

(1) Number of pages _____

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(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1118	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	20-6-	6875-195-

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
20th April 1875.*

Read the following papers:—

No. 532. From the District Engineer, Madura, dated 8th March 1875, No. 5,007.

No. 533. From Lieutenant-Colonel R. A. ROBERTS, R.E., Superintending Engineer, 5th Division, Tanjore, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Tanjore, 24th March 1875, No. 3,444.

I HAVE the honor to state that as directed in G. O., 26th January 1875, No.

1 Copy of letter from the Honorary Secretary, Madura Racket Club, dated 12th February 1875.

1 Copy of letter from the District Engineer, Madura, No. 4,780, dated 20th February 1875.

1 Revised Plan.

1 Revised, Detailed, and Abstract Estimate of Rupees 5,030.

1 Revised Specification.

1 Do. Comparative Statement.

1 Original letter from the District Engineer, Madura, to the Secretary to Government, dated 26th December 1874, No. 4,132, with three enclosures.

1 Original letter from do. to Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated 11th January 1875, No. 4,177, with three enclosures.

236-B, I have duly visited Madura on my return from leave, viz., on the 20th ultimo, and I have discussed with the members of the Racket Club the various points alluded to in the Government Order quoted.

2. I should mention that on receipt of the Government Order, I wrote to the Honorary Secretary of the Madura Racket Club appointing the 20th February as the day for the meeting, and in reply I received the enclosed letter (dated 12th February 1875) wherein the Honorary Secretary points out that "we (the Club) have had nothing whatever to do with the change of site (as we were and are content to have the court built anywhere), much less with the alteration of the estimate in any respect."

3. In his letter to Government, No. 4,132, dated 26th December 1874, Lieutenant-Colonel Fischer states, see paragraph 3, that the size of the court has been altered "to suit the reduced dimensions the Racket Committee wish to adopt." The Honorary Secretary however, as will be observed, distinctly denies this, and one of the Committee has assured me that until I forwarded to them a copy of the Government Order under reply he had never heard a word of the alteration that had been made in the size of the court.

4. The explanation of this curious discrepancy would appear to be as follows:— There is always, as you are aware, in every community some individual or other who is prepared to offer his advice *gratis* on any point that may happen to attract his attention. In this way it happened that a member of the Club, who had heard that the dimensions 71 feet by 36 feet of the Racket Court at Poona were highly approved by all players, furnished these dimensions to Lieutenant-Colonel Fischer, who at once adopted them without calling a meeting of the Club, or consulting the members of the Committee on the subject.

5. The plan and estimate prepared by the Consulting Architect to Government for the new Racket Court at Madura were on the dimensions (71 feet by 42 feet) of the standard plan of the Racket Court as approved by Government. The prevailing opinion, however, of the present day appears to be in favor of a court of narrower dimensions than those above specified, and that the width should assimilate as nearly as possible to one-half of the length of the court.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
20th April 1875.*

6. As the foundations of the new court have been excavated to their full depth, I have adopted in the revised plan and estimate now forwarded the dimensions, *viz.*, 71 feet by 36 feet, on which these foundations have been carried out.

7. The revised plan that I have now the honor to submit for sanction is almost precisely the same as the sanctioned plans. Slight alterations have been made in the frontage to suit the reduced width, while the side walls have been carried up in one slope from the front to the rear wall, as this form of side wall adds greatly to the convenience of the players and is now generally adopted.

8. As regards the revised estimate of Rupees 5,030 now submitted for sanction, I have gone most carefully into every item, and I feel satisfied that the rates therein allowed are ample in every way to ensure the work being, with proper management, carried out in a satisfactory manner.

9. It will be observed that the sum now requiring sanction is Rupees 830 in excess of that already sanctioned for the court. Of this excess, Rupees 500 is the cost of the new site, and the remaining excess is mainly due to the depth of concrete (1 foot 6 inches) now allowed all round for foundations, instead of 1 foot as allowed in the sanctioned estimate for the side and front walls, and 1 foot 6 inches for the rear wall. I consider that the original dimensions are ample, but as the foundations have been taken out to the former dimensions, it is not advisable now to interfere with that arrangement. But for this extra concrete and extra depth of foundation as also the extra height of side walls as already explained, there would have been a saving of about Rupees 300 in the present estimate, irrespective of course of the cost of the site now included.

10. As regards the cost of the site, I venture to hope that the Government will be pleased on a consideration of the following points to concede its introduction into the estimate.

11. The site originally selected was on the only piece of Government land available. It was not objected to by the Committee or the members of the Racket Club generally. Indeed they could not have objected to it, as it was in close proximity to the site of the old court. When the earth for foundations however had been taken out, and the work was being commenced, the Collector raised objections and the work was accordingly stopped. In my letter, No. 1284, dated 23rd April 1874, I have pointed out that Mr. McQuhae's objections were not quite logical, inasmuch as at one and the same time he objected to building on the site in question on the plea that it would obstruct light and air, while he expressed a wish to reserve the site for the construction of a large shed for the use of the crowd of Curnums that would require accommodation during Jummahbundy.

12. It will thus be seen that the Club being by the action of the Collector, as the Agent of Government, debarred from the use of the original site, had no choice but to seek one elsewhere. This they have now done. And considering that the Government have in G. O., 7th February 1874, No. 303, generously resolved to provide a new court for the Club, I think that this promise may be considered to include the site on which that Racket Court shall stand.

13. On calling upon Lieutenant-Colonel Fischer to explain in what way the sanctioned estimate did not agree with the design and specification, as reported in his letter submitting the revised estimate of Rupees 7,400, he now states that "the differences he referred to were more particularly

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
20th April 1875.*

in the Consulting Engineer's (*sic*) specification for the design." The specification was prepared after the plan and estimate were sanctioned, and the only alteration in the specification was the suggestion that it would be safer that the 6 inches stone courses, which are shown on the plan to run 6 inches only into the wall, should be carried right through the wall. This extra cost entailed by this arrangement is but Rupees 72, as shown in the accompanying comparative statement; an amount which could have been met from the sundries of the estimate.

14. In regard to the District Engineer's other statement that "the rates allowed particularly for brick-work and cut-stone work are very insufficient," I called upon Lieutenant-Colonel Fischer to furnish me with the data for the rates entered by him in his revised estimate of Rupees 7,410, as from my experience of work in the Madura District some of these revised rates appear to me to be excessive. In reply (see letter quoted in paragraph 12) Lieutenant-Colonel Fischer states, "I beg to add the data for the rates were supplied to me by the Palace Overseer."

15. I would simply ask whether it was fair either to Mr. Chisholm or myself who had gone most carefully into the data for the rates for the stone-work, &c., that these should be quietly upset on the mere *ipse dixit* of the Palace Overseer, a man notorious for his extravagant rates, and habitual practice of exceeding every estimate put into his hands.

16. The rate entered in the original estimate for cut-stone work is Rupees 20 per cubic yard, a rate which is in itself exceedingly liberal, as may be inferred from the fact that the Assistant Engineer in charge of the Madura Railway Section, who has had considerable experience in stone-work at Madura, has furnished me with data showing that he could do the work for Rupees 16 per cubic yard.

Not only this but in his revised estimate the Overseer has entered cut-stone flooring at Rupees 13-8-0 per cubic yard, while for the same description of work for the back wall he has entered the monstrous rate of Rupees 33-12-0 per cubic yard! At Trichinopoly the cut-stone flooring of the Racket Court was laid at 12 Annas per square foot. As it is under 6 inches in thickness, the price at that thickness per cubic yard is but Rupees 10-2-0. The stone moreover was brought from Caroor, a distance of 45 miles.

17. As regards the other revised rates, I have entered remarks against them on the comparative statement submitted by the District Engineer, Madura, and no further comment on the same appears necessary here. The rates of the revised estimate as now submitted by me are ample in every way as I have before stated, and it will only be by gross mismanagement or some other worse cause that they will be exceeded.

18. In conclusion, I venture to call attention to the concluding paragraph of Lieutenant-Colonel Fischer's letter, No. 4,132, dated 26th December 1874, wherein the Range Officer is reprimanded for the delay in preparing the revised estimate. It appears that the Palace Overseer, Soobrayaloo Naidoo, received personal instructions from the District Engineer as to how the revised estimate was to be prepared, and that the Range Officer forwarded on the estimate the very day that he received it from the Overseer's Office. Under these circumstances, it is difficult to understand why Mooneappah Pillay, the Range Officer in question, should be held up to rebuke in this instance.

P.S.—The enclosures received with G. O., 26th January 1875, No. 236-B, are herewith returned.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
20th April 1875*

From A. E. POLE, Esq., Honorary Secretary, Madura Racket-Club, to Lieutenant-Colonel R. A. ROBERTS, R.E., Superintending Engineer, 5th Division, dated Madura, 12th February 1875.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge your letter, No. 2/S.E. dated 6th February 1875, enclosing a copy of G. O., No. 236-B, dated 26th January 1875, and to inform you that I shall have much pleasure in convening a meeting of the members of the Madura Racket Club as suggested by you; but at the same time I beg to point out to you that we (the Club) have had nothing whatever to

do with the change of site (as we were and are content to have the court built anywhere), much less with the alteration of the estimate in any respect. I beg to refer you to the marginally noted correspondence, which clearly shows that the stoppage of the building of the court near the palace was due to official intervention.

From Collector of Madura, to District Engineer, Madura, No. 401, 16th March 1874.
From District Engineer, to Collector, No. 5,357, 27th March 1874.
From do. to do., No. 5,390, 31st March 1874.
From do. to Honorary Secretary, Madura Racket Club, No. 162, 15th April 1874.

From Lieutenant-Colonel J. F. FISCHER, R.E., District Engineer, Madura, to Lieutenant-Colonel R. A. ROBERTS, R.E., Superintending Engineer, 5th Division, dated Madura, 20th February 1875, No. 4,780.

IN reply to your letter of the 20th instant, No. S. E./4, I have the honor to explain that in my letter to the Secretary to Government the differences I referred to were more particularly in the Consulting Engineer's specification for the design.

2. I beg to add the data for the rates were supplied to me by the Palace Overseer, and he has been directed to attend this office to-day at 1 o'clock P.M. as requested by you, but I will send them to you if you wish it.

From Lieutenant-Colonel J. F. FISCHER, R.E., District Engineer, Madura, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madura, 26th December 1874, No. 4,132.

ADVERTING to G. O. of the 27th November 1874, No. 3,356, I have the honor to report that on putting the work of the Racket Court in hand, I find the estimate sanctioned for this, amounting to Rupees 4,700 without land compensation, does

not correspond with the design and specification prepared by the Consulting Architect, the rates allowed particularly for brick-work and cut-stone work are very insufficient, the flooring to the Court has only ordinary tile work provided for it, the accommodation for the players is very

* 42 x 72.

also much more work has to be done for the foundations at the site selected.

2. I have therefore, in communication with the Secretary, prepared a revised design and an estimate, amounting to Rupees 7,410, in which I have endeavored to provide for all the deficiencies above noted, and beg to submit the same for the favorable consideration of the Government.

3. Nothing more has been done towards getting on with the work beyond collecting and preparing materials, excavating the foundations to the necessary depth and width for such soil, and to suit the reduced dimensions the Racket Committee wish to adopt; if any of the ornamental work provided for by the design of the Consulting Architect is disapproved of by the Government, it can be deducted from the estimate now submitted, but I believe all other items are absolutely required, and I trust that the Government will be pleased to accord early sanction to the

† 71 x 36.

work being proceeded with, as there is very little time left to work out even the allotment for the year, and I regret to say by the mismanagement of the Range Officer I have been unable to submit this matter sooner for their consideration, but he had my special orders to prepare the revised estimate early in this month, and did not attend to them properly.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
20th April 1875.*

From Lieutenant-Colonel J. F. FISCHER, R.E., District Engineer, Madura, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Peracolum, 11th January 1875, No. 4,177.

As requested in your memorandum, No. 6, of the 5th instant, I have the honor to return the accompanying plan and estimate of Rupees 4,200, for constructing a Racket Court at Madura, sanctioned in G. O., No. 2,962, dated 8th December 1873.

1 Plan.
1 Detailed Estimate.
1 Abstract Estimate of Rupees 4,200.

2. I beg to add I return the plan in the state I have found it, and it is alleged it was transmitted here in this condition.

3. The chief differences in the two estimates I would observe consist in the items for land compensation omitted, the rates for cut-stone work and the increased quantity of this to provide for a good sound flooring; the additional work required in the foundations owing to the change of site and its peculiar nature of soil, and in providing for the necessary accommodation and convenience of the players.

No. 534. ORDER THEREON, 20th April 1875, No. 1,118.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 32.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Governor in Council accepts the plan and estimate for a new Racket Court at Madura as

finally revised by the Superintending Engineer in charge of the Tanjore District, and sanctions the excess of Rupees 830 over the original estimate of Rupees 4,200 sanctioned in G. O., Nos. 2,962, of 8th December 1873, and 303, of 7th February 1874; whereof Rupees 500 is the charge on account of compensation for land, and the remainder for extra work in foundations and side walls, with some increase of rate for the walling. And he directs that the work be carried out, without further delay, from the provision of Rupees 10,000 made for the palace works in the Budget of 1875-76.

2. His Excellency in Council cannot but express his dissatisfaction with the proceedings of the District Engineer of Madura in permitting the adoption by the subordinate in charge of the Madura Range of whatever rates his Overseer chose to demand, and in that and other ways swelling the original estimate of Rupees 4,700 (inclusive of land compensation, not exclusive as stated by him) by no less than Rupees 2,700. His Excellency in Council is also of opinion that the District Engineer should not without authority have made alterations in the Consulting Architect's designs and specifications.

3. The Chief Engineer will take care to regulate the promotion of the Overseer complained of with strict reference to future reports as to his economical management of the works entrusted to him.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, Tanjore.

„ District Engineer, Madura.

„ Consulting Architect.

„ Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. W. J. Lewis.

Spare Copies

N^o 546

Madurai Collector's office
on Circuit
Camp. Pannikulam Pannikulam
Zemindary
1st March 1875

From

Mr. M. S. Subbarao Esquire
Collector of Madurai

To

Mr. J. F. Frischoe Esq.
District Engineer
Madurai

Sir,

In reply to your letter of
the 23rd February 1875 N^o 4838, I have the
honor to inform you that the erection
of a praescript Court on ground required
for the proposed La-lig, Cutcherry &
immediately adjoining the Municipal
Office was objected to by the Municipal
Commissioners on the ground that it
would cut off their air and light
and by me on the ground that Govern-
ment required the land for public
purposes. The correspondence on the
subject is in your office & how & dates
can be obtained at my office in Madurai.
If the District Engineer differed with
me and the Commissioners a reference to

to Government would have been
necessary. My action in the matter
was confined to stating two objections
to the proposed site which were sufficiently
obvious to anyone who understood the
accommodation required for the Salug
Caulcherry. I believe no answers were
sent to my letters.

I have &c
(Sd) H. McDuff
Collector

(Three Copies)

W. H. McDuff Esq. Col. R. Co.
District Engineer of Madura

Enclosure 1 in a letter
from the District Engineer
Madura to the Secretary
to Government of Madras
no 577 dated 8 March 1875

Copy of letter
to 526 dated 1st
March 1875

100/1003/25

District Engineer's office
(Camp) Pondicherry 8 March 1875.

No 3007
From

Lieut. Col. J. H. Fischer R. Co.
District Engineer Madras

To,

Colonel G. W. Walker R. Co.
Secretary to Government
P. W. Dept
Madras

Sir,

In continuation of my letter
No 4132 dated 26th December 1874 submitting
for the sanction of Government a Revised
estimate of Rupees 7410 for constructing
a Raquet Court at Madura, I have the
honor to forward for the information of
Government the accompanying copy of a
letter from the Collector of Madura No 546
of the 1st Instant, regarding the work above-
mentioned explaining the circumstances
under which the site was changed.

Enclosure 1
1 copy of a letter from
the Collector of Madura
No. 546
1-3-75

Ms 532

I have the honor to be
Your most obedt servt.

W. T. Fisher Esq. & Co.
District Engineer of Madras

Enclosure 1
Statement copy of
a letter from the Collector
of Madras regarding the
revenue for the purchase
of the Pongal Court at
Madras
S. J. No. 1118. 20.4.75

Order of 13.3.1869

The Secretary to the
Government
Madras

W. T. Fisher Esq. & Co.
District Engineer of Madras
S. J. No. 1118. 20.4.75

No. 1177
From

District Engineer's Office
President 11th January 75

Lieutenant Colonel J. F. Fisher Esq.
District Engineer Madras

To

Colonel G. W. Walker Esq.
Chief Engineer Madras

Sir,

As requested in your Memorandum
No. 6 of the 5th Instant, I have
the honor to return the accompanying
1 Plan & Estimate of Rs. 4,200 for constructing
1 detached Est. Plan & Estimate of Rs. 4,200 for constructing
1 Abstract Est. a Packet Court at Madras sanctioned
in G.O. No. 2962 dated 8 December 75
made of Rs. 4,200

I beg to add I return the
Plan in the state I have found it, and
it is alleged it was transmitted here
in this condition.

The chief differences in the
two Estimates I would observe point out
the items for land compensation, and the
the rates for substance work, and the increased
quantity

quantity of this to provide for a good,
sound flooring. The additional work
required in the foundations ^{owing} to the
change of site and its peculiar nature
of soil, and in providing for the necessary
accommodation and convenience of the
players.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant
Wm. T. Tucker *London*
District Engineer &c.

151

22

Sept 21 1875
from
the District Engineer
Albany

To
The Chief Engineer
Albany

Order 11th (Hunting 1875)

June 3. At 4/73.

Albany the Albany
Engineers for constructing
a Canal from the Albany
Sanitation in the hospital
State of New York

1022-1-75-

Enclosure No 8 in
a letter from the Capt.
Engineer Bangalore to the
Secretary to Genl. B. M.
dated 24th March 1875
No 3444

Original Enclosure

Mr. 2012/75.
13

Madras. 17th Feb 1875

To
From

A. C. P. Osquire
Honorary Secretary
Madras Cricket Club

To
From

Lieut. Colonel R. A. Roberts M.C.
Superintending Engineer
5th Division

Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge
your letter No. 2 dated 16th February
1875 enclosing a copy of C. P. O. No.
236 dated 26th January 1875 and to
inform you that I shall have much
pleasure in convening a meeting of the
members of the Madras Cricket Club
as suggested by you; but at the same
time, I beg to point out to you that
we (the club) have had nothing whatever
to do with the change of site (as we
were

were and are content to have the Courts
built anywhere) much less with the
alteration of the estimates in any respect.
I beg to refer you to the marginally
noted Correspondence which clearly shows
that the stoppage of the building of the
Court near the Palace was due to
official intervention.

I have &c
Signed / A. C. P. O.
Honorary Secretary
Madras Cricket Club

True Copy /

Vic. J. N. Over Sir. Col. R.
Superintending Engineer
Madras

217 510 14
No 4780 District Engineers Office
Madura 20th February 1895
From, Lieut Colonel J. E. Fischer R.E.
District Engineers
Madura

To, Lieut Colonel R. A. Roberts R.E.
Superintending Engineer
5th Division

Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 20th Instant. ^{SE} I have the honor to explain that in my letter to the Secretary to Government the differences referred to were more particularly in the Consulting Engineer's Specification for the design.

2. I beg to add the data for the rates were supplied to me by the Palace Quersur and he has been directed

Enclosure etc 1 in re
also from the Secretary to
Engineers in charge of the
Secretary to Government
B.M. dated 10th March 1895.

10/3/95

Copy of letter from
the Government of the
Madura District Council
dated 18th February 1895.

10/3/95

directed to attend this Office today at
1 O'Clock P.M. as requested by you,
but I will send them to you if you
wish it.

I have &c

Signed J. P. Rescher South Col. B.
District Engineer
Madison

True Copy

Recd. Robert South Col. B.

Superintending Engineer
Denver

23/4

N^o 3444
 Superintending Engineer's Office
 Bangalore 24 March 1875

Dear Colonel R. H. Roberts
 Superintending Engineer 5th Division
 Bangalore

Colonel G. W. Walker
 Secretary to Government
 Madras

- Enclosures
 1 Copy of letter from the Honorary Secretary Madras Racket Club dated 12 Feb 75.
 1 Copy of letter from the Distt Engineer Madras dated 20 Feb 1875.
 1 Revised Plan
 1 Revised Detailed Abstract estimate of Rs 5030.
 1 Revised Specification
 1 10th Comparative Statement
 1 Original letter from the Distt Engr Madras to the Secy to Govt dated 26 Dec 1874 & to 4132 with 3 enclosures
 1 Original letter from 10th to Engineer Secy

I have the honor to state that as directed in G.O. 26 January 1875, N^o 2363 I have duly visited Madras on my return from leave, viz^t on the 20th ultimo, and I have discussed with the Members of the Racket Club the various points alluded to in the G.O. quoted.
 I should mention that on receipt

Enclosure No 2
 as letter from the Secy to
 Engineer Madras to the
 Secy to Govt, dated 20th Feb 1875
 No 3444

Copy of letter from
 the District Engineer
 Madras dated 20th
 February 1875 - No 4180

Mr 2012/75
 G.O. 20 July 75 with No 533

receipt of the A. Q. I wrote to the
Honorary Secretary of the Madras Cricket
Club appointing the 20th February
as the day for the meeting, and in
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"we, the Club, have had nothing whatever
to do with the change of site (as we
were and are content to have the
Court built anywhere) much less with
the alteration of the Estimate in any
respect."

3 In his letter to Govern-
ment, N^o 4132, dated 26th December
1874 Lieutenant Colonel Tucker
states, see Para. 3, that the size of

the Court has been altered "to suit
the reduced dimensions the Racquet
Committee wish to adopt." The
Honorary Secretary however, as will
be observed, distinctly denies this,
and one of the Committee has assured
me that until I forwarded to them
a copy of the A. Q. under reply
he had never heard a word of the
alterations that had been made in
the size of the Court.

4. The explanation of this
curious discrepancy would appear
to be as follows. There is always,
as you are aware, in every community
some individual or other who is
prepared to offer his advice gratis on
any

any point that may happen to attract his attention. In this way it happened that a Member of the Club, who had heard that the dimensions 41×36 of the Racket Court at Poonah were highly approved by all players, furnished these dimensions to Lieutenant Colonel Fischer, who at once adopted them, without calling a meeting of the Club, or consulting the members of the Committee on the subject.

5. The Plan and Estimate prepared by the Consulting Architect to Government for the new Racket Court at Madras were on the dimensions (41×42) of the Standard Plan of Racket Court, as approved by Govern-

ment. The prevailing opinion, however, of the present day appears to be in favour of a Court of narrower dimensions, than those above specified, and that the width should assimilate as nearly as possible to one half of the length of the Court.

6. As the foundations of the new Court have been excavated to their full depth, I have adopted in the revised Plan and Estimate now forwarded the dimensions, viz. 41×36 , on which these foundations have been carried out.

The revised Plan that I have now the honor to submit for sanction is almost precisely the same

same as the sanctioned Plan. Slight alterations have been made in the frontage to suit the reduced width, while the side-walls have been carried up in one slope from the front to the rear wall, as this form of side wall, adds greatly to the convenience of the players and is now generally adopted. —

8. As regards the Revised Estimate of Rs 5030 now submitted for sanction, I have gone most carefully into every item, and I feel satisfied that the rates therein allowed are ample in every way to ensure the work being, with proper management, carried out in a satisfactory manner. —

9. It will be observed that the

Sum

Sum now requiring sanction is Rs 830 in excess of that already sanctioned for the Court. Of this excess Rs 500 is the cost of the new site, and the remaining excess is mainly due to the depth of Concrete (1' 6") now allowed all round for foundations, instead of 7 feet as allowed in the sanctioned Estimate for the side and front walls, and 1 foot 6 inches for the rear wall. I consider that the original dimensions are ample, but as the foundations have been taken out to the former dimensions, it is not advisable now to interfere with that arrangement. — But for this extra Concrete and extra depth of foundation as also the extra height of side-walls as already explained, there would have been a saving of about Rupees 300

in

and the present Estimate; irrespective of
Course of the cost of the site, now is
included. —

10. As regards the cost of the
site I venture to hope that the
Government will be pleased on a
consideration of the following points
to concede its introduction into the
Estimate. —

11. The site originally selected
was on the only piece of Government
land available. It was not objected
to by the Committee or the Members of
the Racket Club generally. — Indeed
they could not have objected to it, as
it was in close proximity to the site
of the old Court. When the earth

for foundations, however, had been taken
out and the work was being commenced,
the Collector raised objections and the
work was accordingly stopped. The
my letter, No 284, dated 23 April
1874, I have pointed out that Mr.
McDuares' objections were not
quite logical, in as much as at one
and the same time he objected to
building on the site in question, and
the plea that it would obstruct light
and air, while he expressed a wish
to reserve the site for the construction
of a large shed for the use of the
crowd of pilgrims that would require
accommodation during the
bundi. —

11. It will thus be seen that the Club being, by the action of the Collectors, as the Agents of Government, debarred from the use of the original site had no choice but to seek one elsewhere. Thus they have now done. And considering that the Government have in O. O. 7th February 1847. No. 303 generously resolved to provide a new Court for the Club, I think that this premise may be considered to include the site on which that Packet Court shall stand.

12. On calling upon Lieutenant Colonel Fischer to explain in what way the sanctioned Estimate did not agree with the Designs and Specifications, as reported in his letter submitting

See enclosed letter
No. 4780, dated
20th February 1847

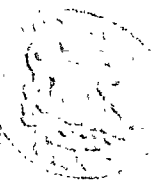
the revised Estimate of Rs. 4400, he now states that "the differences he referred to were more particularly in the Consulting Engineer's (sic) Specifications for the design". The Specification was prepared after the Plan and Estimate were sanctioned, and the only alteration in the Specifications was the suggestion that it would be safer that the 6" Stone Courses, which are shown on the Plan to run benches only into the wall, should be carried right through the wall. The extra cost entailed by this arrangement is but Rs. 400, as shown in the accompanying Comparative Statement and amount which could have been met

met from the Surveys of the Estimates.

13. In regard to the District Engineer's other statement that "the rates allowed particularly for brick-work and cut-stone work are very insufficient," I called upon Lieutenant Colonel Fischer to furnish me with the data for the rates entered by him in his revised Estimate of Rs 7410, as from my experience of work in the Madras District some of these revised rates appear to me to be excessive. In reply (see letter quoted in Para 12) Lieutenant Colonel Fischer states "they to add the data for the rates were supplied to me by the Police Overseer."

14. I would simply ask whether it was fair either to Mr. Chisholm

or



or myself who had gone most carefully into the data for the rates for the stone work, so that there should be quietly upset on the mere ipse dixit of the Police Overseer, a man notorious for his extravagant rates, and habitual practice of exceeding every Estimate ever put into his hands.

15. The rate entered in the original Estimate for cut-stone work is Rs 20 per cubic yard, a rate which is in itself exceedingly liberal, as may be inferred from the fact that the Assistant Engineer in charge of the Madras Railway section, who has had considerable experience in stone work at Madras has furnished me

me with data showing that he could do the work for Rs 16 per cubic yard.

Not only this but in his revised Estimate, the Querser has entered cub-stone flooring at Rs 13. 8. 0 per cubic yard, while for the same description of work for the back wall he has entered the monstrous rate of Rs 33. 12. 0 per cubic yard! At Trichinopoly the cub-stone flooring of the Backed Court was laid at 12 annas per square foot. As it is under 6 inches in thickness, the price at that thickness per cubic yard is but Rs 10. 2. 0. The stone moreover was brought from Caroor, a distance of 45 miles.

16. As regards the other revised rates.

37
rates I have entered remarks against them in the Comparative Statement submitted by the District Engineer Madurai, and no further comment on the same appears necessary here. The rates of the Revised Estimate as now submitted by me are ample in every way, as I have before stated, and it will only be by gross mismanagement, or some other worse cause, that they will be exceeded.

17. In Conclusion I venture to call attention to the concluding Paragraph of Lieutenant Colonel Fischer's letter No 132, dated 26th December 1874 wherein the Range Officer is reprimanded for the delay in preparing the revised Estimate.

Estimate. It appears that the Police
Overseer, Sobray also Vardoo, received
personal instructions from the District
Engineer as to how the revised Estimate
was to be prepared, and that the Range
Officer forwarded on the Estimate the
very day that he received it from the
Overseer's Office. Under these
circumstances it is difficult to
understand why Mooneappa Pillay,
the Range Officer in question, should
be held up to rebuke, in this instance.

I have the honor to be

Sir
Your Most Obedient Servant

Richd. Glover Lieut. Col. R.E.
Superintending Engineer
Bangalore

P.D.E. Enclosures received with
G.O. 26 January 1875, No 236 B are
herewith returned.

R.N.
24.3.75

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the

Read the following:—

From the St Engrs, Madras - (H. R. No. 5007 of 8 March 1875)

From The Superintending Engineer, Tanjore - G.O. No. 3444 dated 24th March 1875.

G.O. No. 1118 of 20th April 1875.

His Excellency the Governor in Council accepts the Plan and Estimate for a New Racket Court at Madras as finally revised by the Superintending Engineer in charge of the Tanjore District, and sanctions the excess of Rs 830 over the original estimate of Rs 4200 sanctioned in G.O. No. 2962

2962

P. W. 1875 Delk.

From (1) No. 2012.

The Superintending Engineer

Tanjore

to the Secretary to Government

1875

Received 27th March 1875

Cost Rs 100

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2962 of 8th December
1873, and 303 of 7th February
1874. Whereof Rs 500 is
the charge on account
of compensation for
land; and the remain-
der for extra work in
foundations and side
walls, with some increase
of rate ~~and quantity~~
~~for~~ of the walling. And
he directs that the
work be carried out,
without further delay,
from the provision of Rs
10,000 made for the
Palace Works in the
Budget of 1875-76.

His Excellency
in Council cannot
but express his great
dissatisfaction with
the proceedings of the
District

45th 22
District Engineer of
Madura in permitting
the adoption by the
subordinate in charge
of the Madura Range
of whatever rates his
overseer chose to demand,
and in that and other
ways swelling the
original Estimate of
Rs 4,700 (inclusive of
land compensation, not
exclusive as stated by
him) by no less than
Rs 2,700. [The liberties
that he allowed him-
self to take with the
Consulting Architects
Design and specification
were such as cannot
be approved. It is
hoped that he will
endeavour

H. E. in Council
of the District
of Madura
authorities have
made alterations
in the Council
Architects design
and specification
of the Palace Works

to atone for his past
action by the exercise
of such supervision as
shall effectually secure
the use of good ma-
terials, and good work-
manship, at reasonable
rates.

The Chief Engineer
will take care to re-
gulate the promotion
of the Overseer conform-
ed of with strict refer-
ence to future reports as
to his economical manage-
ment of the works en-
trusted to him.

S.M.W.

Supt. Engr. Tanjore ✓
D. Engr. Madura ✓
Consgr. Architect ✓
Contg. P.W. Accounts ✓

Dispd - 30-4-75

L. Atty. C. 2. 1. 75

2012
1669 ✓

Govt. of 1875: Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

to
Suptg Engineer
Bangalore.

X. [unclear] 31/10/75

Dated

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 20th April 1118

Nos. 532.534

Madras Racket Court.

Received

Plan & Estimate for a
New Racket Court, ac-
cepted, and exp outlay,
sanctioned, and work to
be carried out without fur-
ther delay; proceedings of
St Engr in permitting the ~~same~~
^{subordinate} ~~same~~ in charge to adopt high
rates, received with dissatis-
faction as also the St Engr's
alterations in the [unclear] Archi-
tect's Designs & Specifications.
Chief Engr to regulate promotion of
[unclear] in reference to future reports.