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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No

828

Press

Mis.

Dated

2 10

18

77

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

2nd October 1877, No. 828 W.

Buildings and Roads.

Civil Works.

Read the following paper :—

No. 35. Endorsement of the Chief Secretary to Government, Ecclesiastical Department, dated Fort St. George, 26th September 1877, No. 1,822.

From the Right Revd. Dr. S. FENNELLY, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 26th September 1877, No. 14.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge receipt of the Order of Government, Public Works Department, dated 10th September 1877, No. 711 W. The order states that my request for the supply of benches for the soldiers attending the Roman Catholic Church at Poonamallee at the cost of Government "is inadmissible under the orders of the Government of India, in accordance with which, the contribution on account of furniture shall not exceed the proportion of the grant-in-aid to the total cost of the building itself." We have here a happy illustration of the wisdom of governing all India, even in matters of petty detail, from Calcutta or Simla. Orders are passed in Calcutta for remote places like Poonamallee in complete ignorance of the local conditions or circumstances, which render the orders inapplicable and impracticable.

2. In 1840 there were in Poonamallee, as there are at this day, Roman Catholic Native Christians and Roman Catholic European soldiers and pensioners. One of my predecessors built a Church there, to which a grant-in-aid was given by Government on the understanding that the soldiers and pensioners should get accommodation in the building. It was perfectly just and reasonable that both classes, natives and soldiers, for whom the Church was required, should contribute to its erection. In 1840 benches were supplied at the cost of the Roman Catholic Mission of Madras without any aid from Government. After 37 years of use, these benches have become old and unserviceable. New benches are now required for the soldiers—and for them only. The Native Christians require no benches. They sit on the ground. The Supreme Government agrees to pay two-thirds of the cost of the benches; who then is to pay the remaining one-third? Are the Native cooks and matys of Poonamallee expected to subscribe money to purchase benches for the European soldiers attending their Church? Or are the soldiers themselves required to subscribe for the purchase of the benches? Or is the Catholic Mission expected to supply the benches? On behalf of the Catholic Mission, I respectfully decline to expend money for any such purpose. The supply of the benches required is the duty of Government—and of Government alone. In this matter, no difference should be made between the Roman Catholic and Protestant soldiers. As benches are supplied to the latter at the cost of the State, so should they be supplied to the former. I have the honor to request that His Grace the Governor in Council may be pleased to obtain the sanction of the Government of India for supplying benches for the Roman Catholic soldiers at Poonamallee.

TRANSFERRED to the Public Works Department, in view to the question raised by the Right Revd. Dr. Fennelly being submitted for the orders of the Government of India.

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Chief Secretary.

No. 36.

ORDER THEREON, 2nd October 1877, No. 828 W.

As the benches are required solely for the Military members of the congregation, His Grace the Governor in Council resolves to sanction the whole cost, viz., Rupees 1,650, on the assumption that it will be not more than the authorized proportion of what would be required to seat the whole congregation. This seems to be the principle on which the orders of the Government of India are based.

2. The unallotted balance of the sanction, viz., Rupees 550, is now made available from the Provincial Reserve.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) E. A. FOORD, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

To the District Engineer, Chingleput.
" Examiner of Public Works Accounts.
" Ecclesiastical Department.

Fatherine Cathedral Madras
25 September 1877

No. 11.

To The Honble D. F. Carmichael
Chief Secy to Government
Fort Saint George.

Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of the order of Government, Pub. Works Department, dated 10th September 1877, No. 712 W. The order states that my request for the supply of benches for the soldiers attending the Roman Catholic Church at Ponnammallee at the cost of Government, is inadmissible under the orders of the Govt of India, in accordance with which the contribution on account of furniture shall not exceed the proportion of the grant in aid to the total cost of the building itself. We have here a happy illustration of the wisdom of governing all India even in matters of petty detail from Calcutta or Simla. Orders are passed in Calcutta for places like Ponnammallee in complete ignorance of the local conditions & circumstances which render the orders inapplicable and impracticable.

In 1840 there were in Ponnammallee as there are at this day, Roman Catholic Native Christians and Roman Cath European soldiers & pensioners. One of my predecessors built a church there to which a grant-in-aid was given by Government on the understanding that the soldiers and pensioners should get accommodation in the building. It was perfectly just and reasonable that both clergy & natives and soldiers - for whom the church was required should contribute to its erection. In 1840 benches were supplied at the cost of the R. Catholic Mission of Madras.

without any aid from Government. After 37 years
 of use these benches have become old and unservice-
 able. New benches are now required for the sol-
 diers and for them only. The native Christians
 require no benches. They sit on the ground. The
 Supreme Government agrees to pay two-thirds
 of the cost of the benches: who then is to pay
 the remaining one-third? Are the native Cooks,
 and Matys of Ponnammallee expected to subscribe
 money to purchase benches for the European soldiers
 attending their Church? Or are the soldiers them-
 selves required to subscribe for the purchase of
 the benches? Or is the Catholic Mission expected
 to supply the benches? On behalf of the Catholic
 Mission, I respectfully decline to spend money for
 any such purpose. The supply of the benches
 required is the duty of Government and of
 Government alone. In this matter no difference
 should be made between the Roman Catholic
 and Protestant soldiers. As benches are supplied
 to the latter at the cost of the State so should
 they be supplied to the former. I have the
 honor to request that His Grace the Governor
 in Council may be pleased to obtain the sanction
 of the Government of India for supplying
 benches for the Roman Catholic soldiers
 at Ponnammallee.

Have the honor to be

Sr

Your Most Obedt Servt

By Order of the Bishop 35 + H. H. H. H.

10. 10. 1877 No 711. 60.
 7 Aug - 555. 50.
 10. 10. 1877 No 711. 60.
 12 Feb 1877 No 598.
 16 June 1876 - 1717.
 10. 10. 1877 No 711. 60.

Cur 27-9-77 A. 10. 77

Letter from the Right Reverend Dr. S. Fennelly
dated 26th September 1877 thro' the Chief Secretary
to Government

FOR ORDERS.

Edmond Colonel, R.E.
Secretary to Govt. P.W.D.

As the benches are
acquired solely for the
military purposes of
the congregation I think
we may sanction the whole
work on the assumption
that it will be the
authorized representative of
the whole congregation
This appears to be the
principle of the S.C.D.
L.H.

Ecclesiastical

N. 14

From,
Rev. Dr. Fennelly

The Chief Secretary
Fort St. George

Date 20 Sept 1877
Recd
No Enclosures.

Representing that the benches
for the N. C. Church at Ponnammallee
for the 2/3rd of the cost of which sanction
has been accorded in orders P. Works
Deptt No 711 W dated 10 Sept 1877, are
required exclusively for the use of the
military at that station: that the benches
now in use were supplied entirely at
the cost of the mission in 1840:
that the mission is not prepared to
incure any further outlay and
as the benches have been used and
with the sanction of the Govt.
of India for their entire cost from the
State. Transferred

19/9/77 Dr 209. Mis
15/8/77 Dr 183-
4/7/74 Dr 183-
1877

Transferred to the Public
Works Department, in view of the
question raised by the Right Rev.
Dr. Fennelly being submitted for
the view of the Government of India
Dr. Fennelly
Chief Secretary

H. S. George
26. Sept 1877

No 1872

19/9/77 Dr 209. Mis
15/8/77 Dr 183-
4/7/74 Dr 183-
1877

29-9-77 21-10-77

FOR ORDERS.

B. M. Clarke No 828 H

Public Works Department.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the 2^d Oct 1877.

Read the following:—

Endorsement from the Chief Secy. G. E. 26th September 1877. H. 822
to Government.

As the benches are required solely for the Military Members of the congregation, His Grace the Governor in Council resolves to sanction the whole cost, viz. Rs 1650, on the assumption that it will be not more than the authorized proportion of what would be required to seat the whole congregation. This seems to be the principle on which the orders of the Govt of India are based.

The unallotted balance of the sanction, viz. Rs 540, is now made available from the Provincial Reserve.

D. R. Chingaput. S.
Secy. P. W. D. S.
Chief Secy. S.

R. A.

Recd 10-10-77

W. 7 1877

Ch 9520



Publ. of 1877 Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To
★
D. E. Chingleput

26th Feb. 8384

No. 35-36

Roman Catholic Church
at Poornamallee, Chingleput
Do - Sanctions the whole
cost of Rs 1650 for supplying
seats to the —

L. D. in Reg.
H. 10.77.