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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 16.63

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Dated 7 — 6 — 1864.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
7th June 1864.*

No. 156. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Revenue Department:—

Referring letter from the Superintendent of Revenue Survey recommending that his Deputy at Tinnevely, be permitted to use a part of the Arsenal at that station as a Survey Office. (Here enter 1st June 1864, No. 936.)

No. 157. ORDER THEREON, 7th June 1864, No. 1,663.

As it is understood from the orders recorded above that the Arsenal in Palamcottah is not now required for the use of the Public Works Department, authority is granted for the transfer of the building to the Deputy Superintendent of Revenue Survey.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Revenue Department.
" Superintending Engineer, 8th Division.
" Controller and Auditor of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
7th April 1864.*

No. 20. Read the following letter from J. SILVER, Esq., Collector of Tinnevely; to the Honorable A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Tinnevely, 26th March 1864, No. 115.

I have the honor to inform you that since addressing you on the 14th instant, I have met the Superintending Engineer, Captain Moberly, who has informed me that the stores at present in the Arsenal in Palamcottah will shortly be sent to Madras, and that building will be vacated. I have also now had a call made upon me, to say if any Government building is available for a Telegraph office in Palamcottah. After consultation with Captain Moberly, I have thought it best to refer the question of space for Government offices in Palamcottah to him, so that we may see how we can best accommodate all parties, for I think much more might be made of buildings, the property of Government in Palamcottah, that is now made. The result I shall duly lay before the Government.

No. 21. ORDER THEREON, 7th April 1864, No. 403.
Communicated to the Revenue Department.
(True Extract.)

A. J. Arbuthnot

Chief Secretary.

To the Revenue Department.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
13th May 1864.*

Read the following papers:—

No. 99. From J. SILVER, Esq., Collector of Tinnevely; to the Honorable A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Tinnevely, 23rd April 1864, No. 160.

In continuation of my letter of the 26th ultimo, I have now the honor to forward, for the information of Government, copy of a letter from the Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, dated the 13th instant, together with three plans prepared by Captain Moberly, showing No. 1, the Post Office compound; No. 2, ground plan of the Post Office; No. 3, ground plans of the Arsenal, and of the Granary, which last named building is now occupied by the Police. Captain Moberly also sent me a plan of the Police station house; but as that building has just been erected for the Police, and will not come under notice in this letter, I do not forward it.

2. The Granary is now used for keeping Police stores, clothing, arms, &c., and should be left with the Police, and it calls for no further notice.

3. Captain Barber, Superintendent of Revenue Survey, has moved his establishment into the Arsenal, a large building, but which will require some alterations to suit it for his establishment, and which can be considered afterwards. The building in which Captain Barber has hitherto held his office, a private house which was rented, was in a dangerous state, and the Superintending Engineer at once made room for him in the Arsenal. I beg to recommend that this building be assigned to the Revenue Survey. I have conversed with Captain Barber on the subject, and he concurs in my recommendation.

4. I have now to speak of the Artillery Barracks at present occupied as a Post Office, and which the Inspecting Postmaster Mr. Gregory, in his letter of 11th December 1863, to the Postmaster General and which has been laid before Government, stated was a building consisting of six rooms, of which three small back verandah rooms were occupied by the Postmaster (a Native) and his family; and in another letter of 2nd January 1864, also to the address of the Postmaster General and laid before Government, Mr. Gregory asserted that the accommodation afforded by this building was not greater than the requirements of the Department.

5. The Government will observe from the letter of the Superintending Engineer now laid before them, and from the plan of the building prepared by Captain Moberly, who personally inspected and had every room measured, that the building contains twelve rooms, besides a front verandah 78×14 feet, an inner front verandah 30×14 feet, and an inner back verandah also 30×14 feet; and that eight rooms were left for the occupation of the Native Postmaster, after deducting the large hall 49½×20 feet for the General Post Office, and two rooms each 18×14 feet, the one for the District Post, and the other for Mr. Gregory's office, besides the small end room in the front verandah.

6. I went over the building myself a few mornings ago, when the Postmaster, referring to the number of rooms, said some of them had been divided off by a former Postmaster. I do not know how this may be, but at any rate there the rooms are, and I am equally at a loss with Captain Moberly to understand Mr. Gregory's assertions. I need but add one word more. The building in question, which is the old Artillery Barracks, afforded accommodation for 19 European Artillery men, some of them being also married men.

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
18th May 1864.*

7. To give up such a large building as this solely for a Post Office, when other Departments of the public service require accommodation, is preposterous. Captain Moberly has recommended that the side rooms marked in his plan from A to A, should be assigned as an office to the Superintendent of Police, but that officer who has inspected them has personally informed me that they will not suit him. I propose therefore they should be assigned to the Telegraph Department, the front room being made into a Signal office, and the two rooms behind it, one 18x20 feet, the other 18x14 feet, along with the smaller back rooms on the same side of the building, being given up to the Assistant in charge, and the two godowns next the gun-sheds, termed in Captain Moberly's letter, the stables, being given to the signallers. The gun-sheds Colonel Kitson has informed me he wishes to reserve for the sick carts.

8. The remainder of the building would then be left for the Post Office, having room for the General Post Office, District Post Office, Inspecting Postmaster's Office, and three small rooms besides, for the accommodation of the Postmaster. It is desirable that the Telegraph Office, and the Post Office, should both be under one roof, which would thus be accomplished, and I believe that the accommodation thus assigned to the Post Office, would be found larger than in almost any other District.

9. Captain Barber has just informed me that as the Acting Superintendent of Police has declined the accommodation offered him, he would prefer having the present Post Office building for his large establishment, consisting of upwards of 60 persons, to the Arsenal, a large portion of which is very open; but I am of opinion that it will be better to have the necessary alterations to suit the Survey Office made in the Arsenal, than to move the Post Office and Telegraph Office there, which would also entail alterations, although the building is far larger than is necessary for these two Departments.

10. I beg to solicit the early orders of Government on this subject, as the Telegraph Department wish to establish their office without delay. Some slight works, as building partition walls, &c., will be required to be executed, and for which the resident Executive Engineer can frame estimates, if the plans I have proposed are sanctioned.

Referred to the Postmaster General for his remarks.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,

Chief Secretary.

30th April 1864.

No. 100. From J. SILVER, Esq., Collector of Tinnevely; to the Honorable A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Trichendoor, 3rd May 1864, No. 166.

Referring to my letter of the 23rd ultimo, I have the honor to report, for the information of Government, that the officer in charge of the Government Telegraph Department in Tuticorin, has again addressed me under date the 29th ultimo, on the subject of accommodation at Palamecottah, informing me that the line will be completed and everything in readiness to open office at Palamecottah about the 15th instant. I therefore solicit the early orders of Government on the subject.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
18th May 1864.*

No. 101. From Lieutenant Colonel A. C. PEARS, Postmaster General; to the Honorable A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Chief Secretary to Government, Public Department, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 11th May 1864, No. 168.

In returning your Docket, dated 30th ultimo, with its original enclosures, I have the honor to state that under the circumstances of the case, I see no objection to the Palamecottah Post Office giving up, for the use of the Telegraph Office, the side rooms marked A A in the Plan No. 2.

2. But it would be absolutely necessary to arrange for a thorough separation of the portions occupied by the Post and Telegraph Offices, and for distinct entries to each by closing the doors and partitioning the verandahs as indicated by me in the plan by blue lines.

3. It, however, appears to me that these objects would be secured with less alterations if, instead of the side portion marked A A, the back portion marked by me in blue, thus x, are assigned to the Telegraph Office.

4. I have called on the Inspecting Postmaster, Mr. Gregory, for explanation regarding his mis-statement of the number of rooms contained by the building in question.

No. 102. ORDER THEREON, 18th May 1864, No. 567.

The Governor in Council directs that the rooms in the building at Palamecottah now used by the Post Office, which have been marked by a cross in blue pencil by the Postmaster General, be assigned to the Telegraph Office.

(True Extract.)

(Signature of J. Arbuthnot)
Chief Secretary.

To the Collector of Tinnevely.

Postmaster General.

Director of Telegraphs, Southern Division, with Plan No. 2.

Ed. J. Tulloch

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
1st June 1864.

No. 5. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel F. J. B. PRIESTLEY, Superintendent of Revenue Survey, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Capeauk, 23rd May 1864, No. 312/13:

SIR,

1. I have the honor to annex the copy of a letter from Captain Barber, Deputy Superintendent of Revenue Survey, Tinnevely, in which he requests that the sanction of Government may be obtained for his occupation of part of the Arsenal at that station as a Survey Office. The building is now occupied by the Survey being in a dangerous state.
2. Captain Barber has more than once brought the state of this building to notice, and endeavoured to obtain accommodation elsewhere, but hitherto without success. I beg therefore strongly to support his application, and trust Government may be pleased to grant the necessary authority.
3. I regret that absence from Madras and severe indisposition have prevented my laying the matter before Government at an earlier date.

Copy of a letter from Captain W. BARBER, Deputy Superintendent, No. 4, Revenue Survey, to Superintendent, dated Palamcottah, 5th April 1864, Nos. 126/23.

1. I have the honor to inform you that in consequence of the dangerous state of the building lately occupied as a Survey Office, I applied to the Collector to know whether he could in any way provide the Survey with a suitable Office. He replied that the District Engineer had received orders to remove to Madras the stores at present in the Arsenal, and that he would communicate with that Officer.
2. The District Engineer immediately removed stores sufficient to leave me place enough to carry on the Office work, as a temporary measure.
3. I have now the honor to request that application may be made to sanction the Arsenal being handed to the Survey permanently as an Office, no other suitable place being available.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) F. J. B. PRIESTLEY, Lieut.-Colonel,
Superintendent of Revenue Survey.

No. 6.

Miscellaneous.

7th April 1864, No. 403.
15th May " " 567.

ORDER THEREON, 1st June 1864, No. 936.

Referred to the Public Works Department together with copies of the Orders in the Public Department noted in the margin. The Government observe that the Collector of Tinnevely recommends in paragraph 3 of his letter, dated 23rd April 1864, No. 160; that the building alluded to in this letter be assigned to the Revenue Survey.

(True Extract.)

Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Public Works Department, with Nos. 403 and 567.
Superintendent of Revenue Survey.
Public Department.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

