M.R.O. 1—77,000—3-6-37.

(1) Number of pages

(2) Date of repair

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Finance DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 3393 Press
Mis.
201-242
Dated 15—5— 1865.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 10th September 1866.

No. 241. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Department :—

Sanctioning the repair of the latrines and well of the Eye Infirmary at a cost of Rs. 969-7-4, and requesting that orders may be issued in the Public Works Department for the execution of the work. } (Here enter 1st September 1866, No. 887.)

No. 242. ORDER THEREON, 10th September 1866, No. 2,890.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 46.

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer of the 4th Division, with a request that he will provide the funds which are required for the execution of the proposed repairs.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division.
,, Controller of Public Works Accounts.
,, Accountant General.
,, Public Department.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
1st September 1866.

No. 5. Read the following letter from the Principal Inspector General, Medical Department, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Fort Saint George, 25th August 1866, No. 317.

I have the honor to forward a letter from the Superintendent of the Eye Infirmary, pointing out that to complete the repairs of the Eye Infirmary a sum of Rupees 3531-14-11 will be required.

No. 66, dated 13th August 1866, and enclosure.

2. The Master of the High Court has sanctioned the expenditure of Rupees 2452-9-7 for such repairs "as devolve upon a Landlord for the preservation of his property," but he has refused to sanction the outlay of Rupees 1079-5-4 upon the improvement of the Latrines, Well, and repairs to the European Bath-room. Dr. Smith asks Government to be pleased to sanction the expenditure of the sum (Rupees 1079-5-4) disallowed by the Master of the High Court.

3. The Eye Infirmary is a rented building, and in all probability will not be required when the new Military Hospital is built, and the whole of the General Hospital given up to the Civil sick.

4. The Latrines for the Native patients would undoubtedly be improved by what Dr. Smith recommends. On visiting those at present in use, two days ago, they were not offensive, but, as they have no roof, some inconvenience must be felt during the monsoon; but the abandoned Latrines, which are roofed, might be used during that time.

5. The floor of the Bath-room used by the European sick is in such a dilapidated state that if the Europeans are to remain in the present building it must be repaired, but as I have an Official Report from the Executive Engineer Presidency that the whole of the General Hospital will be available for the accommodation of patients on the 15th proximo, the European patients will then be accommodated there.

From Surgeon Major G. SMITH, M. D., Superintendent Eye Infirmary, to the Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals, Presidency Division; dated Madras, 13th August 1866, No. 66.

I have the honor to place in your hands, for submission to the Head of the Department, and for ultimate transmission to Government, the appended communication from the Receiver to the Estate of the late C. V. Conniah Chetty, Esq., of which Estate the Eye Infirmary forms a part.

2. The Hospital buildings being generally considerably out of repair, and the roof of the Female Ward being in a dangerous state, I placed myself in communication with the Receiver to the Estate, who sent an European Engineer to report upon the condition of the Hospital and out houses, and to submit an estimate of the expenditure required to place them in thorough repair.

3. The Engineer pronounced the roofs of the Female Ward and of the entrance room to the Female Ward unsafe, and it will be observed, from the estimate sanctioned by the Master of the High Court, that a sum of Rupees 2049-0-6 is to be laid out in re-roofing and otherwise rendering safe the Female Ward.

4. On going over all the buildings of the property, in company with the Engineer, and with the Receiver, other repairs of a necessary kind were resolved upon, and, finally, the Engineer forwarded to the Receiver an estimate of the required alterations, an abstract of which is entered in the margin of the letter now submitted from the Receiver.

5. The alterations in the offices consist of re-roofing the same, of raising somewhat the walls, and of improving the ventilation of the several out buildings. The total sum estimated on this account amounts to Rupees 257-12-8.

6. The Master of the High Court has readily sanctioned the re-roofing of the Female Ward, the repairs of the out offices, &c., and of the thatched Pandall, because such expenditure comes properly within the claims which devolve upon a Landlord for the preservation of his property; but he has objected to sanction the outlay of Rupees 1079-5-4 upon improvements of the Latrines (Rupees 929-2-4), upon repairs to the European Bath-room (Rupees 44-14-0), and to the well, (Rupees 40-5-0), on the ground that these repairs do not come within the scope of a Landlord's obligations to his tenants, but rather involve alterations in existing buildings for the special purposes of the tenant.

7. Under these circumstances, and considering how liberally the Receiver of the Estate and the Master of the High Court have dealt with the question, I am in hopes that, were the state of the case laid before Government, with the recommendation of the Head of the Department that my proposal should be favorably considered, Government would complete the alterations so urgently required by this Hospital, and would sanction the expenditure of Rupees 1079-5-4 for the repair of the Latrines, the Bath-room, and Well.

8. Upwards of two years ago, I called* the attention of the Deputy Inspector General to the most discreditable and offensive state of these Latrines, when reporting on the introduction of the dry earth system, and I indicated the alterations absolutely required to make the privies such as they ought to be, and available alike in wet as in dry weather. In reply† to this, I was informed that the subject of the alterations of the Latrines must remain in abeyance, pending a reference in hand with regard to the retention by Government of the building now occupied as the Eye Infirmary. Two years have elapsed, and the Latrines remain in the same unsatisfactory state. Dry earth arrangements have done much to mitigate the evils of these poisoned Latrines, but they can do nothing to remove the offensive odour of the interior of the Privies, saturated as the brick and chunam work is with the excreta of nearly half a century.

* No. 10, dated 29th March 1864.

† Docket, dated 11th April 1864.

9. Whether it be the ultimate intention of Government to abandon the Eye Infirmary or not, and I trust I may have an opportunity of giving my opinion on this subject before any such change is sanctioned, considerable time must necessarily elapse before the new Hospital proposed to be built can be made ready for occupation. I anticipate that several years may pass over before the new Hospital is ready to receive patients. Under these circumstances, I would ask you to urge earnestly upon Government the necessity of re-constructing the Latrines, of flooring and making moderately comfortable the European Bath-room, and of repairing the Well at which the Native patients perform their ablutions. The requisitions indicated have been restricted to what I regard as absolutely necessary. As the repairs sanctioned by the Master of the High Court are in process of completion, early decision on my suggestions is respectfully requested.

(Countersigned) H. W. PORTEOUS,
Dy. Inspr. Genl. of Hospitals,
Presidency Division.

From the Receiver to the Estate of the late Conniah Chetty, to Surgeon Major G. SMITH, M. D., in charge of the Eye Infirmary; dated Madras, 21st July 1866.

In reply to your letter of the 27th June last, I have the honor to state that the Master of the High Court sanctioned an outlay of Rupees 2452-9-7, out of an Estimate for Rupees 3531-14-11, for the repairs and certain alterations to the Eye Infirmary premises, as particularized in the margin, and I am sorry to say has withheld his sanction for the Latrines of the Male and Female Wards, and repairs to the well and Bath room attached thereto, at the cost of Rupees 1079-5-4, on the ground that these improvements would only be useful for Hospital purposes, and not for private occupants.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Entrance Room to Female Ward..	333	1	0
Female Long Ward...	1715	15	6
Out Offices for Males... ...	214	2	8
Latrines to do.	543	7	0
Well and Platform do. ...	40	5	0
Bath-room for Europeans. ...	44	14	0
Thatched Pandall.	83	0	0
Cook-houses to Female Wards. ...	43	10	0
Latrines for do. ...	385	11	4
Stables.	23	8	0
Coach house.	104	4	5
Total...	3531	14	11

2. I avail myself of this opportunity to observe that the rent realized by the premises is barely adequate—nay, very often fall short of the expenses incurrred in the way of repairs and paying taxes.

3. Under these circumstances, I most respectfully beg you will be so good as to move Government to help me in carrying out the improvement suggested by you, but which the Master of the High Court refuses to sanction for the reasons above stated.

4. I note your remarks about Sundays' work, and will take every step to give effect to your wishes.

No. 6. ORDER THEREON, 1st September 1866, No. 887.

The Governor in Council sanctions the repair of the Latrines and Well of the Eye Infirmary at the estimated outlay of Rupees (969-7-4) nine hundred and sixty-nine, Annas seven, and Pice four, and directs that the requisite orders for the work be issued in the Public Works Department.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Latrines.....	929	2	4
Well, &c.....	40	5	0
Total...	969	7	4

(True Extract).

Secretary to Government.

To the Public Works Department.
" Principal Inspector General, Medical Department,
" with enclosures, returned.

List

Civil Works

No 2890

Forward to the Supt Engineer of the 4th Dist with a request that he will provide the funds which are required for the Execution of the proposed repairs

Fort St George
10th Septr 1865

6 To 55 Cy Ord
4 25 Country Do
3 To 41 Rd
1 To Silk Scarf

Dispd 11th Septr

J. W. 1866 Depte
Pro. of Govt for Legislature
No 3683
Pro. of the Madras Govt
in the Public Depte

Dft 14th } Sept 6/66
Rec'd 7th }
No 887

Sanctioning the
repair of the Latrines
and Well of the Eye
Infirmary at a cost of
Rs. 969-7-4 & requesting
that orders may be
issued in the P.W.Dept
for the execution of
the work.

No 241. 242

Ent. No. 2890 - 10th Sept 66