M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 6

(2) Date of repair 3-1-44

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 3057 Press Mis.-

404-05

Dated 22 · 12 1862.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 22nd December 1862.

No. 404. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Department, dated 10th December 1862, No. 1,440 :—

Requesting that orders may be issued for the immediate preparation of a plan and estimate for the erection of a new Chemical Laboratory in communication with the Principal Inspector General Medical Department and Principal of the Medical College. } (Vide Public Proceedings, 10th December 1862, Nos. 58 @ 59A.)

No. 405. ORDER THEREON, 22nd December 1862, No. 3,057.

Communicated to the Acting Deputy Chief Engineer, Central Circle, for early attention.

(Signed) W. I. BIRDWOOD, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers :—

From E. B. POWELL, Esq., Acting Director of Public Instruction ; to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 1st October 1862, No. 1,958.

I have the honor to reply to the Order of Government No. 944, August 9th, 1862, desiring me to ascertain the views of the Principal of the Medical College upon the question of transferring to that institution the Botanical collection at present in the Central Museum, and also upon the propriety of establishing at the College a Museum of Comparative Anatomy.

2. On receipt of the above order I requested the Principal to let me have his own opinion on the above points and also those of the Professors of Anatomy and Botany. I now beg to forward letters* from Messrs. Chipperfield and Montgomery conveying their views, in which, after having discussed the subject under consideration with those gentlemen, the Principal of the College entirely concurs.

* Requested to be returned.

3. It will be seen that Professor Chipperfield thinks it highly desirable that a Museum of Comparative Anatomy should be established at the College, and he points out that from the absence of such a Museum his teaching is deprived of its full measure of efficiency. Mr. Chipperfield remarks that a purely Zoological collection, affording illustrations of the external characters of the various animals, would find its legitimate place at the Central Museum and not at the College ; and he observes that if he required, for illustrating external characters, anything beside the beautiful diagrams now at his command, he could easily arrange for a class-visit to the Central Museum.

4. Professor Chipperfield also points out that the interchange of such Zoological specimens as the College possesses for monstrosities, &c., now deposited at the Central Museum would be for the advantage of both institutions.

5. Dr. Montgomery, after recording his acquiescence in the views put forward by the Professor of Anatomy, advocates strongly the formation of a good Botancial collection at the Medical College. He also takes occasion to recur to his proposal that a Botanical Garden should be laid out ; and he urges that its site should be, not the People's Park, but the ground in the immediate vicinity of the College.

6. Professor Montgomery also dwells at some length upon the extra accommodation that would be required at the College. He suggests that the rooms intended to hold the collections, Anatomical and Botanical, should be so grouped as to form a complete suite : and he remarks that, if the present Chemical Laboratory were given up for the purposes of the Museums, and an extra room built, "abutting on one side of the Materia Medica Museum, and corresponding with the present Pathological Museum," there would be ample space afforded for the various collections.

7. The above arrangement would necessitate a fresh Laboratory to be provided for the Professor of Chemistry ; and this it appears is much wanted, as the present one is not well adapted for its object. Professor Montgomery, with the approval of Professor Mayer, recommends that the Dissecting rooms now in use should be made over to the Professor of Chemistry, as with a few alterations they could be perfectly adapted to the wants of his department. Supposing this measure to be approved, a new set of Dissecting rooms would have to be built ; these should be at some little distance from the main structure, but connected with it by a corridor.

8. Setting aside for the present the proposal regarding a Botanical Garden, which appears to me to be premature, I beg to recommend to the notice of Government the other suggestions of Professors Chipperfield and Montgomery, which as I have already remarked are entirely concurred in by Mr. Shaw. It appears to me that it would be sound policy to complete the Medical College at once, rendering it suitable to carry out the more advanced aims which the anticipated progress of the country renders justifiable ; and that in the end this course would be found more economical, while it would certainly secure a more homogeneous and a more convenient structure than if small additions were to be made from time to time to meet immediately pressing wants.

From ROBERT COLE, Esq., Principal Inspector General, Medical Department, Fort Saint George; to T. PYCROFT, Chief Secretary to Government, Public Department, Fort Saint George, dated 28th October 1862, No. 199.

With reference to Proceedings of Government marginally noted, I have the honor to state for the information of His Excellency the Governor in Council that, in my opinion, there can be no doubt that the transfer to the Medical College of the Botanical collection now deposited at the Madras Central Museum, would be a judicious measure, as it would place the Herbarium under the charge of the Officer specially employed in the cultivation of the science of Botany and occupied in imparting instruction therein; the specimens would therefore be placed in the best custody, and where they would be turned to the most useful account. The use of *Herbaria* in a public Museum, is for travellers and occasional visitors, cultivators of the science of Botany, to have access to a collection which shall aid them in their investigations into the Flora of the country, and the deposit of the specimens in question in the Medical College need not prohibit such students, who are few and rare, from resorting to them, and this I would advise should be specially ordained.

Public Department, 9th August 1862, No. 944.

2. Professor Chipperfield, in his letter to the Principal of the Medical College, dated 29th August, has shown sufficient reasons, I conceive, for acting on the other suggestion contained in para. 6 of the Order of Government above quoted, that of forming a collection of objects of Comparative Anatomy, which would be a most useful adjunct to the means of imparting a knowledge of the science of human Anatomy, and be in itself a most interesting addition to the Museum.

3. The only objection I see to the arrangements above named is that, to accommodate the new collections, additional buildings must be erected on a site already crowded,* which must be more or less prejudicial to the inmates of the adjacent Hospital of the European Regiment; and should the project be carried out, I beg to recommend that every possible care be taken that ventilation be not impeded.

* See letter from the Principal Inspector General Medical Department, No. 27 of 10th February 1862, and Order of Government thereon in the Public Department, of 28th February 1862, No. 272.

ORDER THEREON, 10th December 1862, No. 1,410.

With th[illegible] of the papers above recorded, the Director of Public Instruction forwarded letters from th[illegible] rofessors of Botany and Anatomy, submitting their views, in which the Principal of the Col[illegible]e concurs, in favor of the transfer to that Institution of the Botanical Collection at present in [illegible]ntral Museum and of the formation at the College of a Museum of Comparative Anatomy.

2. Mr. Powell's [illegible]mmendations involve the erection of two additional rooms to provide the requisite accommodation for the two collections. He proposes that the present Chemical Laboratory shall be given up for one of the Museums, that an extra room shall be built abutting on one side of the present Materia Medica Museum, that the present Dissecting rooms shall be given up to the Professor of Chemistry for use as a Laboratory, and that new Dissecting rooms shall be built "at some little distance from the main structure, but connected with it by a cor-"ridor."

3. The Principal Inspector General, Medical Department, has expressed himself favorable to the transfer of the two collections to the Medical College, but urges that in selecting a site for the two rooms every care shall be taken not to impede the ventilation of the Hospital of the European Regiment.

4. His Excellency the Governor in Council considers it desirable that the additional accommodation requisite for the transfer of the collections in question should be provided with as little delay as possible. It is also very necessary that more space should be given to the Professor of Chemistry, and that in the new arrangements provision should be made for the Chemical Lectures being given in the room, used as a Laboratory, so that the Chemical furnaces may be close to the Lecture room.

5. The Governor in Council is disposed to think that the best plan will be to retain the present Dissecting rooms for their present purpose, and to erect a new Chemical Laboratory sufficiently large to admit of its being used also as a Lecture room, the furnaces being placed on one side and the Store room on the other. This room might be built either abutting the present entrance room at the north-east end of the College, or joined by a corridor to the Anatomical Lecture room. In the former case it would not interfere at all, and in the latter case, but little with the ventilation of the European Regimental Hospital. Orders will be issued in the Department of Public Works for the immediate preparation of a Plan and Estimate for the proposed additions. They will be prepared in communication with the Principal Inspector General, Medical Department, and the Principal of the Medical College. The Director of Public Instruction will inform the District Engineer whether the cost can be met from the Educational Building fund for the current official year. If not, he will provide for it in his Estimate for 1863-64.

True Extract.

G. J. Chamberlain
Chief Secretary.

To the Director of Public Instruction,
(with 2 enclosures returned.)
" Principal Inspector General, Medical Department.
" Public Works Department.
" Officer in charge Government Central Museum.

Exd. T. McMoorty.

P.W. 1862 Depart.
Pro: of Lett. for December

No. 3782

Rec. of the Hon. the Public Depart.
Dated 19th Dec. 1862
Received 19 Dec. 1862
No. 1440.

Requesting that orders may be issued for the immediate preparation of a plan and estimate for the erection of a new Chemical Laboratory in communication with the Principal Hospital General Medical Depot and Principal of the Medical College.

No. 3057-2

No. 404-405.

No. 3057

Communicated to the Acting Depart.
by Chief Engineer Central Circle for
early attention.

Sahapunk
22nd Decr 62

13 Copies.

To the Officg Chief Engr C. Circle with 8 Copies of the
Public Wks Despd 23rd.

No 287