M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

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(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 607 Press ~~Mis.~~

420-491

Dated 21 — 5 — 1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department.
21st May 1866.

No. 490. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Judicial Department :—

Passing orders on the Nellore Jail Committee's Report. } (Here enter 3rd May 1866, No. 635.)

No. 491. ORDER THEREON, 21st May 1866, No. 1,607.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 66.

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer of the 2nd Division, who will submit a revised estimate, providing for the widening of the solitary cells by four feet. To admit of the immediate commencement of the contemplated improvements to the Nellore Jail, the Government resolve to sanction a grant of Rupees 2,000 from the Reserve under "Civil Buildings," and the amount required to complete the works will be granted on the receipt of the revised estimate now called for.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintending Engineer of the 2nd Division, with Plan and two Estimates.
,, Judicial Department.
,, Controller of Public Works Accounts.
,, Accountant General.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 58. Read the following letter from the Superintending Engineer, 2nd Division, to the Secretary to Government, Department Public Works dated 5th February 1866, No. 144.

With reference to your Memorandum, No. 218, dated 31st October 1865, I have the honor to forward a plan and estimate, amounting to Rupees 3630, for the improvement to the Jail at Nellore, together with the Report of the Committee assembled agreeably to G. O., No. 877, dated 16th June 1865.

1 Abstract Estimate.
1 Detailed do
1 Plan.
1 Committee Report.
4

2. The value of work intended to be executed by convict labor has been deducted from the amount of the estimate.

Report on the alterations and improvements proposed for the Nellore Jail.

The Committee consisting of Major A. Ritherdon, Executive Engineer, and Assistant Surgeon, E. E. Lloyd, Zillah Surgeon and Superintendent of Jail, having in view the opinion expressed by the Inspector General of Jails and the President of the Sanitary Commission, as entered in paragraph 19 of their Report on Jail accommodation, dated 19th April 1865, proceeded to take into consideration the accommodation actually required and the space available. The number of persons entered in the above Report that will be confined is put down at 118, or a fourth of what has been customary; and as it may occasionally happen that twice that number will have to be confined, if only as a temporary measure, it is advisable that there should be ample room, which if the old Jail were removed might not be the case; we therefore beg to suggest that the old Jail be retained and improved as it offers; from being a separate building, the advantage of separating the various classes of prisoners, and the new Jail being sufficient for more than the number expected to be lodged, all fear of mortality from over-crowding will be at an end. The old Jail, it will be seen, can be occupied and made more fit for habitation by the addition of grated windows, ventilators, and ridge ventilation, and the unnecessary partition walls being removed the superficial area available will be fairly occupied.

It is proposed that the new Jail should be set aside for convicted prisoners alone, and the old one used for offices, State prisoners, Civil debtors, Solitary and condemned cells, lunatics, loathsome diseases, convicted female prisoners, and male and female prisoners under trial.

In order to arrange as economically as possible, the old Jail should be retained, a ridge ventilator constructed over all the rooms, all Stores and the Smiths' shop removed to the cooking yard.

The other alterations will be the occupation of a portion of the rice cleaning room for a Solitary cell, removing two walls to give sufficient space for female prisoners, and erecting two palisades to form a yard for them. There will be gates in these railings, which, when the prisoners are locked up for the night, will be opened, and the sentries be able to walk all round between the building and outer wall, which cannot be done at present.

The State prisoners have far more space than they need, and a portion of it may be transferred to Civil Debtors, and another solitary cell. The under-trial prisoners will have, in addition to their present room, that now used as a Smith's shop, and the two rooms will only afford the space that is absolutely necessary. The room now appropriated by lunatics will be kept for loathsome diseases, and the lunatics will be put in a room now used for keeping stores. A Store room on the north side can be turned into an office for the Jailer. The ventilation; of the cells in the new Jail is superior to that of the old one, as the roof has been provided with ridge ventilation; but it is proposed to fix grated windows in lieu of the existing circular holes, closed with little bits of wood crossed, which, although hitherto effective, do not give the appearance of security, and are too small to give proper light and ventilation.

The entrances (north and south) to both Jails are now closed by massive wooden doors, which make the passages close and offensive. To place grated doors would be a great improvement. As

regards the sub-soil drainage, we respectfully bring to notice that the drains leading from the well in the Court-yard only carry off pure water; they are easily inspected, and anything objectionable could be removed; whereas if covered over, any obstruction would probably necessitate the removal of all the covering stones. Their small dimensions would render them, if covered over, more liable to obstruction. The portions of open drain between the Jails and the outer walls used to be very offensive: but the adoption of the dry Conservancy has led to a decided improvement, so much so that we are of opinion that these will remain cleaner if left open than if closed, as the usual morning inspection by the Jail officials will enable them to detect and remedy anything that may appear offensive.

The Hospital is well supplied with doors and windows, but what is much needed is ridge ventilation, and that more air should find its way to the building. A freer circulation would be caused by cutting down portions of the south wall fronting the building and substituting an iron railing, and in order that the security now existing may not be lessened, we propose to connect the Jail with the cooking yard by building two other walls to connect them, removing entirely the north wall of the cooking yard which would give an increased space of 4455 square feet that will be of service when all the prisoners are employed within the walls. A new privy, a shed for dry earth, and Store room should be constructed.

All the above alterations and additions, included in the Estimate now submitted, will tend to improve the comfort and health of those confined, and, if carried out, it is believed that all requirements will be met, and at a lower expenditure, than could be effected by the removal of the old Jail, which would certainly have to be replaced by new buildings.

We have not been able to obtain any ground outside and near the Jail. The only spot now waste is close to the Court House, and the use of poudrette would certainly at times be opposed by the Sessions Judge.

A small garden has been commenced at a corner of the cooking yard, but far too small to be of any practical use.

(Signed) A. RITHERDON, Major,
Acting Executive Engineer.
(,,) E. E. LLOYD,
Zillah Surgeon and Supt. of Jail.

NELLORE,
22*nd January* 1866.

Referred to the Judicial Department.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
16*th February* 1866.

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

Referred to the Inspector General of Jails, for his remarks.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
31*st March* 1866.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary.

No. 59. From the Inspector General of Jails, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 25th April 1866, No. 1070.

I have the honor to return the Report upon the District Jail at Nellore, together with the plan and estimate, forwarded to me on the 2nd instant, and to report that I concur in the recommendations of the Committee which may be recapitulated briefly as follows.

2. *Old Jail.*—It is proposed to improve this by the addition of grated windows and ridge ventilators, and to use it for the reception of the undermentioned classes, which will be sufficiently separated from each other.

Female Convicts,
State Prisoners,
Under trial prisoners,
Debtors,
Lunatics, and
Patients afflicted with loathsome diseases.

In this building will also be placed the condemned and solitary cells.

3. *New Jail.*—In this it is intended to lodge the male convicts. No alterations are required, with the exception of the enlargement of the small circular apertures into grated windows, and the substitution of grated doors, at the northern and southern entrances, for the wooden gates now existing, and which impede the ventilation. I have ascertained that such doors are only required for this building.

4. *Drainage.*—Nothing is required.

5. *Hospital.*—Ridge ventilation is recommended; also the removal of the upper portion of the southern boundary wall, and the substitution of iron railing.

6. *Cooking and Work Yard.*—It is proposed to connect this yard with the general enclosure by building two short walls, as shown in the plan.

7. The only remark I have to make upon these proposals is to suggest that the solitary cells be widened by four feet. The dimensions, according to plan, are 10 feet by 6 which are not sufficient.

8. It has been calculated that so soon as a Central Jail is built for this part of the country, the number of prisoners to be confined in the District Jail will not exceed 118; but some considerable time must elapse before a Central Jail can be completed.

No. 60. ORDER THEREON, 3rd May 1866, No. 685.

The recommendations made by the local Committee are approved, except in regard to the Solitary Cells, which, as remarked by the Inspector General of Jails, should be widened by four feet.

(True Extract).

G. J. Cumberland
Chief Secretary.

To the Public Works Department, with a Plan and two Estimates. √
,, Inspector General of Jails.

Exd. R. H. Lee.

P.W. 1866 Dep.
Pro. of Gov.t for May
No. 1951

Pro: Madras Gov.t
Jud.l Dep.t

Dated 3d } May 1866
Rec.d 9th }

No 685

Enc: 1 Plan } 3
2 Ext. }

Passing orders on the Nellore Jail Committee's report.

No. 1607 - 21st May 1866

No. 490.

c. 14th May 1866 Pr. 18th

Civil Works

Public Works Department 5-+

No. 1607

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT
Under date the 21st May 1866.

Read the following

eedings of the Madras Govt
in the Judicial Depart.

(Here enter No. 685 dated 3rd May 1866)

Communicated to the
Supg Engineer of the 2d Dn
who will submit a revised
estimate, providing for the
widening of the Solitary
Cells by four feet.— To
admit of the immediate
Commencement
of the Contemplated imp.
-provements to the Vellore
Jail, the Government
resolve to sanction a
grant of Rs 2000 from the
Reserve under "Civil Buildgs"
and the amount required
to complete the works will

be granted on the receipt of the revised estimate now called for.—

6x

To
6 The Dr of the 2d Dr Wth
11 " Jud Dept
1 " Controller
3 " Acct General

Plan 12 Estimates

exp. 22d May

64

(11)

P. W. 1866. Department.

Pro: of Govt. for May.

No. 1687

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT. of Madras

Dated 24th May 1866

C.P. 2377/66

Proceedings Judicial Dept, passing orders on the Committees Report on Jail at Nellore communicated with certain instructions to the Supt. Engr. of the 2d. Jn.

A. 490 - 491.

C. 14th May 1866 Pl. 18th