore; to E. B. THOMAS, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, dated 17th August 1857.

SIR,

1. In reply to your letter of the 11th Instant containing enclosures from the Superintending and District Engineers correspondence respecting the new Cutcherry at Caroor and requesting to know why up to this time it has never been used, I have the honor to state that the new Cutcherry containing 3 rooms of limited dimensions, is totally inadequate to receive the records of the Sub Division, and in fact does not afford room for more than the Sub Division Sheristadar, Goomastahs and writers actually engaged in business.

2. Hence the records have been necessarily retained in the old Cutcherry under the Sub Collector's residence, and the constant reference to them daily occurring in the course of business would occasion such great inconvenience, were they kept in one place and the business transacted in another at a distance, that the Sheristadar's Establishment has preferred remaining in the old Cutcherry. To this may be added that were the records kept in the old Cutcherry, and the various appertenances of the Sheristadars office kept in the new, two guards of Peons would be required one for each, who could ill be spared. For these reasons the new Cutcherry has not hitherto been used.

Letter from Major E. LAWFORD, Superintending Engineer, Southern Circle; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated 31st July 1857, No. 188.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward for your information copies of correspondence between myself and the District Engineer of Coimbatore relative to certain buildings at Caroor, which I inspected on my recent tour.

Letter from Major E. LAWFORD, Superintending Engineer, Southern Circle; to Captain P. M. FRANCIS, District Engineer of Coimbatore, dated Camp Caroor, 4th March 1857, No. 84.

SIR,

I have the honor to request you will be good enough to inform me whether any executive Officer of your Department is posted to the Caroor Division, and if so who the Officer is, and which is his fixed station. As it appears absolutely necessary that this important part of your District should receive great attention.

I also beg the favor of your stating on whose recommendation the new Cutcherry near the Sub Collector's residence was built, and whether it is true as the Tahsildar informs me that the building has never been used for the purpose it was intended for though completed 18 months ago.

Lastly I should be glad to know on whose suggestion and for what reasons the new Choultry costing 3.500 Rupees was erected between the Traveller's Bungalow and the Sub Collector's residence on a spot offering no convenience for native Travellers, but where it is prejudicial to the comfort of Europeans. The Caroor Bungalow has always been considered objectionably placed (almost as much so as those at Ghooty, and Salem, formerly were), but this addition of a most extensive Choultry only 150 paces from its western side renders it in my opinion desirable to draw the attention of Government to the danger Traveller's incur from epidemic disease, and great responsibility rests with those who determined the site of the new Choultry.

Letter from Captain P. M. FRANCIS, District Engineer of Coimbatore; to Major E. LAWFORD, Superintending Engineer Southern Circle, dated Ootacamund, 30th April 1857, No. 54.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 121, dated 27th April 1857, and regret to inform you that Captain Francis is suffering from a severe attack of fever which incapacitates for the present for the discharge of business. As soon as he is able to attend the office the information required shall be supplied.

2. Sub Engineer Reid a Subordinate Officer of great experience is in charge of the Caroor Sub Division.

Letter from Captain P. M. FRANCIS, District Engineer of Coimbatore; to Major E. LAWFORD, Superintending Engineer, Southern Circle, dated Ootacamund, 1st May 1857, No. 58.

SIR,

I have the honor to inform you that the Sub Collector's Cutcherry alluded to in your letter No. 84, dated 4th March was built before I came into this District, and that I am not aware at whose recommendation it was built I believe that it has never been used for the purpose for which it was designed.

2. With regard to the Chuttrum mentioned in the same letter, I visited the site on the river bank originally selected and entirely approved of it, why it was afterwards changed I do not know.

Resolved to submit for the information of Government, the correspondence referred to in the foregoing letter from the Collector of Coimbatore, No. 426, dated 24th August 1857.

The Chief Engineer observes that if the Cutcherry referred to is not required by the Revenue Officers, it may, with advantage be transferred to the D. P. W. Caroor being the Head Quarters of one Executive range.

2. With regard to the Choultry the Chief Engineer would represent the heavy responsibility incurred by the late Marahmut Superintendent (now Assistant Supervisor) Kistniah, in altering the site fixed by Captain Francis, and suggests that the opinion of the local Officers be taken as to the expediency of re-building the Traveller's Bungalow on a site less exposed to the influence of epidemic Cholera than that on which it now stands, a similar reason having determined the Government to re-build the Bungalows at Salem and Ghooty.

(Signed) C. E. FABER, Colonel,
Chief Engineer.

No. 7. ORDER THEREON, No. 1978; dated 21st October 1857.

With these Proceedings, the Chief Engineer submits certain correspondence, in which the Superintending Engineer Southern Circle brings to notice, that the Cutcherry built for the Sub Collector of Coimbatore at Caroor is not being used, and that the Choultry at that place has been built at a spot which, while it offers no convenience to native travellers must prove prejudicial to the comfort of the Europeans who resort to the Public Bungalow.

2. The Collector submits copy of a letter from his Sub Collector, explaining that the new Cutcherry being too small for the records and the Sheristadar's Cutcherry, has been left unoccupied. Mr. Thomas observes that the building was built at Major (now Lieutenant Colonel) F. Cotton's recommendation, in which the late Sub Collector Mr. Molle acquiesced. In regard to the Choultry, the Collector remarks that the site for it was originally fixed by Captain Francis on the river bank, but that it was afterwards altered to its present situation by Kistniah, late Marahmut Superintendent and now Assistant Supervisor in Coimbatore, without reference to him on account of the proximity of the site originally selected to the place where a bridge was to be erected.

3. The Chief Engineer recommends that the Cutcherry in question, if not required by the Sub Collector, may be made over to the Public Works Department, as Caroor is the Head Quarters of an executive range, and he suggests that the opinion of the local Officers may be taken as to the expediency of rebuilding the Travellers Bungalow.

4. As the new Cutcherry appears to have been built with the concurrence of the then Sub Collector, the Government cannot consent to its condemnation without further explanation. Colonel Faber will be good enough to submit a plan of the building, together with plans of Public Buildings, which may lately have been provided for the office accommodation of the Sub Collectors of two or three other Districts, together with the correspondence which may have passed regarding the construction of the Cutcherry in question. The old Cutcherry, now in use, appears to be a portion of the Sub Collector's residence; information should be afforded as to whether it is a Public or private Building, if the former, on what terms Mr. Walhouse occupies it, and if the latter, what allowance is paid to him for the accommodation afforded to his office. A sketch plan of the accommodation at present allowed to the office will also be useful.

5. Mr. Walhouse states that his Sheristadar takes exception to removing to the new building. Mr. Thomas will be good enough to report whether the present Sheristadar was in office when the new Cutcherry was planned, and if he was consulted about it. Mr. Thomas will further report at what stage of the progress of the new Building Mr. Walhouse joined the District, and if it should have been at an early stage, he should be called upon to explain why he did not point out the defects in the new building at the time.

6. As regards the Choultry, Kistniah should be called upon to explain under what circumstances he thought proper to change the site which had been approved by the District Engineer, and why he did not obtain the permission of the Collector or the Engineer, to the alteration, before he actually commenced the construction of the new building. The Collector will be requested, through the Board of Revenue to report his opinion as to the expediency of reconstructing the Public Bungalow at Caroor, in a locality less liable than the pre-

sent locality, to the objection stated by Major Lawford to exist to the present structure. The Government will be glad if Mr. Thomas can supply a statement of any known facts regarding the prevalence of disease at the locality of the present Bungalow during the last three years.

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Public Works Dept. 5

No. 1978

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation

Under date the 21st October 1857.

Read the following

Extract from the Proceedings

of the Chief Engineer.

Store enter 4 Sept 1857 No 31480

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With Reference Proceedings the Chief Engineer submits certain correspondence in which the Superintending Engineer Southern Circle brings to notice, that the Artillery build for the Sub Collector of Coimbatore at Auroor is not

not being used, and that the Choultry at that place, has been built at a spot which, while it offers no convenience to native Travellers must prove prejudicial to the comfort of the Europeans who resort to the Public Bungalow.

2. The Collector submits Copy of a letter from his Sub Collector, explaining that the new Cutcherry being too small for the records and the Sheristadars Cutcherry, has been left unoccupied. Mr. Thomas observes that the building was built at

Major

7

Major Lt. now Lieut. Colonel J. Cotton's recommendation, in which the late Sub Collector, Mr. Molle, acquiesced. In regard to the Choultry, the Collector remarks that the site for it was originally fixed by Captain Frazer on the river bank but that it was afterwards altered to its present situation by Sheshiah, late Maramut Superintendent and now Assistant Superviser in Combatore, without reference to

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limit, on account of the proximity of the site originally selected to the place where a bridge was to be erected.

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may have passed regarding the construction of the Cutchery in question. The old Cutchery, now in use, appears to be a portion of the Sub Collector's residence; information should be afforded as to whether it is a Public or private Building, if the former, on what terms Mr Thalhouse occupies it, and if the latter, what allowance is paid to him for the accommodation afforded to his Office. A sketch plan of the accommodation at present allowed to the Office will also

be useful.

5 Mr Walhouse states that his Serishtadar entertains objection to removing to the new Building. Mr Thomas will be good enough to report whether the present Serishtadar was in Office when the new Cutchery was planned, and if he was consulted about it. Mr Thomas will further report at what stage of the progress of the new Building Mr Walhouse joined the District, and if it should have been at an early

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of the new Building.-

The

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Board of Revenue,
to report his opinion
as to the expediency
of re-constructing
the Public Bungalow
at Carwar, in a
locality less liable
than the present
locality, to the objection
stated by Major
Lawford to exist to
the present structure.
The Government will
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can supply a state-
-ment of any known
facts regarding the
prevalence of disease
at the locality of

the

the present Bungalows
during the Court Hired
years.

I Copies to the Chief Engr. Retd 5. Enc.
Cipher 22
3 — Bd of Rev.

Public Works 1857 Depts.
Dt. to Cons. 29th October.

No 1978.

Extract Minr. of Cons.
Dt 21st October 1857.
Extract from Cons 29th Dec 57
No 25 Malicious 2 Feb

Passing orders in regard
to the new Choultry and
Cutcherry at Caroor in the
Coimbatore District.

No 647.

C15 Cutcherry 19th