1. Number of pages 6
2. Date of receipt 28-7-57
M.R.O. 11-32,400-12-11-56

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

From 28-7-57

G.O. No. 1422 Press Mis.

37/38 Dated 24-7- 1857

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 28th July 1857.

No. 37. Read the following Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Ecclesiastical Department, dated 6th July 1857, No. 277.

Read the following letter from A. HALL, Esq., Collector of South Arcot; to E. MALTBY, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Collector's Cutcherry, Cuddalore, 18th June 1857, No. 339.

SIR,

Adverting to a letter from this Office, No. 362, dated 13th September 1853, addressed to the Chief Secretary to Government, on the subject of a site for the proposed new Church to be built at this Station, under the sanction of the Honorable the Court of Directors, contained in Extract from their letter, dated 2nd March, No. 3 of 1853, communicated by Extract* from Minutes of Consultation, dated 29th April 1853; I have the honor to bring to notice that all difficulty in regard to securing a piece of Ground, whereon to erect such an edifice, has been removed, inasmuch as there is now a long tract of reclaimed land available at the entrance of old Town on the South side of the Bandipolliem stream, on which a Church could be placed in a very good position; while if it was deemed more desirable to have such a Building nearer to Munjacoopum, where the Civil Authorities reside, an eligible site might be acquired by applying the provisions of Act VI. of 1857.

* No. 121.

2. Under these circumstances, I beg respectfully to recommend, that the Government should be pleased to issue orders for measures to be taken to supply the Protestant community of this place with a Government Church.

3. It appears to me to be a question whether, as the European Depôt is in course of being abolished, under the orders of Government§, it would not be a reasonable arrangement to put the Church at Munjacoopum; but I must observe that besides the Pensioners, there will always I think be some Protestant families residing at old Town, who would not be able, from want of conveyances, to come so far as Munjacoopum to Church.

§ 18th November 1854.

4. The distance between Munjacoopum and old Town is three miles, while those persons who reside near Fort Saint David, are upwards of four miles, from old Town by the Road.

5. The convenience of the majority of the European residents would undoubtedly be best consulted by having a Church at Munjacoopum, but this arrangement would render it almost impossible for persons residing at old Town to attend, unless they happen to have conveyances.

6. My own opinion is that upon the whole it will be best to build a moderately sized Church near the old Town, on the piece of land which has been reclaimed by the late Town improvements.

7. This Ground is without question Government property, so that no person would have cause to complain of his land having been taken for the purpose, and the site would be quite as accessible both by land and water as the Mission Church is, where service is now performed.

In his letter to the Venerable the Archdeacon of 31st August 1847, the Chaplain of Cuddalore suggested that, in lieu of renting the Church belonging to the Gospel Society at that Station, a Place of Worship, capable of holding 350 persons, should be erected about a Mile to the North of the Mission building.

Despatch, 19th July, No. 5 of 1848.

Extract Minutes Consultation 28th September 1848, No. 294, p. 5.

2. The Honorable Court, to whom a reference on the subject was made, sanctioned the construction of a Church at a moderate expense. The Military Board were accordingly required to submit a Plan and Estimate of a building, but none was sent in, as the site selected by the Chaplain was objected to on account of its immediate proximity to a swamp which was flooded during the Monsoon;—no more eligible spot was then procurable, and the Government saw no alternative but to continue to occupy the Mission building:—as, however, the Honorable Court were desirous to disconnect the Government

Extract Minutes Consultation 11th December 1857, No. 267.

from Missionary Churches, instructions were given for the subject to be again brought forward where any Ground free from objection might become available for the purpose in view.

Letter dated 13th September 1853, No. 267.

3. Subsequently, the Collector of South Arcot on his attention being recalled to the subject, reported his inability to obtain a suitable site for the construction of a Church in the vicinity of the Town of Cuddalore.

4. But that authority now reports that difficulty no longer exists, as a suitable site is afforded by a piece of Ground which has lately been reclaimed at the entrance of old Town, on the South side of the Bandipolliem stream. If it, however, be deemed desirable to have the building nearer to Munjacoopum or new Town where the Civil Authorities reside, the Collector suggests that a suitable site should be taken possession of under Act VI of 1837.

5. After weighing all circumstances connected with the question, the Collector gives it as his opinion that it would be best to build the Church on the reclaimed piece of land at the entrance of the old Town. This arrangement is essential for the poorer part of the congregation who live in old Town and have no carriages, while the residents of new Town will have a shorter distance to travel than at present by nearly three quarters of a mile, when proceeding to attend service.

6. Concurring in this view, the Government resolve to call upon the Chief Engineer to submit, through the Department of Public Works, a Plan and Estimate for the erection of a Church, suited to the requirements of the Station, on the site proposed.

(True Extract and Copy.)

(Signed) E. MALTBY,
Acting Chief Secretary.

No. 38. ORDER THEREON, No. 1422; dated 24th July 1857.

Ordered to be communicated to the Chief Engineer with a request that he will call on the District Engineer of South Arcot to submit a plan and estimate for the erection of a Church on the site referred to in para. 5 of the above Minutes of Consultation.

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

ECCLESIASTICAL DEPARTMENT.

No. 277.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation under date the 6th July 1857.

Read the following letter from A. HALL, Esq., Collector of South Arcot; to E. MALTBY, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Collector's Cutcherry, Cuddalore, 18th June 1857, No. 339.

SIR,

Adverting to a letter from this Office, No. 362, dated 13th September 1853, addressed to the Chief Secretary to Government, on the subject of a site for the proposed new Church to be built at this Station, under the sanction of the Honorable the Court of Directors, contained in Extract from their letter, dated 2nd March, No. 3 of 1853, communicated by Extract* from Minutes of Consultation, dated 29th April 1853; I have the honor to bring to notice that all difficulty in regard to securing a piece of Ground, whereon to erect such an edifice, has been removed, inasmuch as there is now a long tract of reclaimed land available at the entrance of old Town on the South side of the Bandipolliem stream, on which a Church could be placed in a very good position; while if it was deemed more desirable to have such a Building nearer to Munjacoopum, where the Civil Authorities reside, an eligible site might be acquired by applying the provisions of Act VI of 1857.

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2. Under these circumstances, I beg respectfully to recommend, that the Government should be pleased to issue orders for measures to be taken to supply the Protestant community of this place with a Government Church.

3. It appears to me to be a question whether, as the European Depôt is in course of being abolished, under the Orders of Government†, it would not be a reasonable arrangement to put the Church at Munjacoopum; but I must observe that besides the Pensioners, there will always I think be some Protestant families residing at old Town, who would not be able, from want of conveyances, to come so far as Munjacoopum to Church.

† 18*th November* 1854.

4. The distance between Munjacoopum and old Town is three miles, while those persons who reside near Fort Saint David, are upwards of four miles, from old Town by the Road.

5. The convenience of the majority of the European residents would undoubtedly be best consulted by having a Church at Munjacoopum, but this arrangement would render it almost impossible for persons residing at old Town to attend, unless they happen to have conveyances.

6. My own opinion is that upon the whole it will be best to build a moderately sized Church near the old Town, on the piece of land which has been reclaimed by the late Town improvements.

7. This Ground is without question Government property, so that no person would have cause to complain of his land having been taken for the purpose, and the site would be quite as accessible both by land and water as the Mission Church is, where service is now performed.

(Signed) ARTHUR HALL,
Collector.

In his letter to the Venerable the Archdeacon of 31st August 1847, the Chaplain of Cuddalore suggested that, in lieu of renting the Church belonging to the Gospel Society at that Station, a Place of Worship, capable of holding 350 persons, should be erected about a Mile to the North of the Mission building.

Despatch, 19th July, No. 5 of 1848.

Ext. Mins. Cons. 28th Septr. 1848, *No.* 294, *p.* 5.

2. The Honorable Court, to whom a reference on the subject was made, sanctioned the construction of a Church at a moderate expense. The Military Board were accordingly required to submit a Plan and Estimate of a building, but none was sent in, as the site selected by the Chaplain has objected to on account of its immediate proximity to a swamp which was flooded during the Monsoon;—no more eligible spot was then procurable, and the Government saw no alternative but to continue to occupy the Mission building:—as, however, the Honor-

Ext. Mins. Cons. 11th Decr. 1850, *No.* 267.

able Court were desirous to disconnect the Government from Missionary Churches instructions were given for the subject to be again brought forward where any Ground free from objection might become available for the purpose in view.

Letter dated 13th September 1853, No. 267.

3. Subsequently, the Collector of South Arcot, on his attention being recalled to the subject, reported his inability to obtain a suitable site for the construction of a Church in the vicinity of the Town of Cuddalore.

4. But that authority now reports that difficulty no longer exists, as a suitable site is afforded by a piece of Ground which has lately been reclaimed at the entrance of old Town, on the South side of the Bandipolliem stream. If it, however, be deemed desirable to have the building nearer to Munjacoopum or new Town where the Civil Authorities reside, the Collector suggests that a suitable site should be taken possession of under Act VI of 1857.

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6. Concurring in this view, the Government resolve to call upon the Chief Engineer to submit, through the Department of Public Works, a Plan and Estimate for the erection of a Church, suited to the requirements of the Station, on the site proposed.

(True Extract and Copy.)

Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Madras.
" Venerable the Archdeacon of Madras.
" Department Public Works.
" Chief Engineer.
" Collector of South Arcot.

Exd. J. A. Wilson.

Madras Mar. 6 1857 Gen.
Wks. to Govt. 28th July.

No. 1429

Extract from Minutes of Consultation Civil Department.

Dated 6th July 1857.

Read 13th July 1857.

From Chief Engr. 2nd Class Nilgiris
No. 2148 dated 15th June 277

Requesting Govt. sanction to the expenditure of Rupees to the extent of Rupees Estimated for the erection of a Church at Kotagherry in the Nilgiris and Estimate submitted.

No 37. to 38.

Ordered that Wks. Gen. Dept. be requested to move the Right Revd. the Lord Bishop of Madras to favor Govt. with his opinion as to the necessity of the proposed Church at Kotagherry.

Wathen Secy.

No. 1422. 24th July 57.

No. 1422.

Ordered that Wks. Gen. Dept. be requested to move the Right Revd. the Lord Bishop of Madras to favor Govt. with his opinion as to the necessity of the proposed Church at Kotagherry.

Feb. Sd. Geo.
24th July 1857.

9 Copies to the Chief Engr. Disp. 25