

(1) Number of pages _____

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 27-277	Press Mis.
Dated 2/1	18

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
21st October 1870.*

Read the following letters.—

No. 297. From Captain R. A. ROBERTS, R. E., Acting Superintending Engineer, 5th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Sooramungalum, 23rd August 1870, No. 100.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for the sanction of Government, for entry in the next year's Budget, the under-mentioned two estimates, accompanied by plans and specifications, amounting in the aggregate to Rupees 12,020, for certain Military buildings at Bangalore, namely—

2 Plans	
2 Estimates	
2 Specifications	
(1) Constructing quarters for one Apothecary and one Assistant Apothecary for Garrison Hospital at Bangalore	RS. 7,660
(2.) Constructing a quarter for one Apothecary for Medical Stores at Bangalore	... 4,360

Total . 12,020

2. As the plans and estimates have been approved of by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, the *plans* being of the standard designs, I have considered it my duty to forward them on for the sanction of Government, as desired, for entry in the Budget of 1871-72.

3. At the same time, as Acting Superintending Engineer of this Division, I cannot adopt this course without expressing my opinion that the large outlay proposed, considering the class of persons for whom the buildings are designed, appears to me an unnecessarily heavy burthen on the finances of the country.

No. 298. From the same Officer, dated Cuddalore, 10th October 1870, No. 141.

In conformity with the instructions contained in your memorandum, No. 72, dated 19th September 1870, calling upon me to submit a specific suggestion, by the adoption of which a portion of the outlay on the proposed quarters for Apothecaries at Bangalore may be saved, I have the honour to state as follows—

2. If quarters are constructed at all, it is obvious that they must be built of a style, and of materials, in harmony with the rest of the buildings; and to provide, therefore, only a moderate amount of accommodation, a certain large expenditure has of necessity to be incurred.

3. The question then naturally suggests itself—why should these quarters be constructed at all?

4. In G. O., No. 792, dated 23rd June 1870, communicating the scale of house-rent authorized by the Supreme Government for Medical Subordinates, it appears that an Apothecary is allowed Rupees 30, and an Assistant Apothecary Rupees 20 per mensem as house-rent.

5. Now a house-rent of Rupees 30 per mensem represents in this country a *maximum* outlay, on the part of the builder, of Rupees 3,000, and of Rupees 2,000 for a house-rent of Rupees 20, or Rupees 5,000 in all against the proposed outlay of Rupees 7,660.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
21st October 1870*

6 I am inclined to think that with the views generally entertained by those occupying public quarters as to the unlimited amount of maintenance repairs that are to be done for them, it will be found far more economical for Government to allow these subordinates house-rent than to construct, for the proposed quarters, buildings of a style which no Regimental Officer can ever hope or aspire to occupy.

7 On the score of discipline, I maintain that it is far from advisable that an Apothecary, with his wife and family, and the inevitable and prolific "tunny-catchee," with her brood of dusky nudities, should be located in the midst of the soldiery.

8. To the Apothecary and his family such a position must necessarily be irksome and disagreeable from the want of privacy, and it is manifest that were the choice offered him he would elect to live in a garden bungalow at a little distance off, and proceed to and fro his work in the homely "jhutkar," or more sociable family bullock-coach.

9. In a sanitary point of view, the additional impurification of the air, occasioned by a number of non-combatant residents, and the impediment to ventilation, caused by the enclosure walls, where as much pure air and ventilation as possible are a vital necessity for the health of the troops, are much to be deprecated.

10. As a matter of course, in the hospital itself accommodation is provided for the Medical Officers and Subordinates on duty, and this is all that appears to me to be essentially required.

11. Indeed, I would strongly urge that, for the better conservation of the troops, a cordon should be drawn round the barracks, and that under no excuse whatever should any non-combatant be allowed to reside within that limit.

12. If this question be once raised, and the thin edge of the wedge inserted, there is no knowing where to stop. For surely the Regimental Officers themselves have the first claim, as a matter of discipline, for accommodation near their men, and the cost of constructing such quarters would be very heavy indeed.

13. I am not aware of the nature of the circumstances under which the scale of quarters, authorized by the Government of India and promulgated in G. O., No. 460, dated 11th December 1866 for Medical Subordinates, has been recently so very much enlarged. In that order the house rents for an Apothecary and an Assistant Apothecary are entered as Rupees 12 and Rupees 5-8-0, respectively, instead of Rupees 30 and Rupees 20 as now authorized—amounts which, in comparison with the rentals paid by Commissioned Officers in this Presidency, appear to be out of all keeping with the pay and social position of the Medical Subordinates.

14. High as they are, I think it preferable in every way, for the reasons above explained, to pay these rentals. To build up to them on the supposition of rate of interest at 6 per cent, as has been proposed, appears to me not only to be squandering money but to be a most detrimental policy. For to charge the capital account of the construction of most expensive and unnecessary erections on the revenues of the country at a time when the country is barely solvent, appears to me simply to invite disaffection.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
21st October 1870.*

No. 299

ORDLR THEREON, 21st October 1870, No. 2,513.

MILITARY WORKS, No 9.

With his letter of the 23rd August 1870, No 100, the Acting Superintending Engineer of the 5th Division, while submitting the estimates, marginally noted, which had received the approval of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, for providing quarters for Apothecaries at Bangalore on the scale ordered by the Government of India, remarked that, considering the class of persons for whom the buildings were designed, the proposed outlay was unnecessarily heavy. Captain Roberts was accordingly called upon to submit a specific suggestion, by the adoption of which a portion of the cost might be saved. The second of the letters at the head of these Proceedings is that Officer's reply, in which Captain Roberts expresses the opinion that it would be more economical to allow house-rent to the Apothecaries in question than to incur the expense of building quarters for them.

2. The papers will now be communicated to the Military Department with a view to the opinion of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief on the question of providing quarters for the Apothecaries attached to the Garrison Hospital and Medical Stores at Bangalore being obtained

(True Extract)

Colonel, R E,

Secretary to Government.

To the Acting Superintending Engineer, 5th Division
" Military Department.

Exd. E. C Shunker.

Govt. of {1870} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE ACTING SUPERINTENDING

ENGINEER 5th Division

Ac, &c, &c.

Dated October, 21st.

Recd

Encl.

G. O., 21st October 1870, No 2,513.

OCTOBER.

Nos. 297-299

Quarters — The question of providing quarters for the Apothecaries attached to the Garrison Hospital and Medical Stores at Bangalore referred to the Military Department with a view to the opinion of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief being obtained.

No 100.

Superintg Engrs Office
Soramangalam 23rd August 1870.

From,

The Asg. Superintg Engineer
5th Division

To, The Secretary to Government
D. P. W

Sir,

I have the honor to forward, Enclosures 6. for the sanction of Government, for 2 Plans. entry in the next year's Budget, the 2 Estimates. undermentioned 2 Estimates, accompa- 2 Specifications nished by plans and specifications amounting in the aggregate to Rupees 12,020 for certain Military Buildings at Bangalore. vizt

- 1 Constructing Quarters for one Apothecary and one Asst Apothecary for Garrison Hospital at Bangalore. Rs 7660--
2. Constructing a Quarter for one Apothecary for Medical Stores at Bangalore ————— Rs 4360--
12,020--

2. As the plans and Estimates have been approved of by His Excellency

the Commander-in-Chief, the plans
being of the standard designs, I have
considered it my duty to forward
them on for the sanction of Government,
as desired, for entry in the Budget
of 1871-72.

3. At the same time, as Acting
Superintending Engineer of this Division,
I cannot adopt this course without
expressing my opinion that the
large outlay proposed, considering
the class of persons for whom the
buildings are designed, appears to
me an unnecessarily heavy burthen
on the finances of the Country.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most obedt. Servt.

Richd. Roberts Capt. R.E.

Ag. Superintg. Engineer
S. E. D.

expended

Superintg Engrs Office,
Cuddalore, 10th Oct: 1870.

No 141.

From

Captain R. A. Roberts R.E.,
Superintending Engineer,
5th Division.

To,

The Secretary to Government,
P. W. Department,
Madras.

Sir,

In conformity with the instructions contained in your Memo No 72, dated 19th September 1870, calling upon me to submit a specific suggestion by the adoption of which a portion of the outlay on the proposed quarters for Apothecaries at Bangalore may be saved, I have the honor to state as follows.

2. If Quarters are constructed at all, it is obvious that they must be built of a style, and of materials, in harmony with the rest of the buildings. And to provide, therefore, only a moderate amount of accommodation a certain large expenditure

With Works 1370 Ac. for payment
from - 8-33341

The dy. duty: Engineer
5th Division,

To the Secretary to
Government &c.

Dated 23rd
Decr. 25th 1870.

No 100
Enclosure 6

Military Works.

Appropriating for the
construction of Government
for utility in the next
years' Budget, setting
for certain Military
works at Bangalore,
amounting to Rs 11,000

No 513-21 in 1870

206 Oct 23 1870 A. 175

1870

expenditure has of necessity to be incurred.

3. The question then naturally suggests itself, why should these Quarters be constructed at all?

4. In G. O. No. 792, dated 23rd June 1870, communicating the scale of House-rent authorized by the Supreme Government, for Medical subordinates, it appears that an Apothecary is allowed Rs 30, and an Assistant Apothecary Rs 20 per mensem as house-rent.

5. Now a House-rent of Rs 30 per mensem represents in this country a maximum outlay, on the part of the builder, of Rupees 3,000, and of Rupees 2,000 for a house-rent of Rupees 20, or Rupees 5,000 in all against the proposed outlay of Rs 7,660.

6. I am inclined to think that with the views generally entertained by those occupying public quarters as to the unlimited amount of maintenance repairs that are to be done for them, it will be found for

far more economical for Government to allow these subordinates house-rent than to construct, for the proposed quarters, buildings of a style which no Regimental officer can ever hope or aspire to occupy.

7. On the score of discipline, it maintains that it is far from advisable that an Apothecary, with his wife and family, and the inevitable and prolific "tunny catch", with her brood of dusky nudities, should be located in the midst of the soldiery.

8. To the Apothecary and his family, such a position must necessarily be irksome and disagreeable from the want of privacy; and it is manifest that were the choice offered him he would elect to live in a garden bungalow at a little distance off, ^{and} proceed to and fro his work in the homely "phut-hari", or more sociable family bullock-coach.

9. In a sanitary point of view, the additional impurification of the

the air, occasioned by a number of non-combatant residents, and the impediment to ventilation, caused by the enclosure walls, where as much pure air and ventilation as possible are a vital necessity for the health of the Troops, are much to be deprecated.

10. As a matter of course, in the Hospital itself accommodation is provided for the Medical officers and Subordinates on duty, and this is all that appears to me to be essentially required.

11. Indeed, I would strongly urge that for the better conservation of the Troops a cordon should be drawn round the Barracks, and that under no excuse whatever should any non-combatant be allowed to reside within that limit.

12. If this question be once raised, and the thin edge of the wedge inserted, there is no knowing where to stop. For surely the Regimental officers

officers themselves have the first claim, as a matter of discipline, for accommodation near their men, and the cost of constructing such Quarters would be very heavy indeed.

13. I am not aware of the nature of the circumstances under which the scale of Quarters authorized by the Government of India and promulgated in G. O. No. 460, dated 11th December 1866 for Medical Subordinates, has been recently so very much enlarged. In that order the house rents for an Apothecary & an Assistant Apothecary are entered as Rs 12 & Rs 5-8-0, respectively, instead of Rs 30 & Rs 20 as now authorized - amounts which, in comparison, with the rentals paid by commissioned officers in this Presidency, appear to be out of all keeping with the pay and social position of the Medical Subordinates.

14. High as they are, I think it preferable, every way, for the reasons?

reasons above explained, to pay
these rentals. To build up to them
on the supposition, rate of interest
at 6 per cent, as has been proposed,
appears to me not only to be squan-
-dering money, but to be a most
detrimental policy. Nor to charge
the capital account of the construction
of most expensive and unnecessary
erections on the Revenues of the
country at a time when the country
is barely solvent, appears to me
simply to invite disaffection.

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

Rich^d Roberts Capt. R.E.
Superint^g Engineer

12/20/98



Supd to Secy 24/4/70 A. 17

Public Works Department.
No 2513
Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 21st October 1870.

Read the following
From The AG Supr Engineer 5th D. / H. E. No 100 d/ 23rd August 1870/
— do — do 5th D. / H. E. No 141 d/ 10th October 1870/

Quarters for one Apothecary Rs
and one Asst Apothecary
for Garrison Hospital.
at Bangalore — 7,660
Quarters for one Apothecary
for Inco^{rs} Stores at — do — 4,360

With his letter of the
23rd August 1870 No. 100
the Acting Supr Engineer
of the 5th D^y, while sub-
mitting the estimates,
marginally noted, which
had received the approval
of His Excellency the Com-
mander-in-Chief, for
providing Quarters for
Apothecaries at Bangalore
on the scale ordered by
the Govt of India, re-
marked that, considering
the class of persons for
whom

Supd to Secy 24/4/70 A. 17

whom the buildings were designed, the proposed outlay was unnecessarily heavy. Captain Roberts was accordingly called upon to submit a specific suggestion, by the adoption of which a portion of the cost might be saved. The letter at the head of these proceedings is that officer's reply, in which Captain Roberts expresses the opinion that it would be more economical to allow house-rent to the Apothecaries in question than to incur the expense of building quarters for them. The papers will ^{now} be communicated to the

Military

Military Departt with a view to the opinion of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief on the question of providing quarters for the Apothecaries attached to the Garrison Hospital and Medical stores at Bangalore being obtained.

A. B.

34
To.

The Sup^r Engrs. S^r D^r

Truly: Departe^r d^r
S^r J. G. (Whist^r).
Dec/22/10/70

1700 4075
Govt. of 1870, Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

1. The Dy. Superintending Engineer
5th Division

Date

Read

By

G O 21 Oct 1870 2513

No. 297 (299)

Quarters. The question of providing
quarters for the up. theas. is attached
to the Garrison Hospital & Medical
Stores at Bangalore referred to the
Mil. Dep. for ~~their~~ with a
view to the opinion of the
the Commander in Chief being
obtained.