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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Cons. 21.7.57

G.O. No. 1366 Press Mis.

11-12

Dated 16—7— 1857

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 11. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer, dated 9th July 1857, No. 1899.

Read the following letter from E. B. THOMAS, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated Ootacamund, 22nd June 1857, No. 306.

SIR,

In acknowledging receipt of the Extract Minutes of Consultation No. 532 of 24th March 1857, from your office, I would beg with all deference to offer a few brief remarks, 'ere so costly and important an undertaking is commenced, as a Central Prison for all the European Convicts of India.

2. My duty is only to assist in selecting an eligible site for the Central European Jail, *on* the Neilgherries. But before such site is irrevocably decided on, I would venture to suggest *Bangalore*, as a better locality than these Hills; probably more healthy, cheaper and safer to Guard. The necessary Buildings, both in labour and materials, here, will cost at least double what they would at Bangalore, supplies of all kinds are double in price on the Neilgherries, fuel, absolutely necessary here, the same the lodging and subsistence of the Europeans necessary as guards, will be also doubly costly.

3. At Bangalore the European Prisoners would be near a large Military Cantonment always at hand to quell an outbreak, outdoor labour and exercise as practicable; perhaps more so than on the Neilgherries, especially in the 2 monsoons. I think there can be little doubt, that, all these points duly weighed, double the number of European Convicts could be housed, subsisted, worked, and guarded for the same sum at Bangalore, as on the Hills. I have therefore deemed it my duty to bring these facts to the notice of Government before the Central Prison is commenced.

Resolved that a copy of the foregoing letter, No. 306 dated 22nd June 1857, from the Collector of Coimbatore, suggesting Bangalore as a better locality than the Neilgherry Hills for the construction of a European Jail, be submitted to Government, and to observe that the Chief Engineer concurs in opinion with Mr. Thomas.

2. Resolved also that a copy of the above letter and Proceedings be forwarded to the Inspector of Prisons.

(True Extract.)

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

No. 12. ORDER THEREON, No. 1366; dated 16th July 1857.

Ordered to be communicated to the Judicial Department for consideration.

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

No 1899

Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer in the Department of Public Works Fort St George
Under date the 9th July 1857

Read the following letter
No 305

To

Colonel G. T. Taber
Chief Engineer D.P.W.
Fort St George

Sir,

I acknowledge receipt of the Extract Minutes of Consultation No 632 of 24th March 1857, from your Office, & would beg with all deference to offer a few brief Remarks, ere so costly and important an undertaking is commenced, as a Central Prison for all the European Convicts of India.—

2. My duty is only to assist in selecting an eligible site for the Central Europe Jail, on the Neilgherries. But before such site is irrevocably decided on, I would venture to suggest Bangalore, as a better locality than these Hills; probably more healthy, cheaper and safer to guard. The necessary Buildings

Buildings, both in labour and materials, here, will cost at least double what they would at Bangalore. Supplies of all kinds are double in price on the Neilgherries. Fuel, absolutely necessary here, the same- the lodging and subsistence of the European, necessary as guards, will be also doubly costly.

3. At Bangalore, the European Prisoners would be near a large Military Cantonment always at hand to quell any outbreak- outdoor labour and exercise as practicable, perhaps more so than on the Neilgherries, especially in the 2 Monsoons. I think there can be little doubt, that all these points duly weighed, double the number of European Convicts could be housed, subsisted, worked, and guarded for the same sum at Bangalore, as on the Hills. I have therefore deemed it my duty to bring these facts to the notice of Government before the Central Prison is commenced.-

Coimbatore
Collrs Office Cotacamund
22d June 1857.

I have &c
Sd/ C. B. Thomas
Collr
Nilgiris

Resolved that a Copy of the foregoing letter, No 306 dated 22d June 1857 from the Collector of Coimbatore, suggesting Bangalore as a better locality than the Neilgherry Hills for the Construction of a European Jail, be submitted to Govt, and to observe that the Chief Engineer concurs in opinion with Mr Thomas.

2. Resolved also that a Copy of the above letter and Proceedings be forwarded to the Inspector of Prisons

/True Extract/

A. D. Lindsay Capt
Chief Engr

To The Secretary to Govt
P. W. D.

Compd JSL

Comm 24th March 57 No 76.

Pub: Works 1857 Depart.
Dto Comm 21st July
No 1394
Extract from the Proc of the Chief Engineer Dr
to the Govr in Council

Dated 9th
Read 10th July 1857
From Sub. Depart. 30th July
Ct No 1544 inc 11 Aug
No 1899

Submits, with his opinion, Copy of a letter from the Collr of Cuttack suggesting Bungalow &c. &c. &c. Letter locality shows the Neighbourhood Hills for the construction of a temple for —
No 1366. 16th July
Will consider

No 1366

Ordered to be communicated to the Judicial Department for consideration

WG

Fort Saint George
16th July 1857 —

Copies to the Sub. Dept. Dispr. Dijr. 17