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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1574	Press
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Dated	17-6-	1863.

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
17th June 1863.*

No. 409. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Ecclesiastical Department, dated 10th June 1863, No. 136:—

Approving of the proposal of the Superintending Engineer 4th Division to hang the Bell, required for the Saint George's Cathedral, Mount Road, from a plain wooden framing to be erected at the back of the Cathedral, and requesting that orders for the work may at once be issued. (Vide Ecclesiastical Proceedings, 10th June 1863, Nos. 16-17.)

No. 410. ORDER THEREON, 17th June 1863, No. 1,584.

1. Communicated to the Superintending Engineer 4th Division for information and guidance.
2. An Estimate of the cost of the wooden framing should be submitted without delay. The work may in the meantime be proceeded with.

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

ECCLESIASTICAL DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from Captain H. L. PRENDERGAST, R. E., Acting Superintending Engineer 4th Division; to Colonel W. I. BIRDWOOD, R. E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 27th May 1863, No. 344.

I have the honor to submit for the orders of Government a plan for the erection of a Bell Tower in the compound of Saint George's Cathedral, Mount Road, the estimated cost of which is Rupees 5,150.

Enclosures.
1 Letter from Trustees, No. —, dated 26th January 1863.
1 do. do. Venerable the Archdeacon, No. 461, dated 2nd February 1863.
1 do. do. Chief Engineer, No. 5,587, dated 10th February 1863.
1 Plan.

2. The estimate has been prepared on a requisition from the Trustees, who in January last represented that the only Bell now in use

for all purposes, is that belonging to the Clock, which is in imminent danger of being cracked by the constant hammering upon one spot. The Venerable the Archdeacon considers that the necessity for a building suitable for hanging Bells in connection with the Cathedral, is indisputable, and recommends for sanction the plan herewith forwarded, though he is of opinion "that if any permanent Belfry is to be erected it should be like the Campaniles of Italy, that of Saint Mark's at Venice for example, capable of containing a peal of Bells, and forming an ornamental feature." The Trustees, at the same time think that as they have already a Bell, which was re-cast at the Mint some years ago, and is at present lying in the Presidency Executive Engineer's yard, the plan now submitted will answer the purpose. Before, however, submitting the estimate of Rupees 5,150, I would suggest for the consideration of Government, whether it would not be sufficient to hang the Bell from a plain wooden framing, such as at the Fort Church, at the cost of a few hundred Rupees. The three-storied Bell Tower, in front of the entrance Porch, will not improve the appearance of the Cathedral: and the acceptance of the design by the Venerable the Archdeacon, is evidently a forced one; it has accordingly occurred to me that the Bell might be brought into use, within a very short time, at a trifling cost, and be kept out of view at the back of the Cathedral. There would then too be the opportunity still of meeting the Archdeacon's wishes, at some future time, should Government feel at liberty to sanction a larger expenditure.

Vide Proceedings of Government, No. 1,774, dated 24th July 1862.

3. A plan and estimate of Rupees 8,160 for a Belfry to Saint George's Cathedral was submitted to Government in July 1862, but

the execution of the work was ordered to be postponed.

Referred to the Ecclesiastical Department.

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

CHEPAUK,
29th May 1863.

ORDER THEREON; 10th June 1863, No. 136.

The Governor in Council approves of the proposal of the Acting Superintending Engineer 4th Division, to hang the Bell from a plain wooden framing, to be erected at the back of the Cathedral; orders for the work will accordingly be at once issued from the Department Public Works.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Department of Public Works,
(with original enclosures.)

Acting Archdeacon.

Exd. T. McMootry.

