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(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 457 Press / Mis.

158-59

Dated 9 2 1878.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 158. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel J. BEAN, R.E., Acting Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 14th January 1870, No. 5,038 :—

WITH reference to Government Order, No. 3,958, dated 17th December 1869, I have the honour to report that the Assistant Commissary's quarters at the Bakery, Madras, were carefully built of the material which is in ordinary use at the Presidency, and of which none of a bad quality was admitted on the work.

2. The building will be found to bear comparison with any other at the Presidency erected by our department, and during its progress the barracks for the Civil Engineering College Students, Chepauk, were erected of the same material, and have since been occupied without any complaint, as Captain Edgcome informs me, of any defective construction or material.

3. As regards the ridge ventilation reported by Colonel Ewart as constructed so badly that every drop of rain that falls is blown into the room, I would observe that shortly after the quarters were built, the Assistant Commissary complained that the wind blew the rain under the tiles of the ventilator, and eaves boards were put up in consequence by our department just before the monsoon, since which time no rain has penetrated through. Lieutenant Brown now complains that this board harbours vermin, and wishes it removed. In high winds it is impossible to prevent a drop of rain occasionally falling in the room with this style of ventilation, and all we can do is to raise the covering surface of tiles as much as possible.

4. Colonel Ewart also complains that the walls of the house are quite damp from the rain soaking through it on account of the *bad material used.* There are no grounds for making such an accusation against the department as regards material. There has been no leakage in the rooms; Mr. Brown pointed out a slight discolouration in three places at the top of the walls caused by the damp, and such dampness will occur in all new houses, more or less, when the walls are first roofed in with new tiles. Before the next monsoon some of these tiles can be shifted and no leakage need be apprehended.

5. The well was sunk to the full depth, and the water became foul and offensive when not used, which is the case with other wells in this neighbourhood when the water is not drawn. We took the precaution to clean it out and put in sand, and Mr. Brown promises to draw the water for some time before using it, and then to pronounce on its fitness for domestic purposes.

6. Bolts instead of locks were provided on the doors, but a few of the latter will be supplied at Mr. Brown's request after the close of the official year.

7. As regards the rent paid for the quarters when compared with the accommodation afforded, I would observe that, in Government Order, No. 1,797, dated 8th June 1868, the size of the rooms was somewhat curtailed, but after the sanction of the revised plan, the Executive Engineer enclosed a small verandah, and made two extra bath-rooms, to satisfy the then occupant of the building, so that the space afforded was 1,324, instead of 1,416 square feet as in the standard plan, a difference of 92 square feet.

8. The godowns now consist of a cook-room, godown, and latrine, since turned into a separate godown, carriages and horses being provided for in the Bakery out-offices.

9. Mr. Brown, before being furnished with quarters, paid 15 rupees, in addition to his house-rent of Rupees 30 for his private house monthly. He now pays Rupees 25 from his allowances and loses Presidency house-rent, so that the loss to him is Rupees 10 in occupying public quarters, and this amount, or Rupees 15, might be abated from the rent to enable him to hire a house for his servants.

No. 159. ORDER THEREON, 9th February 1870, No. 457.

MILITARY WORKS, No. 3.

THE Controller of Military Accounts having submitted certain correspondence in which the alleged defective construction of the quarters for the Assistant Commissary at the Bakery at Madras was brought to notice, the Government in Proceedings, No. 3,958, dated 17th December 1869, called upon the Superintending Engineer of the 4th Division for such explanations as he might have to offer. These Colonel Bean now submits in his letter above recorded, and, on a consideration of the papers, His Excellency the Governor in Council is inclined to believe that the defects complained of have been exaggerated and can be easily remedied as they have been to some extent already.

2. The Government hope to be able to make a grant during the ensuing official year for the out-buildings to the quarters in question, and they authorize an abatement of rent to the extent of Rupees 10 to be made meanwhile.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Military Department.
" Superintending Engineer, 4th Divisic
" Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

Superintending Engineer's Office
4th Division Madras
4th January 1870.

No. 5038.

From
Lieutenant-Colonel J. Bean R.E.
Acting Superintending Engineer
4th Division

To
Colonel C. A. Orr R.E.
Secretary to Government P.W.D.

Sir,

With reference to Government Order No. 3958 dated 17th December 1869, I have the honor to report that the Assistant Commissary's Quarters at the Bakery Madras were carefully built of the material which is in ordinary use at the Presidency, and of which none of a bad quality was admitted on the work.

2. The Building will be found to bear comparison with any other at the Presidency erected by our Department, and during its progress the Barracks for the Civil Engineering College Students, Chepauk, were erected of

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the same material and have since been occupied without any complaint as Captain Edgcome informs me, of any defective construction or material.

3. As regards the ridge ventilation reported by Colonel Ewart as constructed so badly that every drop of rain that falls is blown into the room, I would observe that shortly after the quarters were built the Assistant Commissary complained that the wind blew the rain under the tiles of the ventilators some boards were put up in consequence by our Department (just before the Monsoon, since which time no rain has penetrated through.) Lieutenant Brown now complains that the board harbors vermin, and wishes it removed. In high winds it is impossible to prevent a drop of rain occasionally falling in the room with this style of ventilation, and all we can do is to raise the covering surface of tiles as much as possible.

4. Colonel Ewart also complains that the walls of the house are quite damp from the rain soaking through it on account

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of the bad material used. There are no grounds for making such an accusation against this Department as regards material. There has been no leakage in the rooms. Mr Brown pointed out a slight discoloration in three places at the top of the walls caused by the damp, and such dampness will occur in all new houses, more or less, when the walls are first roofed in with new tiles. Before the next monsoon some of these tiles can be shifted and no leakage need be apprehended.

5. The well was sunk to the full depth, and the water became foul and offensive when not used, which is the case with other wells in this neighbourhood when the water is not drawn. We took the precaution to clean it out and put in sand and Mr Brown promised to draw the water for some time before using it, and then to pronounce on its fitness for domestic purposes.

6. Bolts instead of locks were provided on the doors, but a few of the latter will be supplied at Mr Brown's request after the close of the official year.

7.

7. ... Regards the rent paid for the Quarters when compared with the accommodation afforded, I would observe that in Government Order No. 1797 dated 8th June 1865 the size of the rooms was somewhat curtailed, but after the sanction of the revised plan, the Executive Engineer enclosed a small verandah, and made two extra bath rooms, to satisfy the then occupant of the building, so that the space afforded was 1324 instead of 1416 square feet as in the standard plan, a difference of 92 square feet.

8. The Godowns now consist of a cook room, godown, and latrine, once turned into a separate godown, carriages and horses being provided for in the Bakery out offices.

9. Mr Brown before being furnished with quarters, paid 15 Rupees in addition to his house rent of Rupees 30 for his private house monthly. He now pays Rupees 25 from his allowances and loses Residency house rent so that the loss to him is Rupees 10, on occupying public quarters, and this amount or Rupees 15 might be abated from the rent to enable him to hire a house for his servants.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obedient Servant
[illegible] Lt Colo RE
Bg Engrs 4th Div

Public Works Department.

No 457

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 9th July 1870

Read the following.

From. The Superintending Engineer, N.E. Division

To. The Secretary to Govt. P.W. Dept.

No. 5038 dated 15th January 1870

Submits having submitted certain correspondence with the Collector of Chingleput which the alleged defective construction of the quarters for the Assistant Commissary at the Battery at Mamallapuram has brought to notice, that Lieut. Brown's application dated 19th December 1869 called upon the Superintending Engineer to have the quarters for Lieut. Brown repaired, as he brought home

to Mr. Chief Secretary Lushington's notice, letter adverted to, and in his letter above recorded, and in consideration

of

From Govt. No 1740 dated 5th February 1870

The Superintending Engineer 4th Division

To The Secretary to Govt. P.W. Dept.

Dated 13th January 1870

No 5038

Reporting that the Asst. to Commissary's quarters at the Battery - Mamallapuram were carefully built of the materials which in ordinary use at the Presidency, and that 10 or 15 Rs. may be abated from the result to enable Lieut. Brown to have a house for his servants

No 457 - 9th July 1870

No 158

dated 24th January 1870 Read 3rd July

of the papers His Excellency the Governor in Council is inclined to believe that the defects complained of have been exaggerated and can be easily remedied as they have been to some extent already.

As the Govt hope to be able to make a grant during the ensuing Official year for the outbuildings to the Quarters in question, they ~~are not prepared to~~ authorize an abatement of rent to ~~considerable for~~ the Governor of Upper C. to make meanwhile ~~unavoidable delay in their removal~~ provision.

A.B.

To the Finly. Dept.
" Engineer & " Do
" Controller of P.W. Accts.
Receiver Gen.

Cue 174

Gobt. of 1870 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Military Department

Dated

Recd.

G. O. Q. Feby 1870. No. 1457.

Nos. 158-159

Sub Bakery at Madras Forbg
orders on the letter from the
Secy Engrs & the Asst Engr submitting
the explanation called for, re-
garding the alleged departure
from instructions of the 22nd June last
& Commissary at the proposed
Bakery at Madras