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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2289	Press Mis.
700-01	
Dated 30/7/18	18/7/18

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1—

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
30th July 1867.

No. 700. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the
Judicial Department:—

Requesting the submission of estimates for cer-
tain improvements and additions required to } (Here enter 23rd July 1867, No. 1,185.)
the Madras Penitentiary.

No. 701. ORDER THEREON, 30th July 1867, No. 2,289.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 100.

Communicated to the Superintend-
ing Engineer of the 4th Division, who
will submit with as little delay as
possible the estimates required in paragraph 12.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. H. M. SHAW STEWART, Major, R. E.,
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division.

Exd. S. T. Augustin!

3 -

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
23rd July 1867.

No. 275. Read the following letter from the Inspector General of Jails, to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Ootacamund, 27th June 1867, No. 55.

I have the honor to forward a letter from Major Hearn, Commissioner of Police and Superintendent of the Presidency Jails, submitting proposals for the completion of the additions and improvements required in the Penitentiary at Madras, prepared in consultation with the Sanitary Commissioner and the Superintending Engineer, with reference to the report of the President of the Sanitary Commission, dated 13th April 1864, and the Order of Government thereon, noted in the margin.

Judicial Department, 13th September 1864, No. 1357.

2. The following is a summary of the additions and alterations proposed.

1. The construction of two new single blocks of wards for Native male convicts.
2. Alteration of latrines (male and female) in the under-trial ward.
3. Improvement of hospital latrine.
4. Hospital accommodation for females above the present juvenile and female wards.
5. A new ward for 24 juveniles.
6. A new general latrine and store for dry earth.
7. A new workshop, in lieu of part of the rope-shed, which will be removed to make way for the new blocks.
8. Receptacles of stone in the sleeping wards, for use at night, similar to those at Bangalore.
9. A pump to fill the reservoir.
10. Two iron doors between the old and new enclosures, and a wooden gate in the northern wall.
11. The substitution of iron bars, instead of wood, in the upper part of the principal gate.
12. Quarters for Warders and Matron.
13. Stoves.

3. If the additional buildings are sanctioned, the accommodation for convicts will stand thus—

European and East Indian males.....	44
Native males.....	336
Females including Europeans and East Indians....	60
Juveniles.....	24

Total..... 464

4. The accommodation for females somewhat exceeds the actual requirements, but Major Hearn informs me that it is difficult to make any other arrangement, keeping in view the necessity for their entire separation.

5. The receptacles used as night conveniences at Bangalore are six feet by three feet, and are divided in the centre by a partition. It has been found that a width of one foot is sufficient, and that a partition is unnecessary.

6. The hospital for females will be airy, being in an upper story. I observe it is proposed to give 99 feet of superficial area and 1500 feet of cubical space to

each Native patient. This is considerably in excess of the allowance now being provided in the Hospitals of Central Jails, viz., 48 feet of superficial area and 864 feet of cubical space.

7. On receipt of Major Hearn's letter, I inquired whether there were any plans of the proposed additions, but was informed that none have as yet been prepared.

8. I concur with Major Hearn in the opinion that it is not necessary to build a Chapel.

From Major C. S. HEARN, Commissioner of Police, to the Inspector General of Jails; dated Madras, 15th June 1867, No. 240.

With reference to Orders of Government, No. 1357. of 13th September 1864. and No. 1663, of 26th May 1866, Public Works Department, I have now the honor to submit, for the consideration of Government, propositions for the completion of the improvements and additions required in the Madras Penitentiary. These propositions have been framed in consultation with the Sanitary Commissioner and the Superintending Engineer.

2. First, there is an absolute necessity for increased accommodation. The rate of mortality in the Jail last year was unusually high. The death rate, calculated on the mean between average daily strength and total strength of prisoners (which can only be regarded as an approximate estimate, and is doubtless somewhat too favorable) was 54 per mille including cholera, and 30 per mille exclusive of cholera. Calculated on daily average strength alone, the ratio would be 89 per mille including cholera, and 48.80 per mille exclusive of cholera. Doctor Harris, the Medical Officer attributed the increase of sickness and mortality in great measure to over-crowding. Doubtless it was an exceptionally unhealthy year, and the Jail was exceptionally full from the state of want which prevailed amongst the lower classes; but the Jail has not sufficient accommodation, according to principles now approved, for the ordinary number of prisoners constantly within its walls. It is proposed to allot 50 feet of superficial space, and 648 feet of cubical space, to each prisoner, and, according to this measurement, there is now room in the Penitentiary for 192 Native prisoners only, exclusive of females, juveniles, and prisoners under trial—vide Table A. The total number now in Jail, with the above exceptions, is 372; but this includes 52 convicts for transportation; and, under recent orders from the Government of India, the number of transported convicts passing through the Madras Penitentiary will hereafter be materially diminished. Still there will be, from time to time, a certain number of 14 years' transportation convicts, and since the average number of male convicts (exclusive of these) has been during ordinary years close on 300, and the average for some time past has exceeded this amount, it would seem that accommodation should be provided at the requisite amount of space for at least 330 or 340 male convicts. It is proposed, therefore, to erect a building consisting of 2 single blocks with upper and lower stories facing each other, with a court-yard common to both. Each story should contain 3 wards, with sufficient space to accommodate 12 prisoners in each. This will provide new accommodation for 144 prisoners, which, added to the number for whom there is already sufficient space (192), will give accommodation for 336 prisoners in all. The most convenient site for this new block would be against the southern wall near the present general latrine (which it is proposed to remove), corresponding with the blocks against the northern wall on the other side.

3. There is already ample accommodation in the Penitentiary for 44 European and Eurasian prisoners, and this will suffice for these classes.

4. The existing accommodation in the under-trial (formerly Sheriff's) ward will also suffice, but the latrines attached, both male and female, require improvement and adaptation to the dry earth system.

5. The hospital latrine requires new flooring, and it is necessary to provide a place in the hospital upstairs to which patients in the European ward who are too sick to go downstairs may resort. At present bed-pans are placed in the back verandah, which is very objectionable, especially

as they have to be carried through the sick ward itself. There is a small unused room west of the European sick ward which may be easily converted to this purpose, by blocking up the door of communication with the sick ward, opening out a door from the back verandah, and making a large window in the northern wall, so as to create a free current of air. Wooden steps will also be required from the rear of the hospital up to the back verandah, for the purpose of carrying away bed-pans, &c.

6. The present hospital accommodation for females is simply execrable, and it is absolutely necessary to provide a new female ward. It is proposed to build this on the top of the prison wards now occupied by female and juvenile convicts (block No. 1). The following accommodation will be required—

1. A small Dispensary.
2. A European Ward, for 2 patients.
3. A Native do. for 4 do.
4. A small separate ward for contagious diseases.

Space should be allotted as follows:—

	Superficial Feet.	Cubical Feet.
For each European patient.....	120	2400
Do. Native „	99	1500

There must be a door of communication through the wall leading into the hospital enclosure, and a flight of steps up into the new female hospital ward, so constructed as to be inaccessible from the female convict ward below.

7. According to the standard of superficial and cubical space now proposed, there is accommodation for 30 prisoners only in the present female ward; but this number is frequently exceeded, and, moreover, it is very difficult to be able to classify the prisoners. Under existing arrangements, this is impossible, as there is only one range of wards and one enclosure. Petty and heinous offenders are necessarily confined together. It is proposed, therefore, to occupy the present juvenile ward (forming the other side of the lower story block No. 1) as an additional female ward. This will give ample space and means of classification. A small separate latrine should be provided for European and East Indian females.

8. It will then be necessary to provide a new juvenile ward. It is proposed to erect one at the north side of the new enclosure, recently walled in, with accommodation (at the same space, cubical and superficial) for 24 juveniles. Thus, they will be completely segregated from all the other prisoners in Jail. A separate latrine must be attached.

9. The new block of wards for native convicts on the south side will interfere with the present general latrine which is, besides, quite unadapted to the efficient working of the dry earth system. It is proposed that a new dry-earth latrine for 340 convicts (on the Bangalore Jail model) should be erected in the south-west corner of the new Jail enclosure. A store shed for dry earth must also be provided.

10. The new block of wards will also necessitate the removal of part of the existing rope-shed, while the building now used as a European workshop is ill-adapted for the purpose. It is proposed to erect a new workshop within the western enclosure. This should consist of a shed, large enough for the different branches of work, and protected by a verandah on each side, with a room or godown at one end for storing material.

11. Stone urinals and dry earth receptacles (similar to those in Bangalore Jail) should be constructed in each sleeping ward throughout the Penitentiary.

12. A pump is required at the central reservoir for flushing the drains. At present, the reservoir is filled cumbrously, and with difficulty, by means of buckets.

13. Two doors of communication, consisting of open iron bars, are required in the two walls between the old and new Jail enclosures, and a strong Jail gate, of wood studded with iron, will be required in the north wall of the new enclosure, for the purpose of removing excreta from the general latrine.

14. It would be a great improvement to insert open iron bars, instead of wood, in the upper part of the large entrance gate of the Jail, leaving the lower two-thirds of wood as at present. This would admit the sea breeze into the body of the Jail.

15. Under the arrangements proposed in the foregoing paragraphs, the convict dormitories and cook-rooms will be all inside the existing double wall, which is a great safe-guard, while the juvenile ward, the workshop, the wards for convicts with loathsome diseases (already constructed), the solitary and condemned cells (also constructed), and the general latrine will be within the new enclosure, which is protected by a single wall only.

16. It is greatly to be desired, with reference to the efficient working of the Jail, and the convenience of the men themselves, that the Warders should be provided with quarters, either on the open space of ground immediately outside the eastern entrance to the Jail, or in continuation of the building now used as the Apothecary's quarters, a little further to the northward. At present, there is no accommodation for Warders, and as they must have some resting place, even when on duty, they occupy wards which would otherwise be available for prisoners, and the attendance required from them is so constant, that it is a great inconvenience and hardship to have their homes and families at a distance. There are three European Warders, for whom quarters would be required. Quarters will also be required for the Jail Matron, unless the appointment of the Keeper's or Deputy Keeper's wife to this post should be sanctioned.

17. It is proposed to introduce Duff's Cooking Stoves into the various cook-rooms of the Jail, thereby economizing labor and fuel, and producing greater cleanliness and neatness of arrangement. Doctor Duff, after personally inspecting the cook-rooms sometime back, decided that the number and description of Stoves particularized in Table B would suffice for the wants of the Jail, but failing health subsequently prevented him from completing the estimate of cost, &c. Messrs. Simpson & Co. have, however, furnished me with plans of the Stoves, which are estimated to cost Rupees 1005 in all (vide Table B). The cost of copper vessels is estimated at Rupees 1200, but this is not an exact calculation, as these vessels are charged for by weight, and are not furnished by Messrs Simpson & Co., themselves. There will remain the cost of the masonry work and chimneys which would have to be constructed by the Engineer's Department. The immediate outlay required would not be very large, and this would be gradually, but surely, repaid by the saving of fuel.

18. The proposed additions and alterations may be thus summarized :—

- 1.—Construction of two new single blocks of wards (two storied) for Native male convicts.
- 2.—Alteration of latrines (Male and Female) in under-trial ward.
- 3.—Improvement of hospital latrine.
- 4.—New female hospital wards over present juvenile and female wards.
- 5.—Construction of new ward for 24 juveniles.
- 6.—Construction of new dry-earth latrine and store shed for earth.
- 7.—Construction of new workshop, to take the place of part of the present rope-shed removed to make way for wards.
- 8.—Construction of stone urinals and earth receptacles in all the sleeping wards.
- 9.—Pump to fill reservoir.
- 10.—Two iron doors of communication between old and new enclosures, and one entrance gate in north wall.
- 11.—Open iron barred top to east entrance gate.
- 12.—Warders' and Matron's Quarters.
- 13.—Duff's Stoves.

19. I also append to this letter a copy of an entry which I find in the Chaplain's book regarding want of Chapel accommodation. The room now used is hot, and would be much improved by opening out an iron barred window in the east wall; but I find, on referring back, that the number of Protestant prisoners required to attend divine worship has very rarely indeed exceeded 20, for which number there is ample room, although, on the exceptional occasion referred to, there

were so many as 36, besides 4 women. I do not think it is desirable that the families of the Jail Officers should attend worship with the convicts, and I confess that I do not at present see any necessity for building a Chapel as recommended by the Reverend T. Foulkes. The female prisoners can, of course, be accommodated with separate chairs.

A.

TABLE showing present accommodation for Native Male Convicts.

	Number of cells.	Superficial space in each cell.	Number of prisoners accommodated at 50 superf. ft.	Cubical space in each cell.	Number of prisoners accommodated at 648 cubic feet.
Misdemeanors ward.....	5	270.0	27.0	4027.5	31.0
Felons' do.	5	270.0	27.0	4027.5	31.0
Terraced ward front room, east and west end.....	2	104.125	5.6	1509.8	4.6
Do. do. centre.....	1	129.625	2.5	1879.6	2.9
Do. do. centre.....	1	128.860	2.5	1869.3	2.8
Do. do. centre.....	2	223.563	8.8	3241.6	10.0
Do. back room, east and west end.....	1	278.312	5.5	4035.53	6.2
Do. do. centre.....	1	276.670	5.5	4011.71	6.1
Do. do. centre.....	10	272.400	54.0	4017.9	62.0
High Court ward.....	10	270.000	54.0	3982.5	62.0

(Signed) C. S. HEARN,
Commissioner of Police.

B.

Dr. Duff's Stoves.

Cook rooms.	Number and description.	Number of men.	Price.	Number and size of copper vessels.	Price.
			RS.		RS.
Brahmins.....	1 Without oven....	30	90	4 { Two of 10 gallons each. Two of 8 do. do...	1,200
Tamil... ..	1 Do.	200	120	8 { Four of 15 do. do.. Four of 10 do. do...	
Mussulmen and Pariahs.	1 Do.	200	120	8 { Four of 15 do. do.. Four of 10 do. do...	
Europeans... ..	1 With oven and hot water receptacle.	50	275	3 { One of 15 do. do.. Two of 10 do. do...	
Sheriff's ward.....	1 Without oven....	100	100	4 { Two of 15 do. do.. Two of 10 do. do...	
Hospital.....	1 With oven and hot water receptacle.	50	300	6 { Two of 8 do. do.. Two of 6 do. do.. Two of 4 do. do...	
	Total.....		1,005		

(Signed) C. S. HEARN,
Commissioner of Police.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
23rd July 1867.

MEMORANDUM.

The Chaplain begs respectfully to call the attention of the authorities to the small size and inconvenience of the small room which is now used as the Chapel of the prison. It was very inconveniently full this morning, and I understand that other prisoners would have been present, but there was no room for them, the Chapel being already crowded. The Warders and their families, and all the Officers of the prison and their families, would be glad to have the opportunity of attending these Services, if there was suitable room for them. The female prisoners are now obliged to be mixed up with the men, and it would be very desirable that they should have separated seats. Could not a small Chapel be arranged within the interior limits of the Jail, with plain decent Church furniture, in some central position, to which any of the prisoners who felt inclined might retire for prayer privately, at times when the Church Service is not performed?

(Signed) T. FOULKES,
Chaplain of Vepery,
in charge of the Penitentiary.

29th May 1867.

No. 276. ORDER THEREON, 23rd July 1867, No. 1185.

In his letter of the 15th June 1867, No. 240, which is forwarded by the Inspector General of Jails, with a general expression of approval, and with certain remarks, the Commissioner of Police for the town of Madras submits his proposals for the completion of the improvements and additions required in the Madras Penitentiary.

2. As regards insufficiency of accommodation, it is shown—

First, that additional space is required for Native male convicts. Allotting 50 feet of superficial space and 648 feet of cubical space to each prisoner—there is at present accommodation for 192 Native male prisoners only, exclusive of females, juveniles, and under-trial prisoners; while accommodation, allowing the space required according to approved principles, is required for not less than 330 or 340 Native male prisoners;

Secondly, there is, according to the approved standard of superficial and cubical space, accommodation for 30 prisoners only in the present female ward. This is insufficient, and an additional ward is required, not only to provide the requisite accommodation, but to enable the Jail authorities to classify the female prisoners—a measure which is at present impossible.

3. The proposal to erect a building, consisting of two single blocks (with upper and lower stories) facing one another, with a court, each story containing three wards capable of containing twelve prisoners in each, is approved. This will provide accommodation for 144 prisoners, in addition to the space at present available, which will suffice for 192 prisoners, or 336 Native male prisoners in all.

4. The site pointed out by Major Hearn appears to be well selected.

5. There is, it appears, sufficient accommodation for European and Eurasian prisoners.

6. In order to provide accommodation for female prisoners, and to remedy the defect noticed in paragraph 7, it is proposed to occupy the present juvenile ward as an additional female ward, and to erect a new juvenile ward, to contain 24 juveniles, at the north side of the new enclosure. It appears desirable to increase the accommodation for female prisoners, but the Governor in Council is not prepared to sanction the foregoing proposal, unless the juvenile ward which it is proposed to erect can be built in such a manner as to be

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23rd July 1867.

hereafter available and useful for other purposes, as the Government look confidently forward to the establishment of a separate Reformatory for juvenile offenders.

7. In connection with this subject, the Government wish to record their opinion that the erection of Matron's quarters in some position easily accessible to the female wards, is indispensable. If there is sufficient space available, these quarters should be within the Jail enclosure.

8. The Government have next to consider the alterations which will be necessitated in consequence of the erection of the new buildings above sanctioned. The new block of wards will make it necessary to remove part of the present roped-shed, and as the building now used as a European workshop is ill-adapted to the purpose, it is proposed to erect a new shed, with verandahs and store-room, sufficiently large to accommodate the different branches of work. This suggestion is approved.

9. The remaining alterations which are required may be classified as follows:—

I. *Latrines.*—The hospital latrine requires re-flooring, and a place is required in the hospital up-stairs, to which European patients who are too sick to go down-stairs may resort. The present arrangements are very objectionable. The hospital latrine will be repaired, and the arrangements proposed by the Commissioner of Police for providing accommodation for European patients in the hospital up-stairs, by converting an unused room into a place suitable for the purposes for which it is required, will be carried out.

The improvements which are required in order to adapt the latrines attached to the male and female wards of the under-trial block are also sanctioned. The present general latrine, which is reported to be quite unadapted to the efficient working of the dry-earth system, will have to be removed, in consequence of the erection of the new wards for Native male convicts.

It is proposed, therefore, to erect a new dry-earth latrine for 340 convicts (to be built on the Bangalore Jail model) in the south-west corner of the new enclosure—a proposal which has the approval of Government; it is insisted, however, that the new latrine shall be built in the most simple and inexpensive manner, consistent with practical efficiency.

II. *Hospital.*—The present accommodation for females is so bad, that it is absolutely necessary to provide a new female ward. The Governor in Council approves the measures which it is proposed to adopt, namely the erection of the new ward on the top of block No. I, and of a flight of steps to the new ward, which shall be inaccessible to the female convict ward below.

III. *Miscellaneous.*—The following requirements will be duly estimated for:—

- i. *Quarters for 3 European Warders*, in such situation, without, and in close proximity to, the Jail, as may be decided on by the Commissioner of Police, in communication with the Inspector General of Jails.
- ii. *Stone-urinals and receptacles for dry earth in each sleeping ward throughout the Penitentiary.*
- iii. *A pump at the central reservoir for flushing the drains.*
- iv. *Two doors of communication, consisting of open iron bars, in the two walls between the old and new Jail enclosures, and a strong wooden Jail gate in the north wall of the new enclosure.*

23rd July 1867.

V. *The substitution of iron bars in the upper part of the main entrance gate, in lieu of the solid wood at present existing.*

10. The expediency of introducing Duff's Stoves for cooking appears to be doubtful, and, looking to the want of attention and appreciation evinced by Natives in making use of unfamiliar mechanical apparatus, and the liability of the Stoves to decay and want of repair, the Government are not prepared to sanction this proposal.

11. The Government concur with the Inspector General of Jails and the Commissioner of Police in thinking that it is not necessary to build a Chapel for the use of the prisoners, the room in which Service is now held being sufficient.

12. Estimates for the works and repairs above sanctioned will be at once prepared and submitted to Government, and the sanction of the Government of India will be requested for the prosecution of the works on the assurance of a special grant, should funds not be available from the allotments of the present year.

(True Extract).

P. W. M.
Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector General of Jails.

„ Superintendent of the Jails at the Presidency.

„ Public Works Department.

Acting Sanitary Commissioner.

Exd. J. H. Burns,

Commissioner.

Conrad &
Sons Engineers

No 2289

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30th July 1567

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Pr. of York for July
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ev. 2289-30 July 1867
Requesting the submission
of Estimates for certain
improvements & additions
required to the Madras
Penitentiary
Witte au Bode

No 700-701