

16-7-37
1-52400-22-11-37

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.

Press
Mis.

15-7-37
Dated

18-7-37

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort St. George, Public Works Consultation of 26th January 1858.

No. 75. Read the following Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Judicial Department, dated 9th January 1858, No. 39.

Read the following letter from J. ROHDE, Esq., Inspector of Prisons; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George, dated Ootacamund, 11th December 1857, No. 524.

SIR,

In reference to the remark in para. 1 of the Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, 26th November 1857, quoting my statement that the Civil and Military buildings which together with the Jail occupy the Fort of Tellicherry and to Mr. Robinson's remarks on the value of the *Fort Itself*, I have the honor to state that I entirely concur in Mr. Robinson's views of the inexpediency of establishing *large* Jails at Treasury Stations and in Colonel Thompson's desire to reserve strong-holds.

2. The Government will remember that I myself pointed out before the present crisis occurred the importance of providing some fortified building in Treasury Stations, the Civil and Military buildings in the Fort are intrinsically of little value and I think my report very fairly represented the true state of the case and by no means encouraged the Government to the adoption of the site as that of a *large* Jail; on the contrary I spoke of the buildings as ill-suited to my purpose; and of the inexpediency continuing the system under which prisoners, Sepoys and strangers mingled together promiscuously; as a temporary resource to meet an existing pressure, I said the whole Fort might be converted into an indifferent Jail.

3. I consider it due to myself to state this as the wording of the Government remarks imply, that I describe the building as of little value in a Military point of view.

4. Cannanore will of course, with reference to the view the Government now express, be the site of the central Prison for the west Coast, and it will be desirable that the Government orders to prepare a plan and estimate for that building should be given.

5. I would suggest that if the Government approve this suggestion, a large body of Convicts be removed to that station to prepare the ground and cut laterite for the building in anticipation of sanction.

1. In the above letter the Inspector of Prisons explains with reference to para. 1 of Extract Minutes of Consultation 26th November last, that he did not intend to convey the idea that the Tellicherry Fort buildings were of little value in a Military point of view, or that the site was suited to the purposes of a large Jail. The Government did not understand the Inspector's observations on the buildings within the Fort implying more than that they were intrinsically of little value as public offices or as having reference to the importance of the site, considered in a Military point of view, as being within the wall of a Fort.

2. Tellicherry, it is remarked, was one of the Stations proposed by Mr. Rohde in his report dated 26th April* 1856, for a central Jail, but the Government are clear-

* Read "Increased accommodation and central Prisons" paras. 6 and 7. Cannanore. The preparation of plans and estimates for all the central Jails were ordered in Extract Minutes Consultation, 24th June 1857, No. 719, para. 3; but it was left to be hereafter decided, on financial and other grounds, whether the construction of these buildings should be commenced at once or at what intervals. It will now be intimated to the Public Works Department that the central Jail for the western Coast will be at Cannanore and not at Tellicherry.

The Government cannot accede to Mr. Rohde's suggestion, para. 5, for the removal of a body of Convicts to the station, at least until it be proposed by the Engineers after the plans and estimates have been sent in.

(True Extract and Copy.)

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,

Chief Secretary.

Fort St. George, Public Works Consultation of 26th January 1858.

No. 76.

ORDER THEREON, No. 138; dated 26th January 1858.

Ordered to be communicated to the Chief Engineer with reference to Extract Minutes Consultation 8th July 1857, No. 1313.

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

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

No. 39.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation under date the 9th January 1858.

Read the following letter from J. ROHDE, Esq., Inspector of Prisons; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George, dated Ootacamund, 11th December 1857, No. 524.

SIR,

In reference to the remark in para. 1 of the Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, 26th November 1857, quoting my statement that the Civil and Military buildings which together with the Jail occupy the Fort of Tellicherry and to Mr. Robinson's remarks on the value of the Fort itself, I have the honor to state that I entirely concur in Mr. Robinson's views of the inexpediency of establishing large Jails at Treasury Stations and in Colonel Thompson's desire to reserve strong-holds.

2. The Government will remember that I myself pointed out before the present crisis occurred the importance of providing some fortified building in Treasury Stations, the Civil and Military buildings in the Fort are intrinsically of little value and I think my report very fairly represented the true state of the case and by no means encouraged the Government to the adoption of the site as that of a large Jail; on the contrary I spoke of the buildings as ill-suited to my purpose; and of the inexpediency continuing the system under which prisoners, Sepoys and strangers mingled together promiscuously; as a temporary resource to meet an existing pressure, I said the whole Fort might be converted into an indifferent Jail.

3. I consider it due to myself to state this as the wording of the Government remarks imply, that I describe the building as of little value in a Military point of view.

4. Cannanore will of course, with reference to the view the Government now express, be the site of the central Prison for the west Coast, and it will be desirable that the Government orders to prepare a plan and estimate for that building should be given.

5. I would suggest that if the Government approve this suggestion, a large body of Convicts be removed to that station to prepare the ground and cut laterite for the building in anticipation of sanction.

(Signed) J. ROHDE,
Inspector of Prisons.

1.: In the above letter the Inspector of Prisons explains with reference to para. 1 of Extract Minutes of Consultation 26th November last, that he did not intend to convey the idea that the Tellicherry Fort buildings were of little value in a Military point of view, or that the site was suited to the purposes of a large Jail. The Government did not understand the Inspector's observations on the buildings within the Fort implying more than that they were intrinsically of little value as public offices or as having reference to the importance of the site, considered in a Military point of view, as being within the wall of a Fort.

2. Tellicherry, it is remarked, was one of the Stations proposed by Mr. Rohde in his report dated 26th April* 1856, for a central Jail, but the Government are clearly of opinion, that it should, as he now suggests, be transferred to Cannanore. The preparation of plans and estimates for all the central Jails were ordered in Extract Minutes Consultation, 24th June 1857, No. 719, para. 3; but it was left to be hereafter decided, on financial and other grounds, whether the construction of these buildings should be commenced at once or at what intervals. It will now be intimated to the Public Works Department that the central Jail for the western Coast will be at Cannanore and not at Tellicherry.

The Government cannot accede to Mr. Rohde's suggestion, para. 5, for the removal of a body of Convicts to the station, at least until it be proposed by the Engineers after the plans and estimates have been sent in.

(True Extract and Copy.)

[Signature]
Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector of Prisons.
,, Public Works Department.

Ed. F. Cartledge.

Publ. by
1731 1858 29th

10:20⁰⁰ June 27
Kodak

Exempt from the claims
of our in the Christian
Church.

October 2 - January

1899

S. A. C. J. C. J. C. J. C.

Thos. W. Sears
26th January 1898

ordered to be commu-
nicated to the Chief Engineer with
reference to the above Genl. S.
July 1857 - H. 1313-
H. 1314

167382

103

Pl^d to the Cong. Expt. Dec. 1837

Interesting? that
the Central said for the
other local, will be at
normal and not at
dickering? -

No 75.476.

No. 138-2614. Aug 11 1858.

William Gardner