

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT

U.O. No.	1000
Date	10/11/50

Not to be taken or roughly handled

No. 52. Read the following letter from Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 18th February 1858, No. 7473.

SIR,

With reference to Extract Minutes Consultation No. 4, dated 5th Ultimo, I have now the honor to forward copy of a report by the Superintending Engineer in charge Central Circle, on the alterations and additions in progress at the Penitentiary, and to state my own full concurrence with Major Lawford, in recommending that the bastioned Towers should not be completed, further than by carrying the walls to the full height of 18 feet, leaving the interior space quite empty; while I also entirely agree in the absolute necessity of continuing the boundary wall round the western and southern sides of the Prison.

2. All the other improvements will be carried out as originally intended, being absolutely necessary for the security and accommodation of the prisoners.

3. The accompanying statement marked B, shews that out of the different estimates submitted to Government, including one now forwarded, for the boundary wall, amounting altogether to Rupees (86,555) eighty-six thousand, five hundred and fifty-five, the sum of (47,198) forty-seven thousand, four hundred and ninety-eight, has been actually expended; Rupees (9,090) nine thousand and ninety, will not be required to be expended, and the amount still remaining to complete the works as now proposed is Rupees (29,967) twenty-nine thousand, nine hundred and sixty-seven, for the disbursement of which early sanction is requisite, as the works are at present very injuriously suspended, pending the decision of Government now earnestly solicited and recommended.

4. The suggestion of the Grand Jury to carry the inner wall round the buildings abutting on it, is much less efficient than the plan proposed by the Superintending Engineer, for completing the main boundary wall, and as the alterations only involve a difference of (2,275) two thousand, two hundred and seventy-five Rupees or that between (11,365) eleven thousand, three hundred and sixty-five and (9,090) nine thousand and ninety, it is I think unquestionably advisable, that Major Lawford's amendment should be carried out, with the least practicable delay, so as to put an end to all reasonable cause for these continued presentiments on the part of the Grand Juries at nearly every Sessions.

Letter from Major E. LAWFORD, Superintending Engineer in charge of Central Circle; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated 28th January 1858, No. 255.

Sm,

With reference to Extract Minutes Consultation No. 4, dated 5th January 1858, I have the honor to inform you, that in company with Colonel Atkinson, I have inspected the Penitentiary, and I now beg to offer for your consideration the following remarks.

2. The object of almost all the works recently carried on at this Prison, was I need hardly remind you, to remedy the most serious defects of its original plan; but the addition of bastioned towers at the angles of the boundary wall, was only suggested during the late disturbed state of the country, and their probable effect in diminishing the internal security, while adding to the external defensible strength, seems to me to have been overlooked.

3. These towers however, have never been approved of by the Commissioner of Police, who seems to have wanted merely a sort of watch tower at shorter intervals, less for outward than internal security.

4. In my opinion, neither are necessary; for a mob in insurrection would never attack the jail walls, if they could not force the gate, and no towers on the outer wall can have a good command of view over the area of the Jail.

5. I also think, that rooms like these, however well secured, may afford hiding places and easy means of escape.

6. The best possible, or rather the essential security, of a Jail, is unquestionably a clear outer wall 18 feet high, without the contiguity of any building whatever, and this is quite as necessary on the west and south, as on the north and east sides, but it is not provided for; and the suggestion of the Grand Jury quoted by Colonel Boulderson, seems to me to offer a very questionable mode of remedying the deficiency. My recommendation therefore is, that the Bastioned Towers shall not be completed, but that the outer wall shall be carried completely round the Jail, detached from every building, except the front Guard Room, which should be enlarged, and the roof of which will afford an excellent defensive post, on that the weakest side.

7. Instead of watch towers on the outer wall, I would post sentries at night, between that and the inner one, who by having a beat of some length, will be better able to guard the whole distance.

8. All of the other improvements proposed by the Civil Architect appear to me necessary, except the long interior verandah, which may be postponed.

9. The drainage of the Prison is in a most imperfect, or rather unformed state, and must be properly provided for. I may observe that the Jail is still deficient in some of the buildings required for proper classification of prisoners, and that unless the boundary wall be continued as I proposed, future enlargement will be impracticable, while that extension will render it easy to add more rooms if necessary.

10. I do not understand, why the common usage of Jails is not adopted here of making the convicts labour in constructing their own Prison, and thus saving some expense.

No. 53. ORDER THEREON, No. 555; dated 26th March 1858.

Under date the 10th July 1857, the Government of India granted sanction to an estimate of Rupees 41,100, for various additions and alterations to the Penitentiary buildings at Madras and on the 23rd October following, this Government submitted another set of estimates, amounting in the aggregate to Rupees 36,820 for the following further improvements to the same buildings.

Verandah in front of the Prisoners' Ward on the south side, in addition to the portion under construction...	Rs. 4,270
Verandah on the east and west sides in the lower story of the Jailor's Quarters.....	1,230
Do. on the do. in the upper ... do.	1,400
Alterations in the ground-floor of the two ranges of European Wards for the erection of additional Cells in the upper story.....	1,280
Erecting new Cells for Europeans in the upper story...	6,550
Do. 4 night Guard rooms in rear of the buildings...	298
Providing iron gratings in the compound walls in rear of the buildings	177
Contingencies.....	5
Constructing a Flanking Tower with upper and lower story.....	15,210
Do. ... 3 do.	4,370
Sinking, &c., 50 Wells for sub foundation to the south-east and south-west Flanking Towers near the river... ..	13,110
Constructing 2 Guard rooms at the outer gateway 18 x 15 feet...	1,400
	18,880
	2,730
Grand Total...	36,820

2. In reply to the application above referred to, the Government of India observed that the total proposed expenditure on the Penitentiary was very large, and requested that the outlay might be reduced to within the narrowest possible limits, by abandoning, or postponing, all work not urgently required. The Chief Engineer was accordingly desired, in an order, dated 5th January last, No. 4, to report what works, of those provided for in the estimates of Rupees 36,820, he considered absolutely necessary to render the buildings fit for use.

3. Colonel Faber now forwards a report on the subject from the Superintending Engineer in charge of the Central Circle. Major Lawford observes that the bastioned towers at the angles of the boundary wall will have the effect of diminishing internal security, and recommends that they be not proceeded with. He suggests on the other hand, the extension of the outer wall all around the Jail, the enlargement of the front Guard room and the improvement of the drainage of the Prison. The other works provided for in the estimates in question are considered by that Officer to be necessary, except the long interior Verandah, which he observes might be postponed. The Chief Engineer expresses his full concurrence in the several suggestions made by Major Lawford, and submits an estimate of the cost of the works proposed by that Officer.

4. The amount already expended on the Penitentiary is reported to be Rupees 47,498, to which being added Rupees 29,967, the further sum now required to carry out the suggestions of the Superintending Engineer, the total proposed expenditure will amount to Rupees 77,465 or Rupees 455 less than the aggregate amount of the several estimates* referred to above. The Government of India having already declared† their willingness to sanction an expenditure on these buildings to such extent as will render them fit for use, and as the necessity of the works now recommended and proposed by Major Lawford is affirmed, in strong terms, both by that Officer as well as by the Chief Engineer, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council authorizes, agreeably to Colonel Faber's recommendation, an outlay of Rupees (29,967) twenty-nine thousand, nine hundred and sixty-seven in addition to Rupees 47,498 already expended, on the express understanding that this limit must on no account be exceeded.

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

* Rupees 41,100
" 36,820
" 77,920
Letter dated 4th December 1857, communicated with Extract Minutes of Consultation, dated 5th January 1858, No. 4.

N^o 255

Mem.

Major E. P. Pinford,
Chief Engineer in Ch. of C. Circle

To

The Chief Engineer

D. S. W.

Sir,

With reference to Dr. Hino's Com.
N^o 4, dated 5th January, 1868, I have the honor
to inform you that in company with Colonel
Stinson, I have inspected the Penitentiary, and
I now beg to offer for your consideration the following
remarks.

2 The object of almost all the work
recently carried on at this Prison, was I need
hardly remind you, to remedy the most serious
defects of its original plan; but the addition of
battered towers at the angles of the boundary
wall was only suggested during the late disturbed
state of the Country, and their probable effect in
diminishing the internal security, while adding
to the external defensible strength, seems to me to
have been overlooked.

3 These towers however, have never been
approved of by the Commissioners of Police, who seem
to have wanted merely a sort of watch tower at
shorter intervals, less for outward than internal
security.

In

On my opinion neither are necessary, for a mob in insurrection would never attack the jail walls, if they could not force the gate and no towers on the outer wall can have a good command of view over the area of the jail.

5. I also think that rooms like these, however well secured, may afford hiding places and easy means of escape.

6. The best possible, or rather the essential security, of a jail, is unquestionably a clear outer wall 18 feet high, without the contiguity of any buildings whatever, and this is quite as necessary on the West and South, as on the North and East sides, but it is not provided for, and the suggestion of the Grand Jury quoted by Robert Southey seems to me to offer a very questionable mode of remedying the deficiency. My recommendation therefore is, that the Bastioned Towers shall not be completed, but that the outer wall shall be carried completely round the jail, detached from every building, except the front Guards Room, which should be enlarged, and the roof of which will afford an excellent defensive post, on that the weakest side.

7. Instead of watch towers on the outer wall, I would post sentries at night, between that and the inner one, who by having a beat of some length, will be better able to guard the whole distance.

8. All of the other improvements proposed by

by the Civil Architect appear to me necessary, except the long interior verandah, which may be postponed.

9. The drainage of the Prison is in a most imperfect, or rather unformed state, and must be properly provided for. I may observe that the jail is still deficient in some of the buildings required for proper classification of prisoners, and that unless the boundary wall be continued as I propose, future enlargement will be impracticable, while that extension will render it easy to add more rooms if necessary.

10. I do not understand why the common usage of jails is not adopted here of making the convicts labor in constructing their own Prison, and thus saving some expense.

Superintending Eng^{rs} Office
Central Circle of D. W.
Fort St. George,
28th January 1858.

To, Colonel C. E. Faber,
Chief Engineer D. W.

I have the honor to be Sir,
Signed / E. Lawford, Major,
In Charge of C. Circle.

1 True Copy /
Recd Faber Colonel,
Chief Engineer.

867

Central Office of S. M.
Fort Saint Georges
18 February 1858

Y. 7473

From,
The Chief Engineer.

To,
The Secretary to Government
P. W. D.

With reference to Es. Mins. Comd. N. 4, dated
5th Ultime, I have now the honor to forward copy of a
report by the Superintending Engineer in charge Central
Circle, on the alterations and additions in progress at the
Penitentiary, and to state my own full concurrence with
Major Langford, in recommending that the bastioned
tower should not be completed, further than by carrying
the walls to the full height of 18 feet, leaving the interior
space quite empty, while I also entirely agree in the
absolute necessity of continuing the boundary wall round

the

Enclosed in a letter from

The Chief Engineer

of the Penitentiary Department

P. W. D.

Recd. 21st

Date 18th February 1858

Y. 7473
Feb. 5

Copy of a letter from the
Superintending Engineer
in charge of Central Circle
reporting his inspection in
company with several members
of the Penitentiary, including a
survey and plans for the
new bastion, forward to the

the Western and Southern sides of the Prison.

2. All the other improvements will be carried out as originally intended, being absolutely necessary for the security and accommodation of the prisoners.

3. The accompanying Statement marked *B*, shows that out of the different Estimates submitted to Government, including one now forwarded for the boundary wall, amounting altogether to Rupees 86555, Eighty six thousand Three hundred and fifty five, the sum of (17698) Forty Seven thousand four hundred and Ninety eight, has been actually expended, Rupees (9090) Nine thousand and Ninety, will not be required to be expended, and the amount still remaining to complete the works as now proposed is Rupees (29967) Twenty nine thousand nine hundred and Sixty seven, for the disbursement of which early sanction is requisite, as the works are at present very injuriously suspended, pending the decision of Government now earnestly solicited and recommended.

The

As the suggestion of the Grand Jury to carry the inner wall round the buildings abutting on it, is much less efficient than the plan proposed by the Superintending Engineer, for completing the main boundary wall, and as the alterations only involve a difference of (2275) Two thousand two hundred and seventy five, Rupees or that between (11365) Eleven thousand three hundred and sixty five and (9090) Nine thousand and Ninety, it is I think unquestionably advisable, that Major Rawford's amendment should be carried out, with the least practicable delay, so as to put an end to all reasonable cause for these continued representations on the part of the Grand Jurors at nearly every Session.

Central Office of P. N.
Fort Saint George.
18th February 1858.
A.

To, The Secretary to Government, P. N. D.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedt Servt.

Wm. Fisher Colonel.
Chief Engineer.

Public Works Department
No 555

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 26th March 1858.

Read the following
from the Chief Engineer

Here enter 15th July 1858 at 1/4 p.m.

Under date the
10th July 1857, the Govern-
ment of India granted
sanction to our estimate
of Rupees 44,000, for various
additions and alterations
to the Penitentiary Build-
ings at Madras, and on
the 33rd October following,
this Government submitted
another set of estimates, or
amounting in the aggregate

A
M
S
M

2nd Com. & Survey 58. No 648

At Madras 15th July 1858
Chief Engineer
of the Penitentiary Buildings
G. H. D.

2nd Com. 58. No 648
1st of July 1858
Chief Engineer

1/4 p.m.

4 Enclosures to the
2nd Com. 58. No 648
Submitted an estimate with
correspondence for constructing the
water works for the 2nd Com.
of the Penitentiary, and for the
the 2nd Com. at the entrance of
and to be built by the 2nd Com.
the amount of the sum of Rs 2,000, the
amount of the sum of Rs 2,000, the
works on the 2nd Com.

No 82

2nd Com. 58. No 648

to Rs 36,520 for the following
further improvements to
the same Buildings.

Verandah in front of the Prisoners' ward on the South side, in addition to the portion under construction—	4,370
Verandah on the East and West sides on the lower story of the Jailers' quarters—	12,300
Do on the 8 th in the refector—	800
Alterations in the ground floor of the two ranges of European Wards for the erection of additional Cells in the upper story—	1,380
Constructing New Cells for Europeans in the upper story—	6,550
Do 14 Night guard Rooms in rear of the buildings—	3,780
Providing iron gratings in the compound walls in rear of the buildings for contingencies—	177
	<u>15,210</u>
Constructing a Flanking Tower with upper and lower story—	4,370
Do 3 Do —	13,110
Constructing 50 walls for Sub-foundation to the South east and South west flanking towers near the river—	14,000
	<u>15,880</u>
Constructing 3 guard rooms at the outer gateway 18 x 16 feet—	3,730
	<u>Grand Total Rs 36,520</u>

2 In reply to the application above referred to, the Government of India

observed that the total proposed expenditure on the Prisonery was very large, and requested that the outlay might be restricted to within the narrowest possible limits, by abandoning or postponing all work not urgently required. The Chief Engineer accordingly decided, in an order dated 8 January last, to report what sums of those provided for in the Estimates of Rs 36,520, he considered absolutely necessary to render the Buildings fit for use.

3 Colonel Baker now forwards a report on the subject from the Superintendent Engineer in charge.

to of the Garrison is considered
Sawford observes that
the bastioned towers at
the angles of the boundary
wall will have the effect
of diminishing internal
security, and recommends
that they be not provided
within the suggests on the
other hand, the extension
of the outer wall all round
the Fort, the en-
largement of the front
guard room, and the
improvement of the ex-
haustage of the Prison.
The other scrolls provided
for in the Estimates in
question are considered
by that Officer to be ne-
cessary, except the long

interior Perambulation, which
he observes might be post-
poned. The Chief Engineer
expresses his full concu-
rence in the several sug-
gestions made by Major
Sawford, and submits an
estimate of the cost of the
works proposed by that
Officer.

The amount already
expended on the Fortification
is reported to be Rs 47,498, to
which being added Rs 1,299 67, the further sum
now required to carry
out the suggestions of the
superintending Engineer,
the total proposed expen-
diture will amount to Rs
48,797 67 or Rs 48,800 less than the
aggregate

aggregate amount of the several estimates referred to above. The Government of

Rs 44,100
" 30,800
74,900

India having already declared their willingness to sanction an expenditure on these buildings to such extent as will render them fit for use, and as the necessity of the works now recommended and proposed by Major Sawford is affirmed, on strong terms, both by that Officer as well as by the Chief Engineer, the Right Honorable the Governor and Council authorizes, agreeably to Colonel Baker's recommendation, an outlay of Rs (39,957) namely nine thousand nine hundred and sixty seven in addition to

to Rs 44,100 already expended, on this work understanding that this limit ^{must} ~~will~~ on no account be exceeded.

22

9 Copies to the Chief Engr.
Bt 207

Mr. Comr. 8th Aug / 58. 608

Public Works 1838 Departs
Dy to Comr. W. M. L. C. h

C. N. 555

Extract from of Comr.
Dated 26th March / 58

From the Chief Eng^r 3rd April / 60
C. N. 830. in Pro. 17. 1st April / 1860

Authorizing an outlay
of Rupees 29984 for constructing
the outer wall round the South and
West sides of the Penitentiary Build-
ings at Madras and for extending
the ground round at the entrance of same
in addition to Rs 47,498 already
expended.

C. N. 52453