M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages

(2) Date of repair

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 358 Press Mis.

691-92

Dated 28 1 1870.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
28th January 1870.

No. 691. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Educational Department :—

Passing orders in regard to a site for the privy to be erected in connection with the Mangalore Provincial School. } (Here enter 19th January 1870, No. 18.)

No. 692. ORDER THEREON, 28th January 1870, No. 358.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 76.

COMMUNICATED to the Superintending Engineer of the 7th Division.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 33. Read the following letter from the Director of Public Instruction, to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 11th January 1870, No. 37.

I have the honour to address you in connexion with the Provincial School-house in course of erection at Mangalore. I also submit a letter, with enclosures, from the Acting Collector of South Canara, No. 1595, of the 16th December last.

2. The plan enclosed in Mr. Thomas' letter indicates by the letters C. D. E. F. the site made over by the military authorities for the Provincial School, the frontage being C. E. facing the mainroad, and the back D. F. looking upon Sepoys' gardens and some ground formerly required for military purposes, but now either little or not at all used.

3. The last estimate for the School-house included the cost of a privy and a well, and the point at issue is as to where the former is to be placed. So far as records supply information, which is however of a very imperfect character, it would appear that the privy was intended to be built on the site granted; and, if this intention were to be carried out, the only locality for the structure would be that marked G., between the hospital and the school and facing the mainroad. Such an arrangement, however, would be most objectionable, as regards the hospital for sanitary reasons, and as it would be a very unpleasant object to be conspicuously situated close to the mainroad. Moreover, when funds are available, and education has made further progress in South Canara, it will be desirable to locate the Normal classes in a separate building close to the Provincial School, and the area G. should be reserved for this purpose.

4. Supposing G. to be regarded as out of the question as a site for the privy, there remain only two other suitable localities; these are marked A. and B. in the plan. Of these sites A. is near the hospital and would render the privy somewhat conspicuous, while B. lies more concealed and is remote from the hospital. In these circumstances it is evident, as has been felt by the Collector, the Judge, the Medical Officer, the Head Master of the School, and myself, that B. is the place where the privy should be built.

5. The Officer Commanding the station, however, notwithstanding that he was at one time favourable to the selection of A., now declines to allow either A. or B. to be set apart for the privy; though, so far as Mr. Thomas and myself can see, there is no sufficient ground for his decision.

6. In the circumstances above detailed, I have the honour to beg that Government will be pleased to consider the question; and I trust that, unless a really valid objection can be raised to the measure, an order will be passed for the grant of the site B.

7. I take this opportunity of stating that the Educational Department is under much obligation to Mr. Thomas for the friendly interest he takes in the Provincial School.

From H. S. THOMAS, Esq., Acting Collector of South Canara, to the Director of Public Instruction, Madras, dated Mangalore, 16th December 1869, No. 1595.

It is necessary that a site should be selected for the privy* and well* to be constructed in conjunction with the new Provincial School building at Mangalore, but as you have lately seen the spot yourself, it seems unnecessary that I should further† act in your behalf in this matter. I have, therefore, the honour to enclose a plan of the ground, and to inform you of what I had endeavoured to do prior to your arrival at Mangalore.

* Estimate sanctioned in G. O., 24th September 1868, No. 321, E. D. Size of Privy, 48 feet by 32½ feet.

† Your letter, dated 30th September 1865, No 2055.

2. On the receipt of the Engineer's letter requesting me to fix the site, I arranged with Mr. Ormsby, the Head Master of the Provincial School, to meet Colonel E. J. Lawder, the Commandant of the station, and myself on the spot which is within military limits. Colonel Lawder selected the site marked A., and was good enough to state that there was no manner of objection on military grounds to that or any neighbouring site being given, because what had once been retained for an additional encamping ground had now been so cut up with Sepoys' gardens that it was useless for any military purpose.

3. At this time Colonel Lawder and I had both singularly overlooked a correspondence‡ which had passed in the time of our predecessors. Subsequently, however, it came simultaneously to the knowledge of each of us that in the ground asked for by my predecessor and granted in the time of his predecessor, it had been intended to include the privy and well, as well as the Provincial School, and Colonel Lawder thereon thought that the matter having been once settled could not be re-opened, and that consequently the privy must be constructed within the ground originally granted and enclosed in the accompanying plan by the dotted line C. D. E. F.

‡ To Officer Commanding Mangalore, 7th December 1865, No. 168. From Colonel Lawder, 10th August 1869, No. 198.

4. I pointed out to him personally how highly objectionable it seemed to me, on sanitary grounds, that so large§ a privy should be built so close to the main road, the Provincial School and the Hospital, and placed as it then necessarily must be immediately‖ between the latter two buildings, and that when accidentally approaching the subject with an unbiassed mind he had himself decried such a position, had himself selected the site A. as wholly unobjectionable on military grounds, and urged the advantages of that site in respect of retirement and room for ventilation. He had, however, now come to be of opinion that, be that as it might, all this must have been considered by his and my predecessors when the original plot of land was sought and given, and that no ground was shown for our reconsidering it.

§ 48 feet by 32½ feet. No. of boys..... 300.

‖ i. e., at G.

5. Colonel Lawder then having personally stated to me that he not only could not forward but would have to oppose any application for the grant of any other site but C. D. E. F., there remained no choice but to erect the privy at G. But it seemed to me a thousand pities to construct such a building in close proximity to the school, the Military Hospital and the road, and I felt that as I had as Collector been made responsible¶ for the selection of the site, I could not be held blameless if I allowed it to be built in such a position without protest. At the same time I was diffident about proposing that you should be guided by my opinion only. I therefore determined to take other unbiassed opinions, and to forward you the result. Accordingly, I told the Civil and Session Judge Mr. Walhouse, a gentleman deeply interested in the school as one of its chief originators, that there was a difference of opinion about the best site for the privy, and that I should be thankful for his advice. I was careful not to give him the least clue as to what were the different opinions so that his mind might be wholly unbiassed. He was kind enough to accompany me to the ground, and he selected the site B. After he had made his selection I told him the whole story as above, but he abode by his selection. On a subsequent day I went through precisely the same programme with the then Acting Zillah Surgeon Dr. Macpherson, and curiously enough he too selected the precise spot B. almost to a foot, and similarly abode by it after hearing

¶ Your letter, dated 30th September 1865, No. 2055.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Educational Department,
19*th January* 1870.

the objections raised. He further said that site A. as well as G. would be objectionable from their proximity to the Military Hospital, and pointed out to me that if he with the aid of the lash even and a regularly-organized establishment like that at the jail was still unable as Superintendent to make the dry soil conservancy so thorough as to prevent unpleasant effluvia in this moist climate, much less could any Head Master expect to accomplish it with only one or two scavengers, for this class of people are now-a-days specially in demand and correspondingly uncontrollable.

6. On your visit to Mangalore you also saw the spot, and site B. was, you may remember, the one that commended itself to your judgment also.

7. It has this further advantage also, that it is close to, and half hidden behind, one of the old abandoned ruined escalading buts, which will afford a ready and ample supply of dry soil for conservancy.

8. It will be seen, then, that the Civil and Session Judge, the Zillah Surgeon, the Head Master, yourself and I, in fact all I have consulted, are all of one opinion that G. is a highly objectionable position for a large privy; that A. is preferable to it, and that B. is far preferable to either, and I much regret that Colonel Lawder cannot be persuaded to see it in the same light.

9. The only real objection that I can see to site B. is that the connecting of it with the Provincial School compound would have the effect of shutting in the rough slip of extra encamping ground behind A., and cutting off its communication with the road; but this can easily be remedied by leaving a good wide road at E. F. along the side of the compound wall of the Military Hospital.

10. In passing I may mention that even the new Provincial School is not equal to the rapidly increasing educational wants of the rising generation, and that if a sister school is hereafter built to supply the required accommodation, it would be most natural and convenient to place it by the side of the present building, say at G. One privy would also serve for both buildings.

11. With reference to the view that the matter has been already settled by our predecessors in office, I am of opinion that it was far from settled, and left in a very incomplete state. The then Collector, Mr. Cadell, wrote officially* to the then Commanding Officer, Colonel Dobbie, indicating by no more than a pencil mark on the Cantonment Map the spot desired. No official answer seems to have been made to that letter, and only now, after the selection by him of site A. for a privy, does Colonel Lawder communicate to me† the sanction of the Adjutant-General's office for the granting of a site for the Provincial School, though the land has virtually changed hands by some personal arrangement three years ago, and the school has been already erected thereon in the interim. In now formally making over the land for the Provincial School, Colonel Lawder mentions the exact length and breadth, though how he can possibly arrive at what was meant to be granted three years ago I do not know, for neither he, nor I, nor the Adjutant-General's Department can tell which was the map alluded to in the correspondence and order of sanction, and it is the vain endeavour to ascertain this point that has so long delayed my report. Again, whether the map relied on was that now in my office, or that now in Colonel Lawder's office, the entries on both are equally only in pencil made apparently simply by hand and not by scale and in one case, that in his office on which alone he has relied, made somewhat crookedly and evidently roughly. The very maps, too, on which these entries are made are palpably inaccurate, so that even a carefully ruled entry thereon by scale must still be palpably an inaccurate one. Furthermore, Colonel Dobbie himself told me once in conversation that the school had been built outside and to the south of the spot which he had intended to grant. How then can Colonel Lawder deduce the opposite from Colonel Dobbie's pencil marks, and in spite of palpably inaccurate plan and loose pencil marks thereon and Colonel Dobbie's remarks decide those boundaries C. D. E. F. to two-thirds of a yard. All that I now write I have personally pressed upon Colonel Lawder, but *quot homines tot sententiæ*.

* To Officer Commanding Mangalore, 7th December 1865, No. 168.

† From Colonel Lawder, 10th August 1869, No. 198.

12. But even had the matter been very definitely decided, I venture to think that, since the school has been erected, it is much easier to judge of the space required than it was before the ground was touched, and the simple question is, what now appears to be the best site for the school,

and if, as stated, there is no manner of objection to that site being transferred from one department of Government to another for the purpose, why in the name of common sense can it not be done.

13. Having now placed you in possession of all the facts of the case at one view, and you having yourself seen the place, I trust you will be good enough to relieve me of any further responsibility in the matter as your agent, and yourself take such course as you may think proper for the selection of a fitting site for the privy and well to be attached to the Provincial School, and be good enough to communicate the result to the Executive Engineer who seeks instructions for commencing it.

14. I may take this opportunity of suggesting that the ground eventually decided on be fenced in so as to keep cattle from taking shelter in and fouling the verandahs at night time during the monsoon, and to admit of the play-ground being laid out with a few ornamental trees and shrubs, for which latter purpose a small sum might be placed at the disposal of the Head Master.

No. 34. ORDER THEREON, 19th January 1870, No. 18.

The Right Honourable the Governor in Council, in the Educational Department, concurs with the Director of Public Instruction and the Acting Collector of South Canara, that the site marked B. in the plan submitted with the Acting Collector's letter, is the most desirable one for the privy to be erected in connexion with the Provincial School at Mangalore.

2. The Government see no objection to the grant of the site in question, but before passing orders will refer the matter for the opinion of the Commander-in-Chief.

3. The Governor in Council is of opinion that the well should not be placed in such close proximity to the privy as, from the plan, would seem to be intended; but that it should be sunk in some other part of the school compound.

(True Extract.)

J. I. Smith
Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Director of Public Instruction.
„ Collector of South Canara.
„ Military Department, with one enclosure and the sketch.
„ Public Works Department.

Exd. J. Wright.

Lee

No 355

Communicates to the Superintending Engineer 7th Division

Fort St George
28 Jan 1870

To Supt Engr 7th Division

Desp 31/1/70.

Cue 289

Govt. of 1870 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

The Superintending Engr
1st Division

Dated

Recd. Encl.

G. O., 28 Jany 1870, No. 358

Nos. 691 - 692

Provincial Schools Anagaha

Ord. Educational Dept. passing orders on the letter from Director of Public Instruction relative to the Provincial Schools Anagaha in the S. Canara Dist. - Civil Dept. Office concerned