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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2313	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
288-289		
Dated	18-9-	195
		1873

Not to be folded or roughly handled

12

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
18th September 1873.*

No. 288. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Military Department, dated 24th July 1873, No. 2,400:—

ABSTRACT.—Communicating remarks of the Government of India regarding the allotment of a sum for building a church at Wellington.

No. 289. ORDER THEREON, 18th September 1873, No. 2,313.

MILITARY WORKS, No. 7.

No occasion having yet arisen for the appropriation of the barrack-room, in which Divine Service has hitherto been held by the Chaplain at Wellington, for the accommodation of additional convalescents, and no such occasion being anticipated as likely to arise, so far as can be foreseen, His Excellency the Governor in Council resolves to postpone further consideration of the subject of providing a separate church for the military at that station until some of the more pressing military wants of the Presidency shall have been supplied.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Neilgherries, with G. O., No. 1,350, dated 19th
„ Inspecting Engineer for Civil and Military Buildings, April 1873, Mil. Dept.
„ Military Department.

Exd. S. T. Austin,
Spare Copies.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

No. 1,350.

To

The Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department.

SIR,

I am directed to forward, for the favorable consideration of the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council, the accompanying correspondence, regarding the erection of a church at Wellington, and, with reference to paragraph 5, Section IV., Chapter X. of the Public Works Code, to draw attention to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief's remark that as it is proposed in future to keep the Wellington Depot full, the barrack-rooms hitherto appropriated for Divine Service and other purposes will be required for the accommodation of young soldiers and weakly men on first arrival in India.

From the Right Reverend the Bishop of Madras, dated 12th March 1873, No. 389.
From the Quarter Master General, dated 21st March 1873, No. 2263.
With plans (to be returned.)

I have the honor to be,

Sir

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) A. C. SILVER, Colonel,

Secretary to Government.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
19th April 1873.

No. 267. From the Right Reverend FREDERICK GELL, D.D., Lord Bishop of Madras, to His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, Fort Saint George, dated Adyar, 12th March 1873, No. 389.

I have received from the Church Committee of Wellington a very earnest request that I would place before Government the advisability of building a church for the troops at that station.

2. Nearly ten years ago I brought this matter before the Government: and in an Order, dated 14th October 1863, No. 241, the request was declined, "the Home Government having prohibited the erection of churches for the exclusive accommodation of Protestant soldiers at isolated military stations where there is no civil congregation."

3. But circumstances have arisen now which render the need of a church much more urgent than it was at that time. I am informed that, owing to the large number of troops now in quarters at Wellington, the military authorities have been compelled to appropriate for other purposes the barrack-room in which the Chaplain has been accustomed to hold Divine Service; and that the Chaplain now has to officiate in the room in which the Roman Catholic Priest performs service.

4. Such an arrangement is highly inconvenient, and does not seem to be capable of much, if any, improvement in the existing buildings, and at a time when so many troops are quartered there. And yet the same inconvenience may occur again, if not every year, yet frequently.

5. Therefore, without repeating the arguments so forcibly stated by the Rev. J. Richards, in his letter of 18th July 1863, [See Proceedings referred to above in paragraph 2] in favor of providing for soldiers a suitable building for the worship of Almighty God, I respectfully bring this important subject again before your Excellency in Council, and request that it may be favorably considered under the new aspect in which the present want of room in Wellington barracks places it.

6. The Church Committee have sent me a design for a church, which I forward with this letter to your Excellency. In the present stage of their application no details are given, but the cost is roughly estimated at Rupees 65,000.

Transferred to the Military Department.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
15th March 1873.

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Chief Secretary.

Referred to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.
18th March 1873.

No. 268. From Colonel H. O'CONNELL, Officiating Quarter Master General, to Colonel A. C. SILVER, Secretary to Government, Military Department; dated Fort Saint George, 21st March 1873, No. 2,262.

In returning letter from the Bishop of Madras, regarding the erection of a church at Wellington, referred by you to the Commander-in-Chief on the 18th instant, I have the honor, by order, to state that His Excellency Sir Frederick Haines supports the recommendation.

2. It having been found that young soldiers and weakly men on first arrival in India are benefited in health by some months residence at Wellington, it is probable that in future the depot there will be kept full. Barrack-rooms hitherto appropriated for Divine Service and other purposes will be required, and the erection of a church becomes necessary.

(True Copies.)

(Signed) A. C. SILVER, Colonel,
Secretary to Government.

Exd. S. T. Austin.

576
Proceedings of the Madras Government, Military Department,
24th July 1873.

Buildings and Roads, (Military.)

Read the following letter:—

No. 351. From GORDON COTTON, Esq., Officiating Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, to Colonel A. C. SILVER, Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort Saint George; dated Simla, 4th July 1873, No. 1118-B. M.

With reference to your letter, No. 1350 of the 19th April last, to the address of the Military Department, forwarding correspondence regarding the provision of a church at Wellington, I am directed to state, that the Governor General in Council has no objection to the estimate for a church being considered along with other items in the Military Public Works Budget for next year, but that His Excellency considers £6,000 to be an excessive sum for a building, the accommodation in which does not appear to be sufficient for more than 300 soldiers.

2. Unless the expenses of building operations are unusually expensive at Wellington, it appears to His Excellency in Council, that a sum of £2,000 should suffice for a plain simple building, such as is contemplated in the rules laid down in Chapter X. Section 4, of the Public Works Code, and I am to express a hope that the design and estimate may be so framed that this limit may be maintained as closely as possible.

No. 352. ORDER THEREON, 24th July 1873, No. 2400.

Communicated to the Right Revd. the Lord Bishop* of Madras, through the

*Letter No. 389, dated 12th March 1873.

Ecclesiastical Department, and to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief,†

†Quarter Master General's letter, No. 2262, dated 21st March 1873.

with reference to previous correspondence, also to the Public Works Department, together with a copy of that correspondence.

(True Extract.)

Mineral
Secretary to Government.

To the Ecclesiastical Department.
" Quarter Master General.
" Public Works Department.

File No. 1350 of 19 April 73. 8104/one copy.

Exd. P. Parthasarathy.

shall shew distinctly
the number of sittings
it is intended to provide,
and the data on which
this number was de-
termined. The same
Chapter directs that
400 sittings shall be
provided for the
Protestants of a
Regiment of British
Infantry; to accommo-
date which the Barr-
acks at Wellington
were originally planned
and the sum to be granted
by Government is
noted as Rs 16,000.

But the cost of building

a building -

But we have ascertained
that the Govt. of India that
this room is required
for the accommodation
of soldiers -

Could not this
accommodation be
provided at a less
cost than Rs 30,000
or Rs 40,000,

leaving the room
now used as a church
to perform the
functions of a
church?

It may be possible
to save a sum of
Rs 10,000 by
building a sum of

Rs 10,000 by
building a sum of

money on building
a church when so
many stations are
without ministers.

J. V. S.

on the Neigherry Hills,
owing to the distances
from which lime
timber and skilled
labour have to be brought
varies from twice
to two and a half
times that of building
in the plains; hence
a sum of Rs 30,000 to
Rs 40,000 will proba-
bly be required. With-
in which limits of
accommodation and
cost (including such
plain furniture as
is essential) the Dis-
trict Engineer will
accordingly proceed

to estimate for a Church
of simple design adapted
for the special pur-
pose in view.

Q.M.W.

To the D^y Engineer
Wellington.

Re 22nd Decr.

Ref. 2313
Proceedings of the Madras Government.

No 2313

11/26

Under date the Sept^r/73.

Read the following

Pro: Madras Government
Military Dep^t

(H. E. No. 2400 of 24th
July 1873)

Is

No occasion having
yet arisen for the ap-
propriation of the
Barrack Room, in
which Divine service
has hitherto been held
by the Chaplain at
Wellington, for the
accommodation of
additional Convalescents,
and no such occasion
being anticipated as

CP 4292
Govt. of 1873 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

to The District Engineer
Nulghur

25/11

Date

Recd.

Encl. /

G. O. 18th Sept 1873, No. 2313.

Nos. 288 & 289

Church at Wellington.

Postponing further
consideration of the
subject of providing a
separate Church for
the Military at
Wellington —

Q