M.R.O. 1—10,006—28-2-50.

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(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 3618 Press

~~B.P. No.~~ ~~Mis.~~

Dated 28-12-~~1954~~ 4874.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 485. Read the following letter from Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Chingleput, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Guindy, 5th December 1874, No. 3,160:—

I HAVE the honor to observe that there is so much difficulty in carrying out the arrangement ordered by Government in No. 3,377-A, 1st December, that I am obliged respectfully to request a reconsideration of it.

1 Sketch.
4 Plans.

2. In the first place I would point out that the Begum's bungalow is some distance from the store-room, by which it is proposed to eke out the accommodation required for the District Engineer, the Range Officer, three Overseers, and all their establishments, with records, etc.

3. The store-room is itself a mere shed, cut up by pillars. In July 1873 an estimate was framed for its repair amounting to Rupees 620, since that much of the roof has fallen in, and it will probably cost Rs. 1,000 at least to make it habitable.

4. By an oversight the Executive Engineer omitted to mention that the upper storey of the Begum's bungalow is at present occupied by the Garrison Serjeant Major; I am told that we cannot find any private house suited to his rank for less than Rupees 17 a month.

5. We are also paying Rupees 55 a month for seven other Serjeants, of whom four would be provided for in the end rooms of the adjacent family quarters if estimate sent with my No. 2,120, of 17th September 1874, be sanctioned.

6. We should still have to pay rent for three, and if the Begum's bungalow is to be transferred to the Department Public Works for four Serjeants, at a cost to Government of probably Rupees 45; 50 per cent. more than we now pay for rent of Captain Smith's office.

7. I would suggest that the lower storey be altered to provide for these Serjeants, and the building thus be better utilized, and at less cost, as I presume that my office at Guindy would stand useless.

8. I enclose a sketch from the survey map showing the position of this latter building as regards railway communication, and the facilities it offers to contractors from Madras and ryots from all parts of the country, who would always lodge in Sydapett, the principal town of the district, and that in which the Collector's Cutcherry is fixed. I would observe that many persons who come up on revenue business originally would come on to my office if in the neighbourhood, who might decline to go so much further as the Mount, the Begum's bungalow being a considerable distance by any road from the Mount Station.

9. As regards my own residence, I would observe that as soon as I was confirmed in the office of the District Engineer I opened a negotiation with the owner of the house at Sydapett for its tenancy as soon as it was vacated by the Collector, on the faith of G. O., No. 2,831, 22nd November 1873, which I understood had finally admitted that I might reside at Mount, Guindy, or Sydapett; he undertook to put the house into thorough repair, and I moved in May last into another house, as near as I could get one to Sydapett, belonging to him.

10. He has been very tardy, but has had great difficulty in getting lime and bricks during the extraordinary rains which we have had since May. I have very little doubt but that I shall be able to move into it in two or three weeks, the smell of fresh paint being a principal drawback to my living in it immediately.

11. I have however used my best endeavours to get a house at the Mount. There has not been one vacant to my knowledge, and I have very small acquaintance with them to be able to judge of the accommodation which they afford. I am however informed that there is not one large enough for my family.

12. But, again, I would point out that the Mount is a Military Cantonment, and that if I secured a house suited to my wants I should be liable to be called on to make room for an officer of the Royal Artillery, who being obliged to reside where his battery is stationed would be entitled to a preference before me.

13. I beg to refer to Section 19, paragraph 1,279, Army Regulations, in which it is distinctly stated that Public Works Officers are to be admitted under these terms.

14. I would therefore urge that my office should be at Guindy, as it is already in existence there; but that even if it be removed to the Begum's bungalow I may be allowed to remain at Sydapett, where I have a house suitable for the wants of my family, on which a considerable sum of money has been laid out by the owner in the belief that I should occupy it for some time to come.

15. I must also bring to the notice of Government that the members of my office yesterday informed me that they would have great difficulty in procuring accommodation at the Mount, where the military bazaar, families, and dependents of the soldiers occupy all the available spare houses, which they could obtain only by outbidding the present tenants.

No. 486. ORDER THEREON, 28th December 1874, No. 3,618.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 40.

HIS Excellency the Governor in Council declines further to discuss the question of the locality in which the District Engineer's office shall be. That was settled in paragraphs 1 and 2 of G. O., No. 3,377-A, of 1st December; subject to strict compliance with which Colonel Moberly himself will be permitted to reside at Sydapett. But such permission shall form no precedent for the future.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, Chingleput.
,, Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

No 3160

Chingleput Superintending Engineer's Office
Guindy 5th December 1874.

From The Superintending Engineer
Chingleput.

To The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department.

Sir;

Enclosure
1 Sketch—
4 Plans

1. I have the honor to observe that there is so much difficulty in carrying out the arrangement ordered by Government in No 3377 A, 1st December that I am obliged respectfully to request a reconsideration of it.—

2. In the first place I would point out that the Begum's Bungalow is some distance from the Store room, by which it is proposed to take out the accommodation required for the District Engineer, the Range Officer, 3 Overseers and all their Establishments, with records &c.

3. The Store room is itself a mere shed cut up by pillars. In July 1873 an Estimate was framed for its repair amounting to Rs 620; since that much of the roof has fallen in, and it will probably cost Rs 1000 at least to make it habitable.—

4. By an oversight the Executive Engineer omitted to mention, that the

upper story of the Begum's Bungalow is at present occupied by the Garrison Sergeant Major; I am told that we cannot find any private house suited to his rank for less than Rs 175 a month.

5 We are also paying Rs 65 a month for 7 other Sergeants, for whom I would be provided for in the end rooms of the adjacent Family Quarters, if estimate sent with my 120/120 of 17th September 8th is sanctioned.—

6. We should still have to pay rent for 3, and if the Begum's Bungalow is to be transferred to the Department Public Works, for 4 Sergeants at a cost to Government of Rs 45; 50 per cent more than we now pay for rent of Captain Smith's Office.

7. I would suggest that the lower Story be altered to provide for these Sergeants, and the building thus be better utilized, and at less cost; as I presume that my office at Guindy would stand useless.—

8. I enclose a sketch from the Survey map shewing the position of this latter building as regards railway Communication, and the facilities in Officers & Contractors from Madras, and ryots from all parts of the country

country who would always lodge in Lydapett, the principal town of the district, and that in which the Collector's Cutchery is fixed. I would observe that many persons who come up on revenue business originally, would come on to my office if in the neighbourhood, who might decline to go so much further on the Mount; the Begum's Bungalow being a considerable distance by any road from the Mount Station.—

9. As regards my own residence, I would observe that as soon as I was confirmed in the office of the District Engineer I opened a negotiation with the owner of the house at Lydapett for its tenancy, as soon as it was vacated by the Collector, on the faith of G.O. No 283, 22nd June 1873 which I understood had finally admitted that I might reside at Mount, Guindy or Lydapett, he undertook to put the house into thorough repair, and I moved in May last into another house as near as I could get one to Lydapett, belonging to him.—

10. He has been very tardy, but has had great difficulty in getting lime and bricks during the extraordinary rains

which we have had since May; I have very little doubt but that I shall be able to move into it in 2 or 3 weeks: - the Lack of fresh Spring Water, a principal drawback to my living in it immediately.—

11. I have however used my best endeavours to get a house at the Mount. There has not been one vacant to my knowledge, and I have very small acquaintance with them to be able to judge of the accommodation which they afford. I am however informed that there is not one large enough for my family.—

12. But again I would point out that the Mount is a Military Cantonement, and that if I secured a house suited to my wants, I should be liable to be called on to vacate room for an officer of the Royal Artillery, who being obliged to reside where his battery is stationed, would be entitled to a preference before me.

13. I beg to refer to Section 19. - Para. 1279 Army Regulations in which it is distinctly stated that Public Works Officers are to be admitted under these terms.—

14. I would therefore urge that my office should be at Guindy, as it is already in existence there; but that even if it be removed to the Begum's Bungalow, I may be allowed to remain at Lydakett, where I have a house suitable for the wants of my family on which a considerable sum of money has been laid out by the owner, in the belief that I should occupy it for some time to come.

15. I must also bring to the notice of Government that the members of my office yesterday informed me that they would have great difficulty in procuring accommodation at the Mount, where the Military Bazaar, families, and dependents of the soldiers occupy all the available spare houses; which they could obtain only by out bidding the present tenants.—

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obedient Servant
J. Moberly Colonel R.E.
Supt. Engineer
Chingleput

Submitted for Orders

Colonel Marbeck's letter No. 2831 of 22nd Nov. 1873 G.O. No. 7031 of 1874 Dept. P.W. Dept. Chief Engr. Chief Secretary to Govt. Secretary to Govt. P.W. Department

Dated 5th December
Received 7th

E.C. No. 3618. 28-12-74.
Enclosure 1 Plan

Begins to notice the difficulties in carrying out the orders of Govt. in removing the Distt. Engrs and the Mount Range offices into the Begums Bungalows at Mount and requests a reconsideration of the orders.

1.2485

c. 11.12.74. 6.a.m.

Lt Colonel Moberly's pre-
sent arrangements being
allowed to hold good,
in the abstract under-
standing that he moves
his Office into the Magis'
Bungalow at once, and
uses it as his Office
from the date specified
G.O. No. 3377 A of 1st Dec.
A good deal of building is
likely to be undertaken
at Ramanathapuram, under
advice to Inspector of
the Mount; and the
District Engineer's Office
should be very accessi-
ble to the Military Au-
thorities, except to the
General Managing Officers.

Lt Col Moberly would go to the Mount & do
he proceed & despise of the Public build
which is suited for the Head Quarters
of the Dist & recommends it being handed
over to the Military Dept J. Ross Lt Col

Observ. The large Building
Station of the Mount is the Jail
Place of a Col. of R.E. in general
charge of the buildings &c. His Com
-trad is in daily use by the Brigade Staff
-Inder Stand that the accommodation
use of the Bigun Bungalo as an Office
with Office a Sanction of By 30 allowed to
Capt. Smith -

Instructed - on the Head
Q. Office being moved as suggested.
The C. Engr. of the Mount -

12/12

I think the Office of the
Ast Engr should be at the
Mount - but I would leave
Lieut Col Moberly to decide
at by date to -

J. O. L

12/12

I think Col Moberly may be allowed to
reside at Pudukottai - the Office being
removed to the Mount. 12/12/12

Endorsement — 14th Dist.
28 Feb 18.

H. E. The C... Creek:
:ency Jonathan Worth
:ency The question
of the locality in
which the District
Engineer's Office shall
be — That was
settled in paras 1
& 2 of G.O. No 337 A
of 1st December;
subject to strict
compliance with
which, Col. Mabry
himself will be
permitted to re:
:side at Sydaphett.
But not permit for

763.

Draft form. as here
ordered for the future.
L.H.C.

The Supt. Surg. Chemulpet
" Cantonment

sign. & 1. copies desp.d 13/1/75.

M.S. Draft. 28-12-74
1. copies desp.d 13/1/76.

703

Govt. No 631 of 1874 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Superintendent Chingleput

Dated

Recd. Encl. 5

G. O., 28 Dec 1874, No 718

Nos. 485 486.

Chingleput & Nagore Office

Declining further to discuss the question of the locality in which the Office shall be, & C.E. Moberly having left permitted to reside at Vydapetti—

485-486