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# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

## Government of Madras

*Public Works*

DEPARTMENT

|          |       |       |
|----------|-------|-------|
| G.O. No. | 525   | Press |
| B.P. No. |       | Mis.  |
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| Dated    | 14-2- | 1843. |

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,  
17th February 1873.*

Read the following letters:—

No. 394. From the District Engineer, Presidency, to the Chief Engineer and Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Fort St. George, 9th January 1873, No. 2,794.

With reference to G. O., No. 183, dated 20th March 1872, Public Works Department, I have the honour to submit for sanction a plan and an estimate, amounting to Rupees 13,280, for making certain alterations and improvements to

the new Police Court-house on the Pantheon Road at Egmore.

|                                                      |           |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Constructing verandah in the lower story ... ..   | RS. 3,400 |
| 2. Do. do. upper story... ..                         | 1,300     |
| 3. Do. portico ... ..                                | 1,750     |
| 4. Teak-wood staircase ... ..                        | 300       |
| 5. Altering terrace and providing three doors ... .. | 450       |
| 6. Rattan mats ... ..                                | 650       |
| 7. Sundries ... ..                                   | 150       |
| Total...                                             | 8,000     |

2. The approximate estimate of Rupees 8,000 for the work in question, sanctioned in G. O. above referred to, provided only for the items noted in the margin, these having been all that were at first demanded by the Magistrate of Police. Later, further improvements were represented to be absolutely necessary from time to time.

|                                                    |           |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Centre block, lower story ... ..                | RS. 1,063 |
| 2. " " upper " ... ..                              | 206       |
| 3. North-east wing wooden landing ... ..           | 236       |
| 4. South-west lower story ... ..                   | 560       |
| 5. West wing, north verandah ... ..                | 305       |
| 6. Constructing tunnels, gates, roads, etc. ... .. | 1,390     |
| 7. Upper story, terraced verandah ... ..           | 1,520     |
| Total..                                            | 5,280     |

These are shown in the margin, and are included in the estimate now submitted, which is Rupees 5,280 in excess of the approximate.

3. I regret that there has been much delay in the submission of this estimate, which is due to the Overseer Soobroya Pillay of the late Southern Range, and who is in charge of this work,

having been fully occupied in the preparation of several other lengthy estimates under the orders of Mr. Supervisor West, in addition to his current out-door work of inspection. The services of Mr.

\* From 8th May to 5th August 1872.

West, however, were for a long period\*

lost to me, as Colonel Moberly was compelled to remove him temporarily to Vellore after the accidents to the Vellore Tanks.

4. The project received my constant personal attention and was never for a moment lost sight of, but with the work to be got through and with the *personnel* available, more could not possibly be attained. I acquit Mr. West and Soobroya Pillay of any blame.

5. I take this opportunity of submitting a comparative statement, showing an excess of Rupees 1,700 over the original estimate of Rupees 26,850, sanctioned in G. O., No. 169, dated 21st July 1871, for certain additions and improvements to the old Presidency College buildings, to convert it into a new Police Court-house on the Pantheon Road, which is about 6½ per cent. on the original sanction, and request that you will be pleased to obtain the sanction of Government for this amount.

6. The cause of this excess is due generally to extra works required to be executed from time to time, as during the progress of the improvements faulty

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portions of the building were exposed, such as bad relieving arches over doors and windows, walls were more or less injured by demolitions required for carrying out the sanctioned improvements, and decayed joists, bressummers, rafters, etc., which had to be made good as alterations exposed them. The compound wall also was found cracked in some parts from the foundation up, and had to be re-built in consequence.

7. All these items were not included in the original estimate of Rupees 26,850, as they could not well be foreseen when that document was prepared by my predecessor, Major Hunter, R.E., Executive Engineer.

8. Having, on joining the Presidency Range in May last, foreseen the insufficiency of both this estimate of Rupees 26,850 and the approximate estimate of Rupees 8,000, I reported the matter to the late Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, in my letters as per margin, but the subject seems to have been lost sight of in his office. Colonel Moberly, R.E., had recently joined the division, and about that time the cyclone had breached certain large tanks in Vellore, which necessitated that officer making a long tour in the North Arcot District. My reports do not appear to have been laid before

No. 718, dated 24th June 1872.  
,, 1,904, ,, 24th Oct. ,,

|                                                                                                                                                     |     |        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|--------|
| Amount originally sanctioned in G.O., No. 169, dated 21st July 1871                                                                                 | RS. | 26,850 |
| Excess now requiring sanction—vide comparative statement                                                                                            |     | 1,700  |
| Amount of the present estimate for additions for which an approximate amount in Rupees 8,000 was sanctioned in G.O., No. 183, dated 20th March 1872 |     | 13,280 |
| Total...                                                                                                                                            |     | 41,830 |

|                                                 |        |    |    |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------|----|----|
| Amount expended by Major Hunter up to Jan. 1872 | RS.    | A. | P. |
| Do. by Captain Edgcome up to March 1872         | 15,927 | 14 | 10 |
| Do. by Colonel Goddard up to Nov. 1872          | 9,921  | 8  | 9  |
|                                                 | 1,508  | 14 | 4  |
| Total...                                        | 27,358 | 5  | 11 |

for expenditure in the current official year in G. O., No. 1,429, dated 8th June 1872. In addition to this a sum of Rupees 8,000 was also granted for carrying out the additions sanctioned in G. O., No. 183, dated 20th March 1872, making a total allotment of Rupees 9,001 for expenditure during the current official year on the entire project; but as a sum of Rupees 6,980 will still be required to complete the work as shown in the margin, I request that additional funds to the extent of Rupees 6,980 may be allotted from the one lakh grant for the purchase of a suitable residence for Prince Azcem Jah Bahadoor, referred to

|                                                                |     |        |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----|--------|
| Amount of revised estimate                                     | RS. | 41,830 |
| Expended up to the end of 1871-72                              |     | 25,849 |
| Balance...                                                     |     | 15,981 |
| Deduct amount allotted in G.O., No. 1,429, dated 8th June 1872 |     | 1,001  |
| Do. in G.O., No. 183, dated 20th March 1872                    |     | 8,000  |
|                                                                |     | 9,001  |
| Rupees now requiring sanction                                  |     | 6,980  |

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in G. O., Political Department, No. 113, dated 23th March 1870, and No. 50, dated 10th February 1872, Political Department, to enable me to complete the entire project before the end of the current official year.

11. I have not been able to prepare a comparative statement for the entire project, as the approximate estimate of Rupees 8,000, sanctioned for the additional works demanded by the Magistrate, could not be compared with the detailed estimate of Rupees 13,280.

No. 395. From the same Officer, dated Fort St. George, 23th January 1873,  
No. 3,073.

With reference to your memorandum No. 25, dated 18th January 1873, I have the honour to explain that many of the items appearing in the revised estimate,

1 Statement.

amounting to Rupees 13,280, for alterations and improvements to the new Police Court-house on the Pantheon Road, were not included in the Police Magistrate's original demand conveyed in his letter No. 38, dated 4th March 1872, embodied in G. O., Judicial Department, No. 356, dated 14th March 1872, in which an approximate estimate of Rupees 8,000 was sanctioned for execution, *vide* Public Works Department Order, No. 183, dated 20th March 1872, but were subsequently commenced by my predecessor at the verbal request of the Police authorities, and without any order from Government.

2. The items provided for in the original approximate estimate of Rupees 8,000, and those in the revised estimate, amounting to Rupees 13,280, are already shown in paragraph 2 of my letter No. 2,794, dated 9th instant; but in obedience to paragraph 2 of your memorandum under reply, I beg to submit a statement showing the expenditure actually incurred up to the end of December 1872, and remaining to be incurred to complete the works under each of the six heads of the approximate estimate, and thirteen heads of the revised estimate.

3. In explanation of the difference between the two estimates and the additional accommodation provided for in revised estimate, I beg to offer the following explanation.

4. The excess in Item No. 2 of the original approximate estimate of Rupees 8,000, is attributable to the construction of a verandah not originally contemplated, which was provided on the north-east wing at the request of the Police Department, to prevent the morning sun beating into the rooms on that side.

5. The saving in Item No. 3 is due to the alteration of the visitor's entrance and portico, which were shifted from the centre of the building to the east wing, to avoid the proximity of the visitor's entrance to the Court entrance. A decrease in the dimensions of the portico became necessary and a consequent saving ensued.

6. Item No. 4.—As just stated in reference to Item No. 3, the position of the visitor's entrance being altered a new staircase had to be provided. The position of the entrance originally contemplated was close to an existing staircase which only required adaptation, but under the revised design the old staircase was useless and had to be removed to make room for the Magistrate's Court to be held in the well-hole of the said staircase.

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7. *Item No. 5.*—The original approximate estimate was inadequate.
8. *Item No. 6.*—Want of accuracy in the approximate estimate was the cause of increase.
9. *Item No. 3 in the revised estimate.*—The security of the building and the necessity for thorough ventilation of a crowded Court demanded this alteration which consisted of walls and arches, and of flooring for the well-hole of the old staircase, also doors and windows.
10. *Item No. 4.*—The work here done was for the better convenience of the occupants, and consisted of additional doors and windows.
11. *Item No. 5 of the revised estimate.*—The room already constructed before I assumed charge would have been virtually unapproachable by water-men without this ladder and landing. I, upon personal representation made by Major Weldon, when we inspected the work together, ordered the provision of the landing and ladder.
12. *Items 6 and 8.*—Alterations required for the convenience of the Court and security of the building caused this increase. The work consists of walls, arches, pillars, and terracing.
13. *Items 3, 4, 6 and 8* were all under progress when I assumed charge of the Presidency Range, and I was verbally informed by the Overseer that they were ordered by my predecessor at the verbal request of the Police authorities.
14. The remarks explanatory of the necessity for *Items Nos. 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13* are entered in the column of remarks of the tabular statement.
15. The work provided for in *Item No. 6* of the approximate estimate and *Nos. 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13* of the revised estimate is now about to be put in hands, with a view to completion before the close of the current official year.

No. 396.

ORDER THEREON, 17th February 1873, No. 525.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 20.

His Excellency the Governor in Council sanctions the total excess of expenditure, amounting to Rupees 1,700, incurred on the three estimates sanctioned in G. O., No. 931, of 12th July 1871, (Judicial Department.) The estimates having been for distinct and separate purposes, very much office work might have been saved by treating the variations from them separately. For instance, the excess on the first estimate not amounting to 4 per cent., and a small saving having been made on the second, no details of the outlay on them were called for; but only of the excess on the third estimate, of Rupees 1,320, or more than 11 per cent. of its amount, which is satisfactorily accounted for. The Government will hold Range and District Officers responsible for the good management of their offices, the work of which, incessantly complained of, may often be lessened by better supervision of it. And they will expect Inspecting Officers to take notice of any carelessness involving preparation and copying of useless papers.

2. His Excellency the Governor in Council is unable to accept the District Engineer's excuses for not revising at a much earlier date the details of the

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approximate estimate for accommodating the Police Magistrate, sanctioned in G. O., No. 356,\* of 14th March 1872, the necessity for which was known to him in May or June last.

\* Judicial Department.

3. Regular estimates were called for in the Public Works Order No. 183, of 20th March, and the Executive Engineer's representations to the Superintending Engineer, dated 24th June and 24th October, could be of no avail unless accompanied by them, which it appears they were not.

4. The revised estimate of Rupees 13,280, together with the statement of expenditure and letter of explanation subsequently furnished by the District Engineer, will be referred to the Judicial Department for such orders as may be necessary. The question of an allotment of funds will be considered in this department on sanction to the additional expenditure being communicated.

(True Extract.)

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

To the District Engineer, Presidency.  
To all other District Engineers.  
To the Inspecting Engineer for Buildings.  
" Controller of Public Works Accounts.  
" Judicial Department, with plans and estimates.

*" Inspt. Engr. for Ports & Canals "*

Exd. S. T. Austin.

134/521  
13525 P.H.D.

Proceedings of the Madras Court  
Read the following

From

The District Engineer

Presidency

(H.E. No. 2794 of 9<sup>th</sup> June/43)

" Do

Do (H.E. No. 3073 of 28<sup>th</sup> June/43)

His Excellency

the Governor in Council

sanctions the total excess  
of expenditure amounting

to Rs. 1700 incurred

on the 3 Estimates sanc-

tioned in G.O. No 931

of 12<sup>th</sup> July 1871 (Judicial

Department.) The

Estimates having been

for distinct and separate

purposes

W.S.E.

purposes, very much office work might have been saved by treating the variations from them separately. For instance, the excess on the first Estimate not amounting to 4 per cent, and a small saving having been made on the second, no details of the outlay on them were called for, but only of the excess on the 3<sup>d</sup> Estimate, of Rspees 1320, or more than 11 per cent of its amount, which is satisfactorily accounted for. The Government will hold Range and District Officers responsible for the

good management of their Offices, the work of which, incessantly complained of, may often be lessened by better supervision of it. And they will expect Inspecting Officers to take notice of any carelessness involving preparation and copying of useless papers.

2. His Excellency the Governor in Council is unable to accept the District Engineers excuses for not revising at a much earlier date the details of the approximate estimate for accommodation.

accommodating the Police  
Magistrate sanctioned  
in D.O. No. 356 of 14<sup>th</sup> \* Judicial Dept.  
March 1872, the necessity  
for which was known  
to him in May or June  
last.

3. Regular Estimates  
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Public Works Order No  
183 of 20<sup>th</sup> March and  
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representations to the  
Superintending Engineer  
dated 24<sup>th</sup> June and  
24<sup>th</sup> October could be of  
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panied by them, which  
it appears they were not.

The revised esti-  
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together with the State-  
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and letter of explanation  
subsequently furnished  
by the District Engineer  
will be referred to the  
Judicial Department  
for such orders as may  
be necessary. The question  
of an allotment of  
funds will be considered  
in this Department  
on sanction to the  
additional expenditure  
being communicated.

180  
28

To The District Eng. Presidency.  
All other District Eng.  
Inspecting Eng. Buildings.  
Controller. P. W. Dept.  
Judicial Dept. - with duplicate. Res. No. 20/2/73.

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*[Faint, illegible handwritten text at the bottom center]*

Op. 132 to 584

Govt. of 1873

PUBLIC WORKS.

To the District Comr.  
Presidency.

Date

Encl.

Encl.

G. O. 17 Feb. 1873. No. 525.

No. 294 @ 296

New Blue Jamboree the  
Panther Road at Regmore.

Passing orders in the  
revised estimate for  
additions and alterations  
to the new Blue Jamb.